
THORNEY FOOTBALL CLUB

Safeguarding Policy

Thorney Football Club
Tavistock Close
Thorney
Peterborough
PE6 0SP

1. OUR COMMITMENT

As an England Football Accredited Club, Thorney Football Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person participating in football.

We are committed to providing a safe, positive, inclusive and enjoyable environment for all children and young people. We recognise that a child is anyone under the age of 18 and subscribe fully to The Football Association's Safeguarding Children Policy, Regulations and Procedures.

We endorse and adopt the following safeguarding principles:

- The child's welfare is, and must always be, the paramount consideration.
- Every child has the right to be protected from abuse, harm, neglect and exploitation regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity.
- All allegations, concerns, disclosures and suspicions of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to promptly, appropriately and confidentially.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, parents, carers, volunteers, statutory agencies and football organisations is essential to promoting welfare and safeguarding children.

Thorney Football Club is committed to ensuring that every child can participate in football in a safe and enjoyable environment, free from abuse, bullying, discrimination, poor practice and inappropriate behaviour.

We believe children and young people have the right to be listened to and to have their views considered when decisions are made that affect them.

2. OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

Thorney Football Club has a responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from:

- Physical abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Neglect
- Bullying (including cyberbullying)
- Discrimination
- Grooming and exploitation
- Poor practice by adults

We recognise and accept that The FA's Safeguarding Children Regulations apply to everyone involved in football, whether paid or voluntary, including:

- Coaches and managers
- Club officials
- Team helpers
- Volunteers
- Match officials
- Welfare officers
- Medical personnel
- Parents acting in a club role
- Anyone working with or around children on behalf of the club

3. SAFER RECRUITMENT

Thorney Football Club adopts and follows The FA's Safer Recruitment Procedures.

Where an individual undertakes a role within the club, we will:

- Clearly define the role and responsibilities.
- Verify identity through appropriate documentation.
- Meet with applicants and assess their suitability.
- Obtain and verify references where appropriate.
- Ensure eligible individuals hold a valid FA-accepted Enhanced DBS Check with Children's Barred List Check.
- Ensure safeguarding and first aid qualifications are maintained where required.

We are committed to ensuring that all individuals working with children are suitable and safe to undertake their roles.

Where concerns arise regarding the suitability of any individual, advice will be sought immediately from the County FA Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO).

4. CLUB WELFARE OFFICER

Thorney Football Club has appointed a Club Welfare Officer (CWO) in accordance with FA regulations.

Club Welfare Officer

Name: Amie Brooks

Telephone: 07304 098933

Email: Welfare@thorneyfc.co.uk / admin@thorneyfc.co.uk

The Club Welfare Officer is the first point of contact for safeguarding and welfare concerns and is responsible for:

- Promoting a safe and child-centred environment.
- Supporting players, parents, volunteers and coaches.
- Managing low-level concerns appropriately.
- Referring serious concerns to the County FA Designated Safeguarding Officer.
- Maintaining safeguarding records securely.
- Promoting awareness of safeguarding, welfare and respect throughout the club.

The Club Welfare Officer will undertake all required FA safeguarding training and maintain appropriate qualifications.

5. ANTI-BULLYING

Thorney Football Club has a zero-tolerance approach to bullying.

Bullying can take many forms, including:

- Physical bullying
- Verbal bullying
- Emotional bullying
- Social exclusion
- Online or cyberbullying
- Discriminatory bullying

All incidents of bullying will be taken seriously and investigated appropriately.

Players, parents, coaches and volunteers are encouraged to report concerns to the Club Welfare Officer immediately.

Persistent, serious or safeguarding-related incidents may be referred to the County FA and relevant statutory agencies.

6. EXPECTED BEHAVIOUR

Everyone involved with Thorney Football Club must treat children and young people with dignity, fairness and respect.

The Club adopts The FA's guidance on acceptable behaviours and requires all adults to:

- Act as positive role models.
- Maintain appropriate boundaries.
- Prioritise player welfare.
- Promote inclusion and respect.
- Use appropriate language and behaviour at all times.
- Avoid situations that may place themselves or children at risk.

The Club has adopted Codes of Conduct for:

- Players
- Parents and Spectators
- Coaches and Team Officials
- Club Volunteers

Breaches of these codes may result in disciplinary action.

7. REPORTING CONCERNS

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

If any person has concerns about the welfare of a child or young person, they must report them immediately.

Contact the Club Welfare Officer

All concerns should normally be reported to the Club Welfare Officer.

The Welfare Officer will:

- Assess the concern.
- Record information appropriately.
- Seek advice where required.
- Refer serious concerns to the County FA Designated Safeguarding Officer.

