

Largs Thistle Football Club
Barrfields Park, 69-70 Brisbane Road, Largs
KA30 8NP



CHILD WELLBEING AND PROTECTION POLICY SUMMARY

1. Policy statement

Largs Thistle Football Club ("the Club") is committed to ensuring that all children and young people who participate in our football activities feel safe, valued, respected, and protected from harm.

We recognise our responsibility to promote the wellbeing of every child, and we follow [Scottish FA \(SFA\) Child Wellbeing and Protection policies](#), Scottish Youth Football Association (SYFA) guidelines, and relevant Scottish legislation.

We believe that:

- The welfare of children is paramount
- All children have the right to protection from physical, emotional, sexual harm, and neglect
- Children have the right to express their views and have them taken seriously

Everyone involved in our Club is responsible for supporting child wellbeing. We will take all appropriate steps to make sure we do so.

Yours in sport,

Alistair McMaster

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Alistair McMaster', written in a cursive style.

Largs Thistle Football Club
largsthistlefc1889@gmail.com

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- coaches
- volunteers
- Committee Members
- parents and carers
- players
- staff and match officials
- anyone representing the Club

It covers all Club environments including training, matches, travel, online communication, and social settings.

The full Child Wellbeing and Protection Policy, including Practice Notes, Procedures and Standards, can be found [on the Club website](#).

3. Key roles

Role	Name	Contact
Club Child Wellbeing and Protection Officer (CWPO)	Tiffany Irvin	07973 199648 tiffanyirvin@me.com
Chairperson	Alistair McMaster	07775 578795 largsthistlefc1889@gmail.com
Match Secretary	Kenny Smailes	07787 575615

The CWPO is the first point of contact for concerns and supports safe recruitment, training, and reporting procedures.

4. Safe recruitment

The Club will ensure:

- all volunteers working with children are PVG scheme members
- volunteers complete SYFA/SFA Child Wellbeing and Protection training
- no individual begins regulated work without appropriate checks
- codes of conducts are signed and followed

5. Codes of Conduct

We require behaviour that upholds respect, fairness, and wellbeing. Codes of Conduct apply to:

- coaches and Staff
- players
- parents and carers
- spectators

Examples include:

- Treat everyone with dignity
- Use positive and age-appropriate language
- Never ridicule, shout at, or intimidate a child
- No alcohol, drugs, or inappropriate behaviour around children

Full codes of conduct are stored and shared with all members during registration.

6. Recognising and responding to concerns

A concern may relate to:

- behaviour towards a child
- something a child discloses
- changes in behaviour or appearance
- suspected bullying or neglect

If a child is in **immediate danger**, call Police on 999.

6.1 Reporting procedure

- Listen and reassure – do not promise confidentiality
- Record what was said or observed in the child's own words

Report concerns to the CWPO immediately. The CWPO will contact:

- The Scottish FA Child Wellbeing and Protection Team
- police or social work if needed.

No member should investigate concerns themselves.

7. Bullying and harassment

Bullying is not tolerated. The Club will:

- respond quickly to all reports
- support children affected
- work with parents and carers where appropriate
- take disciplinary action if required

8. Online and social media safety

- Coaches and volunteers must communicate through approved Club channels
- No private messaging between adults and children

- Images and videos will only be taken and shared with parental consent
- Children must never be identified by full name alongside images

9. Health, safety and first aid

- At least one trained first aider will be present at all sessions
- Medical information provided by parents and carers will be respected and used appropriately
- An Incident Form must be completed for injuries and accidents

10. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if:

- guidance changes
- an incident occurs
- the Club structure changes

Approval

Signed (CWPO): 

DOCUMENT CONTROL

To be reviewed and published annually:

Reviewed by Club on 4 December 2025

Next Review Date: no later than 4 December 2026