Inspiring everyone
to play and love sport

FA WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY
Supported by LRFC

The FA (Football Association) has a whistleblowing policy to encourage the reporting of concerns about misconduct or malpractice within football, particularly regarding the safeguarding of children. This policy ensures that individuals can raise concerns without fear of reprisal and that these concerns will be taken seriously and investigated appropriately.
Key aspects of the FA's whistleblowing policy:

- **What it covers:**

  The policy covers concerns about misconduct or malpractice within football organizations, especially in relation to safeguarding children.

- **How to report:**

  Individuals can report concerns to The FA's Safeguarding Team by calling 0800 169 1863 or emailing Safeguarding@TheFA.com.

- **Confidentiality and Protection:**

  The policy aims to protect whistleblowers from retaliation and encourages them to report concerns without fear of disadvantage or discrimination.

- **Collaboration:**

  The FA works with other organizations like the police, Children's Social Care, and the NSPCC to ensure concerns are addressed effectively.

- **Importance of reporting:**

  The policy emphasizes that reporting concerns is crucial for protecting children and ensuring a safe environment in football.

- **Contact information:**

  For specific concerns, individuals can contact their County FA's Designated Safeguarding Officer or the NSPCC.

- **Reporting pathways:**

  Concerns can be reported through various channels, including club officials, County FA's, or directly to The FA's Safeguarding Team.

- **Legal protections:**
  The Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998 (PIDA) provides legal protections for whistleblowers in the UK, ensuring they are protected from unfair dismissal for making protected disclosures.


Whistleblowing Policy
What is whistleblowing?
Whistleblowing can be used as an early warning system or when it's recognised that appropriate actions have not been taken. It is used in many different walks of life, including the world of football.
It is about revealing and raising concerns over misconduct or malpractice within an organisation. For example, if you think that your club has not adequately dealt with a safeguarding concern and wish to elevate this.
Who do I contact?
The GFA Safeguarding Team
01454 615888 (Option 1) or
Safeguarding@GloucestershireFA.com
The FA Safeguarding team
0800 169 1863 or Safeguarding@TheFA.com
The NSPCC
0808 800 5000 or help@nspcc.org.uk
You can also report your concerns directly to the police.
If there is an immediate risk of harm, ALWAYS RING 999.