



Scottish Charity  
No:SC006452

## **Code of Conduct for Safeguarding Children's Wellbeing**

This Code of Conduct details the standards and practice required by the Scottish Schools' FA Officials and adult members of the International teams, including verbal and non-verbal actions when involved in activities with children and young people.

\*\*All concerns about breach of this Code of Conduct will be taken seriously and responded to in line with the Scottish Schools' FA Procedures for Responding to Concerns about the Conduct of an Adult and/or Disciplinary Procedures.

### **Good Conduct.**

The following elements indicate good practice:

- Make football fun, enjoyable and promote fair play.
- Treat all children equally, with respect, dignity, sensitivity and fairness (Article 2, UNCRC).
- Build balanced relationships based on mutual trust.
- Put the wellbeing and best interests of each child first before winning or achieving performance goals (Article 3, UNCRC).
- Support children to understand their rights in football and the safeguards put in place to protect them.
- Include children in decisions and activities affecting them wherever possible, respecting and taking seriously the views they contribute (Article 12, UNCRC).
- Be an excellent role model including not smoking or drinking alcohol in the company of children.
- Always work in an open environment, wherever possible.
- Give enthusiastic and constructive feedback rather than negative criticism.
- Recognise the developmental needs and capacity of children.

- Involve parents/carers wherever possible.

### **Practice to be Avoided**

**In the context of the Scottish Schools' FA, the following practice should be avoided:**

- Having 'favourites' – this could lead to resentment and jealousy by other children and could be misinterpreted by others.
- Spending excessive amounts of time alone with children away from others.
- Excessive training and competition, pushing children against their will and placing undue pressure.
- Entering children's bedrooms on trips away from home, unless in an emergency situation or in the interest of health and safety. If it is necessary to enter rooms, knock and say that you are coming in. The door should remain open, if appropriate.
- Doing things of a personal nature for children that they can do for themselves.

### **Unacceptable Conduct**

**In the context of your role within the Scottish Schools' F.A. the following practices are unacceptable:**

- Failing to act on, record or acknowledge allegations or concerns raised by a child.
- Allowing bullying behaviour in any form between children to go on unchallenged.
- Displaying bullying behaviour or making inappropriate comments to a child causing emotional harm.
- Allowing children to swear or use sexualised language unchallenged.
- Engaging in sexually provocative games, including horseplay or touching a child in a sexually suggestive manner.
- Making sexually suggestive comments to a child, even in fun.
- Forming intimate emotional, physical or sexual relationships with children.
- Engaging in rough physical contact.
- Establishing inappropriate contact with children via social media either online or on mobile phones.
- Reducing a child to tears as a form of control.
- Inviting or allowing children to stay with you at your home.
- Sharing a room alone with a child.



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**Sign-up:**

**I have read and agree to abide by this Scottish Schools' F.A. Code of Conduct.**

**I have also read and agree to abide by the Scottish Schools' FA's Child Wellbeing and Protection in Scottish Football Policies, Procedures and Safeguards.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Witnessed by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Witness Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date**

**signed:** -----

August 2021