



2.1 Purpose

All children and young people have the right to be safe and protected from harm. Organisations and individuals who work with children have a responsibility to provide a safe and supportive environment, including within community sport and recreation.

This policy outlines the commitment of the Bulleen Templestowe Junior Football Club to child safety and the policies and practices the Club has in place to ensure that children and young people participating in Club activities are protected from abuse, neglect, bullying and other harmful behaviour.

2.2 Our Statement of Commitment to Children and Young People

The Bulleen Templestowe Junior Football Club believes that all children and young people have the right to feel safe, respected and supported while participating in football activities.

The Club is committed to promoting the safety, wellbeing and participation of all children and young people. The welfare of children is the Club's first priority and everyone involved in the Club shares responsibility for helping to create and maintain a safe and inclusive environment.

2.3 Scope

This policy has been developed with reference to the **Victorian Child Safe Standards**, amendments to the **Working with Children Act 2005**, and guidance from **VicSport** and **AFL** community policies. It reflects the Club's commitment to providing a safe, welcoming and inclusive sporting environment.

This policy applies to all children, young people and adults who are members of the Club. This includes players, parents or guardians, spectators, coaches, team officials, volunteers and Club administrators. It also applies to siblings and visitors who attend Club activities.

This policy applies to all Club activities including training sessions, matches, social functions and official Club events held at Club facilities or other venues.

2.4 Responsibilities

Everyone involved with the Club has a responsibility to help create a safe environment for children and young people.

All members, volunteers, coaches, officials, parents and spectators are expected to behave respectfully, support a safe sporting environment and report any concerns relating to the safety or wellbeing of a child or young person.



The Club will appoint a Child Safety Officer who will be the main point of contact for any child safety concerns or questions.

2.5 Recruitment and Screening

The Club aims to ensure that people who work with children and young people are suitable for their roles.

All coaches, committee members and volunteers who work with children are required to hold a valid **Working With Children Check** in accordance with Victorian legislation. The Club may also undertake reference checks or other screening processes where appropriate.

2.6 Education and Training

The Club supports ongoing education and awareness to help create a safe environment for children and young people.

Coaches, volunteers and committee members are encouraged to participate in relevant training programs provided by organisations such as **Play by the Rules**, **AFL**, and **eSafety Commissioner** to better understand child safety and appropriate conduct in sport.

2.7 Reporting Concerns

The Club takes all concerns about the safety and wellbeing of children and young people seriously.

Anyone who believes a child may be at risk is encouraged to raise their concern with the Club's Child Safety Officer or a member of the Club committee. Concerns will be handled promptly, respectfully and confidentially.

If a child is in immediate danger, Police should be contacted by calling **000**.

2.8 Review of Policy

The Club is committed to regularly reviewing its child safety policies and practices to ensure they remain effective and relevant.

This policy will be reviewed periodically and updated where necessary to reflect changes to legislation, guidelines or Club practices.