



Maldon Cricket Club

Child Protection Policy

Reviewed January 2026

1. Introduction

This policy is based on the guidelines set out in the **ECB document “Safe Hands – Welfare of Young People in Cricket”**.

Maldon Cricket Club (MCC) is committed to ensuring that all young people, regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability, or disability:

1. Are protected from harm.
2. Can enjoy cricket in a safe and supportive environment.

All adults working with MCC and young people will:

- Adhere to the standards set out in this policy.
- Provide a safe, positive, and enjoyable cricketing experience.
- Maintain up-to-date knowledge of best practice in safeguarding and child protection.
- Be familiar with this document and have access to the ECB Welfare of Young People Cricket Policy via the Club Safeguarding Officer.

The MCC Management Committee will:

- Fully endorse this policy.
- Ensure any allegations or concerns regarding young people are dealt with swiftly and appropriately.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO): **Joe Figg** - 07887705784

The Club Safeguarding Officer has overall responsibility for safeguarding and child protection at Maldon Cricket Club. Joe Figg will:

- Act as the main point of contact for all safeguarding and child protection concerns.
- Receive, record, and respond to concerns, disclosures, and incidents in line with ECB Safe Hands guidance and this policy.
- Liaise with the ECB, local safeguarding partners, and statutory agencies where required.
- Ensure safeguarding records are kept securely and confidentially.
- Support staff, volunteers, and parents in understanding safeguarding procedures.
- Ensure concerns are acted upon promptly and appropriately.
- Promote a positive safeguarding culture within the club.

Management Committee

The Management Committee is responsible for:

- Ensuring the club has effective safeguarding policies and procedures in place.
- Supporting the Club Safeguarding Officer in their role.
- Ensuring safeguarding is a standing agenda item at committee meetings.
- Providing resources and support for safeguarding training and compliance.

Coaches, Volunteers, and Club Members

All adults involved with MCC who may come into contact with children must:

- Follow this policy and ECB Safe Hands guidance.
- Attend safeguarding training as required.
- Report any concerns immediately to the Club Safeguarding Officer.

- Act in a way that promotes the welfare and safety of children at all times.

3. Good Practice for Adults

All adults working with young people should:

- Ensure cricket is fun, fair, and promotes good sportsmanship.
- Treat all young people with respect and dignity, valuing their individuality.
- Prioritise the welfare of young people above winning or performance.
- Avoid inappropriate behaviour, including the use of bad language, smoking, or alcohol while in charge of young people.
- Work in an open environment, encouraging participation and inclusion.
- Give constructive and enthusiastic feedback.
- Maintain accurate records of participation, accidents, and injuries.
- Ensure physical contact is appropriate and consented to.
- Follow up any allegations made by a young person in accordance with the ECB guidance.
- Keep qualifications, technical skills, and insurance up to date.
- Always inform a parent or guardian if:
 - A young person is accidentally hurt.
 - A young person seems distressed.
 - A young person misunderstands something that has occurred

4. Poor Practice/Unacceptable Behaviour

Adults must never:

- Spend time alone with young people away from others.
- Take young people to their home where they are alone.
- Engage in rough, physical, or sexually provocative games.
- Share a room with a young person on tours or trips.
- Make sexually suggestive remarks.

- Allow inappropriate language or behaviour to go unchallenged.
- Do personal tasks for a young person that they can do themselves.
- Transport young people alone without proper insurance, MOT, or valid driving license.

5. Welfare Incident Reporting

- MCC Welfare Incident Forms are available on the **Club Welfare Board** at Drapers Farm and from the **Club Safeguarding Officer**.
- Forms must be completed immediately if:
 - Good practice guidelines are breached.
 - Any concern, disclosure, or allegation is expressed or witnessed.
- Completed forms must be submitted to the **Club Safeguarding Officer** promptly.

6. Photography and Video Use

- Parents' permission should be obtained before taking or publishing photographs or video footage of young people
- Video analysis for coaching is permitted, but parental consent is required
- Footage should **not be stored long-term** without explicit permission
- Detailed guidance can be found in the clubs separate **“Photography and Videoing Policy”** and the ECB Safe Hands document.

7. Changing Facilities

- Children under 10 must be supervised in changing rooms by an adult of the same gender.
- Adults must never shower with children under 18.
- Children should not be pressured to shower in public; they may do so at home if preferred.

