



**Child Protection &
Safeguarding
SEPTEMBER 2025**

Why Safeguarding Matters

The importance of a **safe, respectful** and **supportive** environment:

- Protecting Children's Wellbeing
- Encouraging Participation and Enjoyment
- Building Trust Between Players, Coaches, and Parents
- Preventing Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment
- Promoting Fair Play and Ethical Behaviour
- Compliance with Legal and Ethical Standards
- Creating a Positive Future for Football

CLFC's Commitment to Child Protection

CLFC is dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of children and young people involved in the club. The club recognizes that children have the right to be protected from harm, including physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, and that their needs and opinions should be respected.

In line with this commitment, CLFC will:

- Take all necessary steps to prevent child abuse and harm.
- Ensure that all individuals associated with CLFC understand their responsibility to protect children and young people.
- Respond promptly and effectively to any child protection concerns raised within the club.
- Empower children to feel safe and confident about safety, health, or wellbeing concerns.

What is Child Protection & Safeguarding?

Child Protection

- Preventing and responding to harm, abuse, neglect, or exploitation of children.
- Ensure if a child is a risk, action is taken to protect them from further harm.
- It involves legal and policy frameworks, such as Working with Children Check (WWCC) and mandatory reporting.

Safeguarding

- A proactive approach to creating an environment where children feel safe, valued and respected.
- Ensures that football clubs and organisations implement policies and procedures to prevent harm.
- It involves educating coaches, volunteers, parents, and players on appropriate behaviour and child safety measures.



Key Differences

Child Protection	Safeguarding
Reacts to a specific concern or risk of harm	Prevents harm before it happens
Focuses on responding to abuse, neglect, or harm	Creates a positive, safe culture for children
Involves reporting, investigation, and intervention	Includes training, policies, and risk assessments

Types of Abuse & Red Flags

Emotional Abuse

Ongoing criticism, threats, or rejection that harms a child's self worth.

Physical Abuse

Intentional harm, such as hitting, shaking, or excessive force.

Neglect

Failing to meet a child's basic needs, such as food, shelter, and care.

Warning Signs

- Low self esteem or lack of confidence
- Extreme withdrawal, anxiety, or aggression
- Fear of failure or excessive need for approval

Warning Signs

- Unexplained bruises, burns, or fractures
- Fear of adults or reluctance to be around certain people
- Flinching or avoiding physical contact

Warning Signs

- Poor hygiene, dirty clothing, or unaddressed medical issues
- Persistent hunger or stealing of food
- Consistently left alone or unsupervised

Recognising the signs early can help protect a child from further harm.

If you notice any red flags, report concerns to a trusted club official or child protection authority.



Screening & Training

All coaches and volunteers have valid Working with Children Checks (WWCC).



Code of Conduct

We always uphold respectful behaviour to ensure a safe and inclusive environment.



Open Communication

We provide safe channels for children to speak up about any concerns they may have.

**How we
Keep
Children
Safe**

Reach out, we're here to help!

Mayoor Thievendram

M: 0410 863 776

E: mayourt@hotmail.com

Bridget Carson

M: 0458 290 528

E: secretary@canterburylionsfc.com.au

NSW Child Protection Helpline: 132 111

Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800

