

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY



Executive Statement

Protecting children from abuse is a responsibility of all those who come into contact with them.

We in **M & M Football Academy** are committed to practice what protects children from harm. Information contained in this document will help to create an understanding and direction for staff, officials, coaches, volunteers, members, parents, children and young people involved in **football**, and affiliated regional and local clubs.

Policy Statement

M & M Football Academy is committed to ensuring that the safety, welfare and well-being of children are maintained at all times during their participation in activities run by **M & M** and its member bodies.

M & M aim to promote a safe environment for all children and to assist all staff, officials, coaches, members and volunteers to recognise child abuse and neglect and follow the appropriate notification procedures when reporting alleged abuse.

Rationale

The focus of the policy and guidelines is the prevention of child abuse and poor practice in the sporting environment.

This policy and guidelines will assist **M & M** in establishing co-ordinated strategies for dealing with the problem of child abuse and neglect in a responsible, effective and consistent manner.

Objectives

Through the development of this policy **M & M** objectives are to:

- Adopt child protection guidelines through a code of conduct for all staff/volunteers
- Provide information to assist staff and volunteers in recognising and responding to all forms of child abuse
- Provide direction to all staff and volunteers regarding their legal responsibilities under child protection legislation
- Follow procedures for recruitment and selection of staff and volunteers

Scope of Policy

The Child Protection Policy of **M & M Football Academy** is applicable to all management and staff (paid, voluntary, permanent or casual) of **M & M** and its affiliated regional/local clubs.

Implementation of Legislation

In order to implement the child protection policy **M & M** will undertake to:

- Implement strategies and procedures that focus on the best interests of children and meet the requirements of child protection legislation
- Promote a safe and supportive environment for all children and young people participating in activities which come under our umbrella
- Increase awareness and emphasise the importance of child protection issues in a sporting environment to all those involved with the activities of **M & M**. This includes administrators, coaches, officials, athletes, parents and their children
- Ensure that all staff/volunteers of **M & M** are aware of their responsibilities arising.

Expectations

M & M Football Academy expects that all administrators, coaches and officials whether paid or unpaid, who participate in organised sport under the banner of this Organisation will commit to the above.

Policy Review

M & M Football Academy Child Protection and Intervention Policy and Guidelines will be reviewed annually and updated in line with any legislative changes that have significant impact on the manner in which child protection and intervention issues are to be dealt with.