8. Guidance for Parents/Carers

Parents should be aware that MCC:

- Encourages coaching staff to be qualified and aware of child protection issues.
- Encourages parental involvement in the club.

If a parent/carer is late collecting a young person:

- Attempt to contact the parent/carer.
- Stay with the young person, preferably with other adults present.
- Do not send a child home with another person without prior permission.
- If necessary, inform social services or the police.

9. Alcohol, Smoking, and Substances

- Young people are not permitted to consume alcohol, smoke, or use illegal substances at MCC.
- Adults must not consume alcohol, smoke, or use illegal substances while responsible for young people.

10. Indicators of Abuse

Coaches, volunteers, and staff at Maldon Cricket Club (MCC) have a responsibility to be alert to potential signs of abuse or neglect in children and young people. Recognising these signs early is essential to ensure that children are kept safe and supported appropriately.

- Abuse can take many forms, including physical, emotional, sexual abuse, neglect, or exploitation.
- Coaches, volunteers, and staff should also be aware of less obvious indicators, such as changes in behaviour, mood, attendance, or reluctance to participate in cricket activities.
- Full guidance on recognising abuse and neglect is provided in the **ECB Safe Hands – Recognising Signs of Abuse and Neglect document**. All staff, volunteers, and coaches must familiarise themselves with this guidance.
- If a concern arises, staff must act immediately:
 - Report the concern to the Club Safeguarding Officer without delay.
 - Record factual information about the concern or disclosure, including dates, times, and context.
 - Avoid investigating or questioning the child beyond what is necessary to establish the concern.
- All adults involved with MCC who may have contact with children will be provided with training to recognise and respond to abuse, in accordance with ECB Safe Hands guidance and the club's safeguarding procedures.

Note: The welfare of the child is always the first priority. Prompt recognition, reporting, and support are essential to protecting young people involved in cricket.

11. Bullying and Harassment

Bullying, harassment, or discriminatory behaviour in any form is unacceptable at Maldon Cricket Club (MCC).

- Any concerns or incidents should be reported immediately to the Club Welfare Officer, who will take appropriate action promptly in line with club procedures.
- For more detailed guidance on recognising, preventing, and responding to bullying or harassment, staff, volunteers, and parents should refer to the club's Bullying and Harassment Policy.

12. Recruitment and Training

- MCC uses the ECB Enhanced DBS checks to ensure suitability of volunteers and coaches.
- Volunteers and coaches receive safeguarding training every three years, in line with ECB policy.

13. Exclusions/Limitations

MCC recognises there are areas recommended by the ECB that the club cannot fully administer due to resource constraints:

1. Driver Checks: While MCC encourages safe transport, the club cannot verify all MOTs, insurance, or driving credentials.
2. Umpires and Scorers: MCC cannot formally vet all non-club officials but requests vigilance from coaches.
3. Parental Consent Forms for Media: MCC may obtain consent via general club communications rather than individual forms.

14. References

- ECB Safe Hands – Welfare of Young People in Cricket Policy
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (HM Government, 2023)
- DBS / Safeguarding guidance (UK Government)

Associated Club Policies

- Anti-Bullying
- Changing Room & Showering
- Code of Conduct for Children
- Code of Conduct for Coaches
- Code of Conduct for Parents
- Inclusion and Diversity
- Missing Children
- Photography & Videoing
- Safeguarding Statement
- Transport

15. Review and Monitoring

Maldon Cricket Club (MCC) is committed to ensuring that safeguarding arrangements remain effective, up to date, and in line with ECB guidance.

- This Child Protection Policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if there are changes to legislation, ECB Safe Hands guidance, or following any significant safeguarding incident.
- The Club Welfare Officer will lead on monitoring the implementation of this policy, supported by the Management Committee.
- Safeguarding issues, concerns, and learning points will be reviewed regularly to identify themes, trends, and areas for improvement.
- Feedback from children, parents/carers, coaches, and volunteers will be used to inform future improvements to safeguarding practice.

- Any changes to the policy will be approved by the Management Committee and communicated clearly to all members, parents, staff, and volunteers.

This ensures that safeguarding at MCC remains a dynamic process of learning, reflection, and continuous improvement.