LDL

Limerick District League

CHILD WELFARE POLICY PACK

2026 Edition

LDL Child Welfare Policy Pack

Official Club Safeguarding & Welfare Document

2026 Edition

Prepared By

Children's Officer

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Role Description – Children's Officer (LDL)

The Children's Officer at LDL is responsible for ensuring that every child involved in the club participates in football in a safe, positive, and supportive environment. This role oversees the implementation of all safeguarding policies across LDL's teams, coaches, volunteers, and match-day activities. The Children's Officer works closely with team managers, the Designated Liaison Person (DLP), and the club committee to ensure that child welfare remains central to all club operations.

Key responsibilities include:

- Acting as the primary point of contact for child welfare concerns within LDL
- Supporting coaches and volunteers in maintaining safe standards of behaviour and supervision
- Ensuring all coaches and volunteers complete required Garda Vetting and safeguarding training
- Promoting respect, inclusion, and positive behaviour across all LDL teams
- Monitoring adherence to Codes of Conduct for players, parents, and volunteers
- Ensuring safe communication practices, including social media and team messaging
- Overseeing the safe management of photography, video, and match-day media
- Ensuring travel, transport, and supervision arrangements meet safeguarding requirements
- Working with the DLP to ensure concerns are reported, recorded, and managed appropriately
- Leading the annual review of LDL's Child Welfare and Safeguarding policies

This role is central to LDL's commitment to providing a safe, enjoyable football environment for all children in the club.

Club Details

Club Name: LDL **Location:** Limerick, Ireland **Affiliation:** Football Association of Ireland (FAI) **Document Type:** Child Welfare & Safeguarding Master Policy

Table of Contents

Cover Page Prepared By – Children's Officer Role Description – Children's Officer (LDL) Club Details

1. Safeguarding Statement
2. Risk Assessment
3. Volunteer Recruitment Policy
4. Parents' Code of Conduct
5. Players' Code of Conduct
6. Volunteers' Code of Conduct
7. Anti-Bullying Policy
8. Social Media & Communications Policy
9. Transport & Travel Policy
10. Photography & Video Policy
11. FAI Template Structure
12. Signature Page

SECTION 1 — Safeguarding Statement

Designated Liaison Person (DLP)

Name: Christy O Dwyer **Email:** odwyerchristy@gmail.com **Phone:** +353 86 167 0865

Children's Officer

Name: Paddy Collins **Email:** cwoldl147@gmail.com **Phone:** +353 85 186 7339

SECTION 2 — Risk Assessment (Complaint Item)

Risk Identified:

Complaint

Potential Harm:

Mishandling of concerns or delays in reporting.

Controls in Place:

- All complaints logged and reviewed by the DLP

- Clear reporting pathway communicated to all volunteers
- Complaints procedure included in Codes of Conduct
- Annual review of complaint handling

SECTION 3 — Volunteer Recruitment Policy

The club ensures all volunteers are suitable and safe to work with children. Recruitment includes:

- Volunteer Application Form
- Garda Vetting
- Identity verification
- Reference checks
- SG1 and SG3 safeguarding training
- Clear role descriptions
- Acceptance of the Club's Code of Conduct

No volunteer begins working with children until all steps are completed.

SECTION 4 — Parents' Code of Conduct

Parents agree to:

- Support their child positively
- Respect coaches, referees, and volunteers
- Avoid abusive or aggressive behaviour
- Use club communication channels
- Promote fair play and respect

SECTION 5 — Players' Code of Conduct

Players agree to:

- Respect coaches, referees, and teammates
- Play fairly and safely
- Avoid bullying or exclusion
- Attend training and matches on time
- Represent the club positively

SECTION 6 — Volunteers' Code of Conduct

Volunteers agree to:

- Prioritise child welfare
- Maintain appropriate boundaries
- Report concerns to the DLP immediately
- Complete required safeguarding training
- Act as positive role models
- Follow club policies and procedures

SECTION 7 — Anti-Bullying Policy

Purpose

To ensure all children are protected from bullying in any form — verbal, physical, social, or online.

Definition of Bullying

Bullying is repeated behaviour that intentionally hurts, harms, or humiliates another person.

Examples

- Name-calling, mocking, intimidation
- Excluding or isolating a child
- Physical aggression
- Online harassment or messaging abuse

Prevention Measures

- Coaches promote respect and inclusion
- Clear reporting pathway to the DLP
- Education for players and parents
- Zero tolerance for bullying behaviour

Reporting & Response

- All concerns reported to the DLP
- Incidents recorded and reviewed
- Support provided to affected children
- Appropriate sanctions for perpetrators

SECTION 8 — Social Media & Communications Policy

Purpose

To protect children from inappropriate online contact and ensure safe digital communication.

Rules for Coaches & Volunteers

- No private messaging with children
- Team communication only through approved channels
- No posting images of children without parental consent
- No tagging children in posts

Rules for Parents & Players

- Respectful online behaviour
- No negative comments about players, coaches, referees
- No sharing match footage of other children without consent

Club Responsibilities

- Monitor official social media accounts
- Remove inappropriate content immediately
- Report serious incidents to the DLP

SECTION 9 — Transport & Travel Policy

Purpose

To ensure safe travel arrangements for children attending matches, training, or events.

Guidelines

- Parents are responsible for transport unless otherwise arranged
- Volunteers must not transport children alone
- Two adults present in any club-organised transport
- Seatbelts must be worn at all times
- Travel plans communicated clearly to parents

If Club Transport Is Used

- Consent forms required
- Emergency contact details carried
- Children supervised at all times

SECTION 10 — Photography & Video Policy

Purpose

To protect children from inappropriate use of images and ensure safe media practices.

Rules for Photography

- Parental consent required for all images
- No identifying information (names, addresses, schools)
- Images must be appropriate and respectful
- No photography in changing rooms

Rules for Video Recording

- Used only for coaching or match analysis
- Stored securely
- Deleted when no longer needed
- Not shared publicly without consent

Club Responsibilities

- Monitor use of cameras and phones
- Remove and report inappropriate images
- Ensure compliance with GDPR

SECTION 11 — FAI Club Management Guide Template Structure

- Policy Title
- Purpose
- Scope
- Responsibilities
- Procedures
- Review Cycle

SECTION 12 — Signature Page

Approval & Adoption of LDL Child Welfare Policy Pack

This Child Welfare & Safeguarding Policy Pack has been formally reviewed and adopted by LDL Football Club. By signing below, the club confirms its commitment to implementing and upholding all policies contained within this document.

Children's Officer

Name: Paddy Collins **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

Designated Liaison Person (DLP)

Name: Christy O Dwyer **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

Club Chairperson

Name: _____ **Signature:** _____
Date: _____

Club Secretary

Name: _____ **Signature:** _____
Date: _____

Club Committee Approval

This policy pack was approved at an official LDL Committee Meeting on: **Date:** _____

Committee Signatures:

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