

Athboy Celtic AFC

Child Safeguarding Statement



Date the document is effective from: 01/06/2024

Scheduled Review Date: 01/06/2026

1. Type of Service:

Athboy Celtic AFC is committed to ensuring that children can participate in all football activities in a safe environment. Football provides an excellent opportunity to learn new skills, become more confident and maximise potential as members of teams and as individuals. Participation in football should be fun, enjoyable and provide a platform to learn and develop life skills, make new friends and enhance personal growth. The safety and welfare of all children are paramount.



Child Safeguarding Statement

2. Key Personnel:

Club Chairperson :	Bernard J O'Byrne
Designated Liaison Officer :	Bernard J O'Byrne
Children Officer	Ronan O'Connor
Committee members with senior roles on the club.	Sarah Judge, Senan Edwards, Brendan Darcy and Ross Geddes



Child Safeguarding Statement

3. Principles of Policy:

The principles below are taken from the FAI Child Welfare policy. The policy's core principals are the child's needs, integrity and respect, environment, equality, fair play, welfare and safety in children's football. These underlying principles underpin the Policy and outline our principles of good practice and child protection policy and procedures. Please refer to FAI Child Welfare Policy on <https://www.fai.ie/domestic/safeguarding/fai-child-welfare-policy>

4. Risk assessment

Risk Identified

Procedures in Place to manage Risk

Volunteer recruitment	Garda vetting procedure/ Relevant References
Training of volunteers	All members participate in Child Protection Training. Child Protection Policy



Child Safeguarding Statement

Lost Child	Lost child procedures in place. Safe collection of contact numbers. Supervision Procedure. Code of ethics for parents and coaches
Child not Collected	Code of Ethics for parents and children. Parental Agreement Child Registration Forms. No person left alone with child as contained in policy.
Safe implementation of Policies	Election of DLP. Displaying key personnel details and contacts. Election of committee members to ensure all voices are heard in relation to any child protection issues.
Conduct and Manner towards children	Volunteer induction, (see guidelines for interactions between children and adults in as contained in FAI Child Welfare Policy).



Child Safeguarding Statement

Conduct and Manner towards children.	Conduct & Ethics committee in place, Child Designated Liaison Officer.
Internet and Photographic and Recording Devices	Election of PRO. Secure collection of Data. Record Keeping/Data Protection Policy. Parental Consent sought via player registration forms. Guidance to all members in relation to internet, photography and recording.
Transport of Children to and from Games	Transport of Children (As per FAI child welfare policy and best practice guidelines). No persons to be alone with child other than their own (as contained in policy)



Child Safeguarding Statement

Transport and Supervision for Overnight and Away Trips	Protocols in place for Overnight and Away Trips including Parental Permission, Medical Consent Forms https://www.fai.ie/domestic/safeguarding/fai-child-welfare-policy
Changing Facilities/Toilets	Changing facilities / Toilet policy in review
Accidents and Incidents	Any accidents or incidents will be reported to the DLP by completion of appropriate reports (see appendix 3 and/or 4 FAI Child Welfare Policy, 2014) Medical Consent Form



Child Safeguarding Statement

5. Procedures:

Athboy Celtic AFC's Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with under the Children First Act 2015, the *Children First: National Guidance*, and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice.

Additionally, Athboy Celtic AFC is committed to the principal and practice guidelines contained in the policy as follows (FAI Child Welfare Policy, 2014).

- Recognising that the safety, protection and welfare of children and young people is of paramount importance;
- Obliging all relevant persons engaging directly or indirectly with children and young people to be Garda vetted;
- Providing appropriate training and education in the area of child welfare;
- Providing guidance and assistance to all who work directly or indirectly with children and young people;
- Appointing Designated Child Welfare Officers in the club to support implementation and provide support.
- Providing appropriate rules for the protection of children in line with a code of ethics and the FAI best practice guidelines.
- Appointing a Child Welfare Sub-Committee made up of the DLP and Children's officer responsible for overseeing the FAI's policy on child protection and its implementation;
- Providing a clear pathway for the investigation of complaints and appropriate disciplinary procedures;
- Providing codes of practice and templates for all members

All procedures listed are available on request.



Child Safeguarding Statement

6. Implementation

Athboy Celtic AFC recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Athboy Celtic AFC are committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe, while enjoying taking part in training and games.

The Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed every 24 months or as soon as practicable after there has been any change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed: Ronan O'Connor (Children's Officer) Date: 1st June 2024

Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015

Name: Ronan O'Connor Date: 1st of June 2024