**Safeguarding Children**

Children are the lifeblood of the game and it is both a statutory obligation and crucial for the well-being of children that the Club and everyone connected to it ensures that Safeguarding practices are understood and adhered to and that children are cared for in the correct manner. Any player under the age of 18 is classed as a child and must be respected as such.

The RFU Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults in Rugby Union Policy and Guidance sets out the key principles as well as providing best practice guidance. Everyone shares the responsibility for safeguarding and, therefore, this policy and guidance is both relevant and useful for all those involved in creating safe environments in Rugby Union, whether as a parent, coach, spectator or club official.

In order to provide children with the best possible experiences and opportunities in Rugby Union, it is imperative that everyone operates within an accepted ethical framework and demonstrates exemplary behaviour. This not only ensures the game makes a positive contribution to the development of children, safeguards them and promotes their welfare but also protects all personnel from allegations of abuse or poor practice.

The Club’s Safeguarding Officer has a responsibility to ensure allegations of abuse or poor practice are reported to the RFU. It is important when reporting an incident that the RFU are informed as soon as possible in order to effectively manage any case or concern.

You may contact the Club’s Safeguarding Officer directly to report any abuse or inappropriate behaviour, or where you have a concern regarding any child’s welfare. The Club’s Safeguarding Officer’s contact details are:

**Mrs Dawn Kemp
Telephone: 077030 24584
Email:** **Safeguarding@cheshuntrugby.co.uk**

To promote and maintain good safeguarding practices, the RFU created and regularly delivers safeguarding courses. All Coaches and other relevant helpers who meet the RFU’s guidelines for undertaking “Regulated Activities” must be Enhanced DBS checked before they are permitted to engage in directly coaching, or any other training activities with Children.

The Club requires all Head and Assistant Coaches to book ontoan RFU Play it Safe Course, within 6 months of taking up any voluntary coaching position, and it is the Club’s preference that any other parent helpers attend such training.

Any parent or carer who has a child playing rugby, or is directly involved in coaching, first aid, or refereeing/official activities, should also complete the RFU’s On-Line HeadCase Training, specifically relating to identifying and treating potential cases of concussion.

Cheshunt Rugby Club’s Safeguarding Policy can be viewed from our Policies page.

**The RFU’s Safeguarding Policy can be found here:**

https://www.englandrugby.com/mm/document/myrugby/volunteers/01/30/36/55/rfu\_safeguarding\_policy\_guidance\_and\_procedures\_neutral.pdf

**The RFU’s Play it Safe Training can be booked here:**https://www.englandrugby.com/governance/safeguarding/safeguarding-course-search

**The RFU’s Headcase On Line Training Module can be accessed her**e:

https://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/players/player-health/concussion-headcase/

Please quote your individual RFU Number when booking on or undertaking any RFU training to ensure your individual Game Management System Record is updated. An RFU Unique ID number is allocated to all Registered Club Members, Coaches, Referees and Parent Helpers.