

Middleton Rangers JFC Welcome Pack



WELCOME TO MIDDLETON RANGERS

“With over 250 players in numerous teams playing competitive football, we are one of the fastest growing clubs in the Durham Tees Valley area.

Our primary aim is to provide children of the village and surrounding Darlington areas the opportunity to play football in a friendly and safe environment and to make sure they enjoy themselves”

Les Hughes
Club Chairman



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Middleton Rangers Junior Football Club

Middleton Rangers Junior Football Club was founded in 2003 by parents in Middleton St George and provides youth football to children in the Darlington and surrounding Areas.

In season 2004/2005 the club joined the Teesside Junior Alliance League and had 3 teams playing small sided football at under 9 & 10 age groups & 11 a side at the under 11 age group. At the end of the year our Under 9s won our first honours winning the Barnard Castle 7 a side competition. The under 10s finished 3rd in the league and the under 11s got through the season with smiles all round despite struggling with numbers of players all year.

The following year 2005/2006 saw the club with 5 teams, under 9 & 10 small sided and under 11s, 12s & 14s at 11 a side. As a result of tremendous hard work the season ended with 2 championships from the under 12s & 14s, a 4th place in the league to the 11s, mid table from the under 10s and happy faces from the under 9s in their first season.

Season 2006/2007 saw the club grow again with 8 teams, 7 of which entered the TJFA league at under 8, 9 & 10 small sided and under 11, 12 (2 teams) & 13 at 11 a side. An 8th side the under 16s were also affiliated and played 5 a side league matches at Soccer Sensations.

In the 2007/2008 the club got bigger still with teams at under 8, 9, 10a, 10b, 11, 12, 13'a', 13'b', 14, 18 and Girls under 11s. A fantastic season saw the 8s, 9s & 10a continue to develop massively under excellent coaching. The 10b team finished Runners-up in the Russell Foster League, were beaten finalists in the Cup and then won the European Cup in Holland. They also won the Allstar's Cup and were runners up at Mount Pleasant. The under 11s won the league, winning every league game. The under 12s finished their league campaign despite a lack of players and not being able to field a full team. The 13a team reached 2 quarter finals at Mount Pleasant & Spraire Lads Competitions & were awarded the Sporting Team Trophy at Cleethorpes for fantastic attitude. The under 13b team represented the club superbly, yet again finishing strongly as the season closed. The under 14s won their 2nd championship in 3 years. The under 18s finished their first season getting stronger in every game and the under 11s Girls team reached 2 tournament semi-finals despite not competing in a league this season. Congratulations also go to the under 10a, under 10b & under 13a teams who all went on their end of season tours to Germany, Holland and Cleethorpes representing the club superbly.

Season 2008 / 2009 and the club grew yet again with more teams and more opportunities for all the kids to play more football. 12 teams competed, 10 in the TJFA league, 1 in the Russell Foster League, and the girls in the North Riding Girls League. The Under 8s, 9s, 10s, and 11As all finished the season strongly in their respective divisions. The Girls finished their season in a fantastic second place in the North Riding Girls League Division 2 and have proved so successful that a second girls team was established.

The Under 11bs had a brilliant season, finishing third in the Russell Foster 1st Division and therefore won promotion to the Premiere League. The Under 12s were once again TJFA Division Champions, South Park Trophy winners, and finalists in both the 21st Allstars and Hessele Sporting Club tournaments.

The Under 14s A and B both finished the season with some very positive performances and the Under 18s did likewise.

In the 2009 - 2010 season we grew for a third year in succession with the addition of a second girls team and the introduction of the "Mini Rangers". We entered 10 teams in the TJFA, 1 team in the Russell Foster League, and 2 teams in the North Riding Girls league. The Under 13s took the Power League De Salao 5 a side Championship and the Darlington 21st Allstars Trophy as well as finishing runners up in The Mt Pleasant tournament and our own 1st annual Middleton Rangers tournament. The Under 11s were division runners up, as were the Under 12 A team. The Under 12 A team also finished runners up in the Settle tournament, as did the Under 10s while the Under 8s won the Kajima cup for fair play. The Girls also enjoyed tremendous success this season with the Under 10s getting to the final of the Tees Valley Divisional cup as well as finishing runners up at both the Wiggington and Corus Teesside tournaments. The Girls season culminated in them deservedly winning the Bishop Auckland tournament, getting their just rewards for all their hard work, so another successful season under our belts.

2010-11 season saw the club with 13 teams, 9 in the TJFA, one in the Russell foster, one in the Cleveland league and two girls teams in the tees valley league.

The under 12's and 13's both finished 3rd in their leagues, 9's won the Spraire tournament, 10's girls won the Mackinlay Park Cup at Redcar, Under 13's 'A' team were Runners-up at Mt.Pleasant and Greatham, semi finalists at Manchester, and won the Settle Tournament. The U13's 'B' were Runners up at Spraire and the 14's were Runners up at Settle and Mt Pleasant, while the Under 9s won the Spraire tournament. The Under 12's Girls also travelled down to Sheffield for a Tournament, advertising the club in South Yorkshire.

