**Child Protection Policy**

**1. Introduction**

At The Launchfield, we are committed to creating a safe and supportive environment for all children and young people participating in our football programs. This Child Protection Policy outlines our commitment to safeguarding children and protecting them from harm while they are under our care.

**2. Policy Statement**

2.1. **Safeguarding Principles:** We adhere to the principles and guidelines set forth in the Children Act 1989 and 2004, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and other relevant legislation and statutory guidance.

2.2. **Responsibility:** The safety and welfare of children are paramount in all aspects of our operations. All staff, volunteers, and stakeholders associated with The Launchfield have a responsibility to uphold this policy and ensure compliance with safeguarding procedures.

2.3. **Risk Assessment:** We conduct regular risk assessments to identify potential risks to children’s safety and take proactive measures to mitigate these risks.

**3. Code of Conduct**

3.1. **Staff and Volunteers:** All staff and volunteers are required to undergo appropriate background checks, including Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks, before engaging in any activities involving children.

3.2. **Behavioral Guidelines:** We maintain clear behavioral guidelines and expectations for staff, volunteers, and participants to ensure a respectful and safe environment.

3.3. **Reporting Procedures:** Anyone who has concerns about the safety or welfare of a child is encouraged to report their concerns to the designated Safeguarding Officer at The Launchfield immediately.

**4. Training and Awareness**

4.1. **Training:** Staff and volunteers receive regular training on child protection and safeguarding procedures. This training covers recognizing signs of abuse, appropriate conduct with children, and reporting procedures.

4.2. **Awareness:** We promote awareness of safeguarding issues among staff, volunteers, parents, and participants through ongoing communication and training opportunities.

**5. Implementation and Review**

5.1. **Implementation:** This policy is implemented across all activities and programs at The Launchfield. It is communicated to staff, volunteers, parents, and participants to ensure everyone understands their responsibilities.

5.2. **Review:** We review and update this policy annually or as required by changes in legislation or best practice guidelines. Feedback from stakeholders is encouraged to continuously improve our safeguarding practices.

**6. Contact Information**

For further information about our Child Protection Policy or to report a safeguarding concern, please contact:

Holly Loft
Email: thelaunchfield@gmail.com

**Signature:**

Signed on behalf of The Launchfield:

Danny Loft
Director
The Launchfield