

# Copeland Netball League Safeguarding Policy

## **Purpose of a Safeguarding Policy**

The Child Protection Policy should provide clear direction everyone about expected practice in dealing with Child Protection issues. It makes explicit the league's commitment to the development of good practice and sound Procedures, ensuring that Child Protection concerns and referrals are handled sensitively, professionally and in a way which support the needs of children.

## **League Commitment**

Copeland Netball League will establish and maintain an ethos where children feel secure and are listened to with an open and positive.

Copeland Netball League will ensure that children know that there are adults who they can approach if they are worried or in difficulty.

Ensure that every effort will be made to establish effective working relationships with parents and colleagues from other agencies.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

All adults working with, or on behalf of children, have a responsibility to protect children. However, Copeland Netball League have key personnel with whom all Child Protection issues should be discussed.

## **The role of the designated person**

The designated person will have knowledge and skills for recognising and acting upon Safeguarding concerns.

The designated person will play a crucial role in acting as a source of expertise and advice to others.

Taking responsibility for the co-ordination of action.

Inter agency liaison with Social Services and other units/agencies.

Ensure confidentiality sharing information on a need to know basis.

## **Informing**

- Committee members will be kept informed about Safeguarding through annual discussion of updated information.
- New members should receive information about Safeguarding Procedures
- A statement should be included in the league constitution informing parents of the league's duties and responsibilities under the Safeguarding Procedures.

## **Action**

If a child discloses any kind of abuse, coaches should only seek initial clarification from the child – tact and sympathy is vital. Under no circumstances should any member of staff attempt to obtain further information or to investigate what the child is saying.

It is the responsibility of the designated person to inform the Social Services Department. If the designated teacher does not do this and the person who had made the initial referral remains concerned, then they need to exercise their own judgement and make the referral to the Social Services Department themselves.

## **Safeguarding procedures**

The league will ensure that all coaches working with children undergo a CRB (Criminal records bureau check).

Contact details for all children will be kept by the designated person