

Child Protection Policy

St Brigids GAC Belfast

To ensure that the club is following the Best Practice we shall work to promote the best practice in children's sport, we shall comply with the guidelines of the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport, which are:

- Adopt and implement the Code of Ethics and Good Practice and the GAA's Code of Best Practice for Youth Sport as integral parts of our policy on children in the club.
- Adopt and consistently apply a safe and clearly defined method of recruiting and selecting Sports Leaders.
- Clearly define the role of committee members, all leaders, coaches and parents/guardians within the club.
- Appoint at least one Children's Officer who has attended specific Children's Officer Training, as outlined in the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport in Ireland and Code of Best Practice for Youth Sport.
- Designate the Child Protection Officer to act as liaison with the Statutory Authorities in relation to the reporting of allegations or suspicions of child abuse. Any such reports should be made according to the procedures outlined in this Code/Children First/Our Duty to Care.
- Ensure best practice throughout the club by disseminating its Code of Conduct, including the Disciplinary, complaints and appeals procedures in operation within the club to all our members. The club's Code of Conduct such as the website will also be posted on any facilities used by the club.
- Have in place procedures for dealing with a concern or complaint made to the Statutory Authorities against a committee member or Coaches or other members of the club. Any Coaches who is the subject of an allegation, which has been reported to the Statutory Authorities, will stand aside while the matter is being examined. He/she will be invited to resume full duties immediately if he/she is vindicated.
- Develop effective procedures for responding to and recording accidents.
- Create a forum to ensure that opinions of the young people are listened to.
- Ensure all adults involved in the club have the opportunity to attend child protection awareness training.