

Kilnadeema Leitrim Child Protection and Welfare Policy Statement:

Kilnadeema Leitrim GAA club is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for all children and young people who participate in our games and activities. We endeavour to take all practicable steps to protect them from abuse, harm, discrimination or degrading treatment and shall respect their rights, wishes and feelings.

We do this by:

- * Recognising that the welfare of the child is first and paramount
- * Acknowledging the rights of children and young people to be protected, treated with respect, listened to and have their views taken into consideration
- * Ensuring that all our managers, mentors, coaches and volunteers are carefully recruited and selected in accordance with GAA guidelines and legislative requirements and that they accept responsibility for ensuring the wellbeing of the children in their care
- * Ensuring that all our managers, mentors, coaches and volunteers are appropriately trained in child protection and welfare and that they sign up to and adhere to our Code of Behaviour
- * Appointing a Children's Officer to ensure that the club maintains a child centred ethos
- * Appointing a Designated Liaison Person to liaise with the Statutory Authorities, as appropriate
- * Responding swiftly and appropriately to any allegations or concerns so as to protect the welfare of the children and young people who participate in our club
- * Providing children, young people and parents with the opportunity to voice their concerns
- * Promoting the Give Respect – Get Respect initiative within our club.

The Club Children's Officer will hold a meeting during the year for parents to provide information on the club's responsibilities with regard to child protection and welfare and to ensuring a child centred environment. Parents are encouraged to attend and contribute to this meeting.

If parents, children or young people have any concerns or complaints, they should, in the first instance, talk to the manager, mentor, coach etc where the concerns originated. Managers, mentors and coaches will make themselves available to parents, children and young people about any issues they may have about their child's/their own treatment in the club. If the issue is not resolved at this point, it should then be brought to the attention of the Club Children's Officer.

Please come to us if you have any concerns and we will do our best to resolve it. We are also happy to receive any positive feedback!

We are aware of the fact that, sometimes, it is difficult to come forward and voice your concerns. We will investigate anonymous complaints and concerns as best we can but these are often difficult to follow up and substantiate.

If parents, children, young people, club members, club personnel or the general public have any concerns in relation to child protection or welfare, they should report these directly to the

Club's Designated Liaison Person (John Broderick (086) 3435398); breaches of the Code of Behaviour should be report to the Club's Children Officer (Caron Burke (086) 8579106).

Kilnadeema Leitrim GAA Club Cúmanan Lúthchleas Gael Cill na Dioma - Liathdroim