If Immediate Action Is Required

If a child is in immediate danger:

- Call 999 and request Police assistance.
- Contact Children's Social Care.
- Seek emergency medical assistance where necessary.

Always inform the Club Welfare Officer as soon as possible afterwards.

Alternative Reporting Routes

If the Club Welfare Officer is unavailable, concerns can be reported directly to:

Cambridgeshire Football Association Designated Safeguarding Officer

Telephone: 01223 209021 or 01223 209026

The Football Association Safeguarding Team

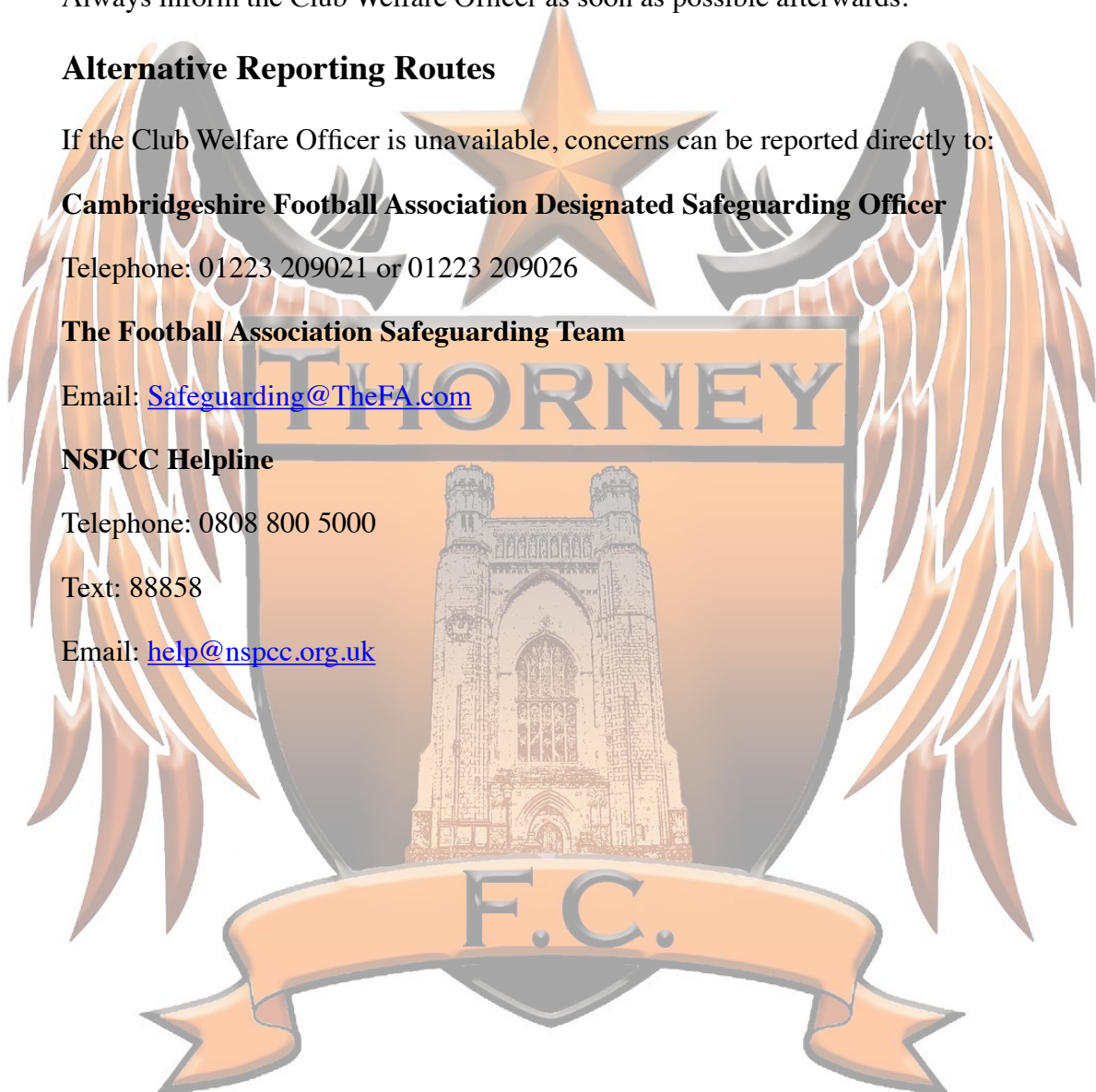
Email: Safeguarding@TheFA.com

NSPCC Helpline

Telephone: 0808 800 5000

Text: 88858

Email: help@nspcc.org.uk



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www.thorneyfc.co.uk

"Play a part in our dream, and live yours"