

Health & Safety Policy

Mawdesley Juniors Football Club — reviewed 1st July 2026

Mawdesley Juniors Football Club recognises that it provides sporting activities, and that accidents and injuries are, in that environment, possible. The Club aims to protect the health and safety of its members, volunteers and visitors so far as is reasonably practicable, to meet its legal duty of care, and to operate within its Safeguarding Children Policy and all relevant legislation and FA guidance.

The Team Manager or Coach is the responsible person for their age group and must hold a current:

- FA-accepted Enhanced DBS check
- FA Emergency First Aid in Football qualification
- FA Safeguarding Children qualification

1. Equipment

Before every session or match, coaches check that:

- All players wear shin guards
- Footballs and training equipment are undamaged and used as intended
- Boots, studs and blades are in safe condition
- No jewellery is worn (necklaces, rings, earrings, watches, bands) — taping over jewellery is not an acceptable alternative

2. Training and Playing Venues

Coaches check the pitch or surface — including our regular training venues, the 3G at Bishop Rawstorne School, Croston, and the 4G at Burscough FC — for hazards before use, and confirm that:

- Goalposts are secure and correctly anchored
- Corner flags and Respect barriers (at matches) are in place and used correctly
- Changing facilities, where used, are safe and secure

3. Risk Assessment

The checks above form part of the Club's ongoing dynamic risk assessment of its venues and activities. A full written Risk Assessment covering training and match day hazards is maintained separately and reviewed annually.

4. First Aid

A first aider (or a coach holding an in-date FA Emergency First Aid in Football qualification) attends every training session and match, with a stocked first aid kit and a charged mobile phone.

5. Emergency Contact Details

Coaches hold up-to-date emergency contact and medical information for every player registered to their team.

6. Goalpost Safety

All goalposts are used, stored and anchored in line with FA goalpost safety guidance:
<https://www.thefa.com/get-involved/goalpost-safety>

7. End of Session Procedures

Equipment is packed away safely and securely, and litter is cleared. Coaches remain on site until every player has been safely collected, and premises are left secure.

8. Incident Reporting

Any injury is recorded on an Accident/Incident Report Form, passed to the Club Welfare Officer as soon as possible.

9. Parental Responsibility

Children remain the responsibility of their parent or legal guardian at all times, including arrival at and departure from training, matches and other Club activities. The Club provides reasonable safeguards — DBS-checked coaches and volunteers, a Club Welfare Officer, and adherence to Lancashire FA and FA policy — but this does not extend to the level of care provided by a teacher or registered childminder. Parents/guardians are asked not to leave younger children unsupervised at the venue outside of training and matches.

If a parent/guardian makes their own arrangements with another adult for supervision or transport to or from Club activities, this is a private arrangement between them and not the Club's responsibility.

10. Safeguarding

If anyone suspects abuse or unreasonable behaviour towards a Mawdesley Juniors player, or by a Club official, this should be reported to the Club Welfare Officer as soon as possible. If the Welfare Officer cannot be reached, or the matter is serious, contact the Lancashire FA Designated Safeguarding Officer directly.

Contact Information

Club Welfare Officers: Wes Knowles and Kathryn Price — Tel: 07912 222522 — Email: welfare@mawdesleyjuniorsfc.co.uk

Lancashire FA Designated Safeguarding Officer: Rachael Murphy — Tel: 01772 237137 — Email: info@lancashirefa.com