

Hilton Harriers Football Club

Welfare & Safeguarding Information

Creating a Safe, Positive and Inclusive Environment for Everyone

Welcome

At **Hilton Harriers Football Club**, the safety, wellbeing and enjoyment of every child is our highest priority.

We are committed to creating a safe, positive and inclusive environment where all players can develop their football skills, build confidence and enjoy being part of a team.

Everyone involved with the club shares a responsibility to help safeguard children and young people.

This information pack explains:

- Our safeguarding commitment
- Who to speak to if you have concerns
- Expectations for players, parents and coaches
- Photography and social media guidance
- How safeguarding concerns are managed

Our Safeguarding Commitment

Hilton Harriers FC will:

- Put the welfare of children first.
- Follow The Football Association safeguarding policies and procedures.
- Create a safe, positive and inclusive football environment.
- Ensure all coaches and volunteers working with children have the appropriate FA qualifications and DBS checks where required.
- Listen to concerns and take them seriously.
- Promote respect, equality and fair play at all times.
- Work with parents, players and partner organisations to safeguard all children.

The welfare of the child is always paramount.

Club Welfare Officer

The Club Welfare Officer is the first point of contact for any welfare, safeguarding or child protection concern.

Claire Ecclestone

Club Welfare Officer ☎ 07734 468372

✉ welfare@hiltonharriers.co.uk

The Welfare Officer's Role

Supporting players, parents and coaches.

- Providing guidance on safeguarding matters.
- Recording and reporting concerns appropriately.
- Liaising with Derbyshire FA where necessary.
- Helping ensure the club meets FA safeguarding requirements.

Key Safeguarding Contacts

Hilton Harriers FC Welfare Officer

Claire Ecclestone ☎ 07734 468372

✉ welfare@hiltonharriers@gmail.com

Derbyshire FA Safeguarding Officer

Jenny Blewitt

☎ 01332 361422

The FA Safeguarding Team

☎ 0800 169 1863

✉ safeguarding@thefa.com

NSPCC Helpline

☎ 0808 800 5000

Emergency Services

☎ 999

NHS Non-Emergency

☎ 111



Information for Players

Every player at Hilton Harriers FC has the right to:

- ✓ Feel safe
- ✓ Be listened to
- ✓ Be treated fairly and with respect
- ✓ Enjoy football without fear of bullying or discrimination
- ✓ Speak to a trusted adult if something is worrying them

Players Are Expected To

- Respect teammates, opponents, coaches and referees.
- Play fairly and honestly.
- Use appropriate language.
- Treat club facilities and equipment with care.
- Report any concerns to a coach, parent or Welfare Officer.

Remember: If something doesn't feel right, tell someone.

Information for Parents and Guardians

Parents play a vital role in creating a positive football experience for children.

We Ask Parents To

- Encourage effort rather than results.
- Respect coaches, officials and volunteers.
- Support all players positively.
- Help maintain a respectful touchline environment.
- Raise concerns through the appropriate channels.
- Inform coaches of any medical, welfare or wellbeing issues affecting their child.

Parents should never feel concerned about contacting the Welfare Officer if they have any safeguarding concerns.

Information for Coaches and Volunteers

Coaches and volunteers are important role models for our players.

All Coaches Should

- Place player welfare above winning.
- Promote enjoyment and development.
- Follow FA safeguarding policies and procedures.
- Maintain appropriate professional boundaries.
- Treat all players equally and fairly.

- Report concerns immediately.
- Never ignore signs of abuse, bullying or poor practice.

Remember: It is not your role to investigate concerns. Your role is to listen, record and report.

Anti-Bullying Statement

Hilton Harriers FC operates a **zero-tolerance approach** towards:

- Bullying
- Harassment
- Discrimination
- Racism
- Sexism
- Homophobia
- Intimidation
- Abuse of officials, coaches, volunteers or players

Any reported incident will be taken seriously and managed in accordance with FA safeguarding procedures.

Photography, Video and Social Media

Hilton Harriers FC recognises the importance of protecting children's privacy.

The Club Will

- Obtain parental consent before publishing images of children.
- Review consent annually.
- Avoid using full names alongside photographs.
- Remove photographs promptly if consent is withdrawn.
- Ensure images are used appropriately and responsibly.
- Challenge any inappropriate use of images or social media.

Parents and spectators are asked to respect club guidance regarding photography and the use of social media.

What To Do If You Have a Concern

If a child tells you something worrying, or you witness concerning behaviour, follow these steps:

Step 1: Listen

- Stay calm.
- Listen carefully.
- Do not ask leading questions.
- Do not promise to keep secrets.

Step 2: Record

Write down:

- What was said.
- Who was involved.
- Date and time.
- Any actions taken.

Use the child's own words wherever possible.

Step 3: Report

Contact the Club Welfare Officer as soon as possible.

If the concern involves the Welfare Officer, contact Derbyshire FA directly.

Reporting a Safeguarding Concern

If you are worried about a child or young person:

1. Report the concern to **Claire Ecclestone, Club Welfare Officer**.
2. If the concern is serious or the Welfare Officer is unavailable, contact:
 - Derbyshire FA Safeguarding Officer
 - The FA Safeguarding Team
 - Children's Social Care
 - The Police
3. If a child is at immediate risk of harm, call **999** immediately.

NON-ACTION IS NOT AN OPTION IN CHILD PROTECTION.

Hilton Harriers FC expects all members, coaches, volunteers and parents to report concerns so that children can be protected and supported.

Step 4: Emergency Situations

If a child is in immediate danger:

 **Call 999 immediately**

Safeguarding Checks and Renewals

To maintain a safe environment, the club regularly reviews safeguarding requirements.

Requirement	Renewal Period
FA Safeguarding Training	Every 3 Years
DBS Checks	Every 3 Years
Player Photo Consent	Annually

Requirement	Renewal Period
Safeguarding Policy Review	Every 3 Years or sooner if guidance changes

Our Safeguarding Declaration

Hilton Harriers FC is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all members, coaches, volunteers and parents to share this commitment.

Together, we can create a safe, enjoyable and inclusive environment where every child can thrive through football.

Hilton Harriers Football Club

Safe · Inclusive · Respectful · Enjoyable

For any welfare or safeguarding concern, please contact:

Claire Ecclestone

Club Welfare Officer

☎ 07734 468372

✉ welfare@hiltonharriers.co.uk

