A yellow shield with blue text and a bull head

Description automatically generated

OUFC

CHILD FRIENDLY SAFEGUARDING POLICY

**Season 2023-2024**

Oxford United Football Club is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment.

**What is safeguarding?**

Safeguarding is about keeping all children and young people safe. This includes you taking action to keep a person safe is known as ‘Child Protection’. We may see or hear things, or you may tell us something and we will need to take action.

# Our belief

We believe your health, safety and well-being are very important.

We respect all young people (under 18) and all adults (over 18) and help protect their rights.

All children have equal rights to protection – regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, ability, sexual orientation, and religious or political beliefs.

# Our Aim

We aim to keep all children safe, provide you with a safe environment for all OUFC activities and for you to be treated fairly and free from harm, discrimination or bullying.

Our staff have been trained to keep you safe.

# You

In order to keep everyone safe you are expected to:

* Respect other children and adults
* Listen and follow instructions
* Ask for help when you need it
* Take responsibility for your actions
* Be nice to and support others
* Accept differences and value diversity
* Tell us what you like and don’t like
* **Not** bully, be rude, or discriminate against others

This includes in person or on social media. Misconduct will be dealt with by the coach.

# Be heard

If you want to give feedback or want to tell us something, you can speak to your coach or adult at OUFC or email: [safeguarding@oufc.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@oufc.co.uk)

# We will listen

It is important to know you if you are unhappy about something or someone and need to get help you can:

* Talk to any coach
* Tell a friend and then go together to tell an adult
* Email the safeguarding officer: [safeguarding@oufc.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@oufc.co.uk)
* Contact Childline (24 hours): 0800 1111
* Contact the Police: 999 if someone is in immediate danger of harm

# Don’t bottle it up – speak out if someone is:

* Saying things that upset you, does something that may cause you harm, or is bullying you.
* Sending nasty messages by phone or social media
* Threatening to send embarrassing photos of you to others, or asking for money/favours
* Touching you in ways you do not like (know the NSPCC underwear rules)
* Trying to give you cigarettes, alcohol, tablets, or drugs
* Hitting or hurting you **or** threatening to harm your family or friends
* We cannot keep secrets. If we need to protect you or someone else from harm, we will need to tell others who can help. If this stops, you speaking out – please call Childline: 0800 1111.

Childline is a service provided by the NSPCC.

**Useful Contacts:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| TBC | Designated safeguarding Officer | [safeguarding@oufc.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@oufc.co.uk) |
| James Constable | Academy Head of Player Care | [jconstable@oufc.co.uk](mailto:jconstable@oufc.co.uk) |
| Stevie Kinniburgh | Academy Manager | [skinniburgh@oufc.co.uk](mailto:skinniburgh@oufc.co.uk) |
| Bo Barisic | Safeguarding Support at Oxford United Football Club | [bbarisic@oufc.co.uk](mailto:BBarisic@oufc.co.uk) |