

CHILD FRIENDLY SAFEGUARDING POLICY



WHAT IS SAFEGUARDING

**THE RIGHT TO BE HEARD. THE RIGHT TO BE FAIRLY TREATED. THE RIGHT TO A CHILDHOOD.
THE RIGHT TO BE EDUCATED. THE RIGHT TO BE HEALTHY.**

WHAT IS THIS FOR?

We want you to know where you can get help if you need it. It is very important to Stockport County that you know who you can talk to and to understand when or why you might need to talk to someone. Our staff are trained to keep you safe.

AND WHY?

We want to explain safeguarding to children and young people in a way that you will understand. The club have a main document, but this would probably be too long and too confusing for you to read.

WHAT DOES THE WORD 'SAFEGUARDING' MEAN?

This is a word that means to keep people safe. We want you to enjoy your time at our football club and to tell us if you feel unsafe, scared, worried or sad.

Sometimes we might have to do something if you tell us about something, or if we see or hear something about you, we do this so we can help you.

When we take this action, this is called 'Child Protection'.



THE FOUR AREAS OF SAFEGUARDING

WHAT ARE THE FOUR MAIN AREAS OF CONCERN IN SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION?

PHYSICAL ABUSE

This is doing things to physically hurt you, such as hitting, smacking, punching, kicking, shaking, throwing, biting, tripping or pushing.

SEXUAL ABUSE

This is when someone touches your private parts or talks about your private parts. It is also called abuse if they show you their private parts. If you are unsure you can talk to a member of our team.

NEGLECT

This is a word that means you are not given things like meals, warm clothing, education, or you are not listened to if you say you aren't feeling well. There may be lots of different reasons why a child is neglected, and it is really important that we know so we can help.

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

This means when someone keeps upsetting you or making you feel bad. They might say horrible things to you, put you down or tell you that you don't matter. They might threaten you if you don't act a certain way or call you names.

These are just examples and the problem you are having might not be listed, that doesn't mean it isn't important.

If you have a problem or worry, talk to a trusted adult.



WHAT SHOULD YOU BE TELLING US

Is someone bullying you?

Does someone say nasty or mean things to you or call you names?

Does someone physically hurt you, push, punch, kick or trip you?

IF THEY DO, THEN YOU SHOULD TELL SOMEONE AT STOCKPORT COUNTY SO WE CAN HELP.

Is someone saying unusual things to you?

Have you heard someone say something that makes you sad or that you don't like?

IF THEY DO, THEN YOU SHOULD TELL SOMEONE AT STOCKPORT COUNTY SO WE CAN HELP.

Is someone touching you?

If so, have they touched a part of your body like your bottom or chest or a part of your body you don't like them touching?

IF THEY DO, THEN YOU SHOULD TELL SOMEONE AT STOCKPORT COUNTY SO WE CAN HELP.

Is someone trying to give you cigarettes, vapes, drugs or alcohol?

What about something that they haven't told you what it is?

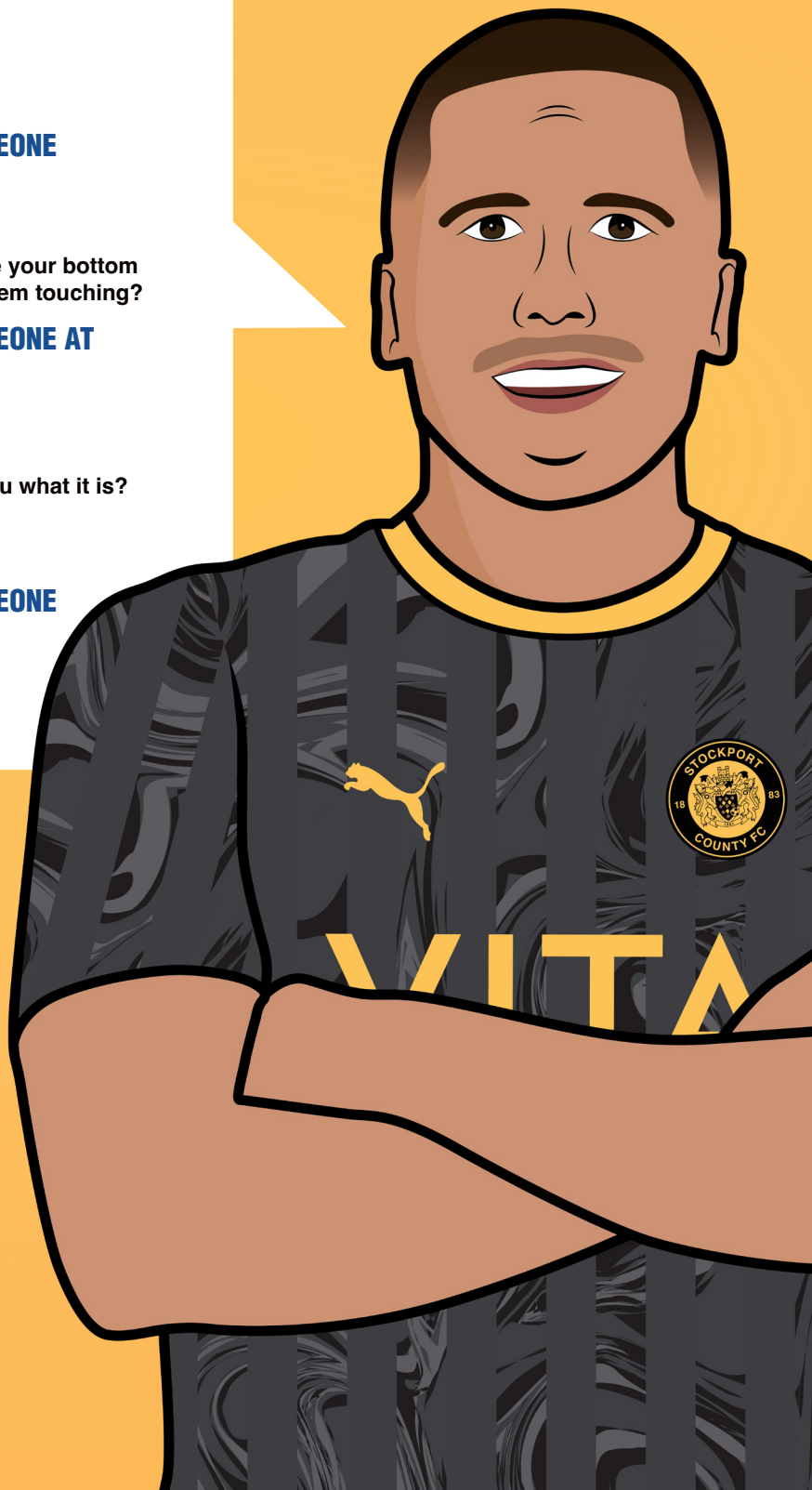
Are they trying to make you hold something that you could get in trouble for?

