

Gloucester City Hockey Club (GCHC)

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT

GCHC believes:

- That safety and welfare of children should always be of paramount importance, whatever circumstances.
- A child, regardless of age, ability, gender, racial origin, religious belief and sexual orientation has a right to be protected from abuse.
- The rights, dignity and worth of a child should always be respected.
- That everyone with a role in working with children has a moral and legal responsibility to safeguard and promote a child's welfare particularly when it comes to protecting children from abuse.
- That special care is needed in dealing with children whose age, inexperience or ability makes them particularly vulnerable to abuse.

GCHC:

- Has therefore adopted this Child Protection Policy to ensure that the welfare and safety of children in the clubs' care or custody is always the primary consideration.
- Is committed to providing an environment where children can learn about, participate in and enjoy hockey free from harassment or abuse.
- Is committed to the delivery of a club-wide Child Welfare Implementation plan that will enable the whole club environment to:
 - Accept moral and legal responsibility to implement procedures, to provide a duty of care for young people, safeguard their well being and protect them from abuse.
 - Respond to any allegations appropriately and implement the appropriate disciplinary and appeals procedures.
 - Respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of young people and disabled adults.
 - Recruit, train and supervise employees and volunteers to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect young people from abuse, and themselves against false allegations.
 - Require club officers, volunteers and any employed persons to adopt and abide by the clubs' Codes of Conduct, Equity, Child Protection & Discipline Policies.

Who this policy applies to:

The Children Act 1989 states that anyone who is involved in the care of children should "do what is reasonable in the circumstances for the purpose of safeguarding or promoting the child's welfare".

The clubs' Child Protection Policy applies to any person involved in the care of children in hockey. A 'Child' is defined as any person under the age of 18 years AND anyone over 18 years who may be vulnerable by nature of any impairment or disability.

Approved by

Paddy Hanrahan Chairperson

James O'Connell, Paddy O'Connell
Club Captains

Date: 5/12