IF THEY DO, THEN YOU SHOULD TELL SOMEONE AT STOCKPORT COUNTY SO WE CAN HELP.

If you are worried about someone else then you should tell someone at stockport county to help.

**IF IN DOUBT,
TALK TO SOMEONE.**

There are many staff at Stockport County Football Club or the Community Trust that can support you.



WHAT CAN YOU DO.

AS WE HAVE TOLD YOU, WE WANT TO KEEP EVERYONE AT THE CLUB HAPPY AND SAFE. TO DO THAT YOU CAN HELP US BY:

- Respecting everyone you meet at the club
- Listening and following instructions
 - Asking for help when you need it
 - Being nice and supporting others
 - Accepting everyone's differences
 - Not saying anything to hurt anyone
 - Not being rude
 - Not discriminating against anybody

WHAT CAN WE DO?

- We make sure our staff know how to help you
- We make sure there is someone you can talk to if you need to
 - We train staff to know how to respond to you
 - We can listen to you

NEXT STEPS?

- Staff might need to check some things with the clubs 'Designated Safeguarding Officer'.
- The Safeguarding Officer might need to contact some other people for support. If what you tell us is serious then this might be Social Workers or the Police.
 - This is not because you are in trouble but because we need to keep you safe.
- The safeguarding officer will explain all this to you as this is happening, and you can ask the safeguarding officer about anything you might be worried about.

YOU WILL BE HEARD, WE WILL LISTEN.

IF YOU WANT TO GIVE FEEDBACK OR WANT TO TELL US SOMETHING, SPEAK TO AN ADULT YOU CAN TRUST OR EMAIL [SAFEGUARDING@STOCKPORTCOUNTY.COM](mailto:safeguarding@stockportcounty.com).

IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO KNOW THAT IF YOU ARE UNHAPPY ABOUT SOMETHING OR SOMEONE AND NEED HELP, YOU CAN:

- Talk to our coaches or player care leads
- Tell your parents or an adult you trust
- Email the safeguarding officer or the safeguarding team (details below)
- Contact ChildLine at any time (details below)
- Contact Police on 999 if you or someone else are at immediate danger or risk of harm.

Please remember we cannot keep secrets. If we need to protect you or someone else, we will need to tell others who can help.

KEY CONTACT DETAILS



Amy Heaton

Designated Safeguarding Officer
& Matchday Safeguarding Officer

✉ safeguarding@stockportcounty.com



Adam Jones

Academy Head of Player Care
(Academy Designated Safeguarding Lead)

✉ Adam.jones@stockportcounty.com



Matthew Bailey

Community Partnerships Manager
(Community Trust Safeguarding Lead)

✉ m.bailey@stockportcounty.com

Stockport Police
Emergency 999 / Non-Emergency 101
**Stockport Council Multi Agency
Safeguarding Hub**
0161 217 6028

Stockport Council Out of hours
0161 718 2118
NSPCC 0808 800 5000
Childline 0800 1111



Date and Review

This policy is reviewed annually, the next review will be in 2024.

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|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Effective Date | October 2023 – First version |
| Written By | Amy Heaton – Safeguarding Officer |
| Approved By (Board) | Jonathan Vaughan - CEO |
| Review Date | October 2024 |
| Update responsibility | Safeguarding Officer |

Review History

| Number | Date | Review details | Authorised by (Board) |
|--------|--------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | October 2023 | Development & Creation of Document | JV Oct 23 |