Through FA guideline coaching various players have developed and gone on to have trials or play within academies including, Newcastle, Sunderland, Middlesbrough, Leeds, Hartlepool, Darlington and York.



Parents

Thank you for taking an interest in our club, as a charter standard club we aim to provide the highest levels of care towards the young players involved with Middleton Rangers.

It is hoped that this information booklet will give you an insight into the club's history and those involved with the running of the club. As well as the different teams that play under the banner of Middleton Rangers.

Without the support from the parents we wouldn't be able to have a successful club and we value your commitment. From bringing your child to regular training to vocal support from the touchline during a game, we hope you enjoy our facilities and enjoy the occasion.

Some parents are extremely keen to get further involved with the development of the club and we always welcome this contribution.

If you would like to help out further we'd be delighted to hear from you.

Players

As a young player, congratulations on making the decision to join Middleton Rangers Junior Football Club, we hope that amongst all you will find fun and friendship within the team you choose to join, as well as learning and developing your skills as a junior footballer.

We hope that you will enjoy playing for Middleton Rangers and that you will be proud to have joined a friendly and progressive club.

At any level, it's all about enjoying the game of football and trying to improve your own ability with your team.

If you ever have any questions, speak to your team manager who will be always happy to help you.



Growing & Investing In Our Club

Middleton Rangers always has and always will be a family club. Although originally formed in Middleton St George, we have continued to grow through our success and a number of our players come from all over the Darlington area and beyond.

We are also delighted that we have attracted players from further afield due to our good reputation and success on the field.

We always maintain the club will be have the community spirit it originally started with but with natural progression Middleton Rangers has grown and now has over 200 children at the club.

Over the past few years the club has continued to invest in many different areas to support this growth including;

Training & Match Facilities

With outdoor facilities at our airport ground, cricket & social club and the village park, we also share facilities at Haughton Education Village.

We also use indoor training facilities during the winter months for the younger age groups.

During 2009 the club invested in outdoor lighting equipment and a generator power source to ensure training could continue throughout the winter months

Sports Equipment

The club invested in new full size goal posts for our training Ground at Teesside airport. Along with these, the club has 6 sets of mini-goals for mini-soccer games. In 2011 the club has further invested in a new set of 3/4 size Football goals for the Airport Training ground, to further enhance the training of our 11-13 year old age groups bridging the gap between small sided goals and full size goals.

We equip all our teams with the necessary training equipment including training balls, match balls, bibs, cones etc

Clothing

All registered club players receive a team strip for match days and training. Our distinctive Orange and Black strips certainly help us stand out from the other teams.

In 2008/9 the club provided new smart outdoor fleeces for all registered players that proved to be an extremely practical investment in what turned out to be a cold winter, and warm, practical, outdoor training jackets continue to be supplied to all players.

Sponsorship Opportunities

Throughout the football season our teams travel far and wide across the North East providing good exposure for Shirt Sponsors.

Home shirt Sponsorship opportunities are available to any companies who are wishing to sponsor a particular team or age group. Company logos can be incorporated on to the football shirts.

Shirt sponsorships start from as little as £350 for the season.

Health & Safety

As you may expect, your child's safety and welfare is our number one priority. All our team coaches carry a first-aid kit in the event of an accident or injury and it is important we are aware of any of illness or medical condition that may affect your child.

Many children in the UK suffer from Asthma and we have a special information pack available to parents for children who may have symptoms of asthma—please ask our Welfare Officer for details.

Please note all children who suffer from asthma must bring their inhaler(s) to training or matches. They will not be allowed to play without them. Please also ensure you coach has your current contact details, mobile number at all times.

Insurance Cover

Your child is protected by the Clubs Insurance policy, travelling to and from, as well as during training and matches.

In the event of a serious injury your team coach will provide all the necessary details to allow you to make a claim on behalf of your child.

For a copy of the Insurance Policy, please ask our Welfare Officer for details.

Club Membership & Fees

In order to play for Middleton Rangers you must be a member of the club. This will allow you to play in competitive league matches and take advantage of many of the club benefits.

To become a member of the club the following fees apply:

Fees

The club has implemented the following fees for the Season.

1. Membership

A £20 annual membership fee, which includes all fees payable to the leagues as well as insurance cover for all players registered with the club.

The membership fee is payable by all individuals, irrespective of what time of year they join the club.

2. Monthly Subscriptions

A £100 annual one-off payment or £10.00 per month (12 months), payable by standing order. Please note the club prefers parents to pay by standing order wherever possible as this is a safer alternative than cash. If this is not suitable please contact your team Manager to arrange a mutually agreeable alternative.

Both membership fees and monthly subscriptions are essential to the club to pay for essential on-going items such as referee costs, pitch hire and ground maintenance and other necessary items such as training equipment.

Middleton St George Cricket Club

When membership fees have been paid the parent automatically becomes a member of the cricket club. Each parent can sign in an additional person to the club.

Payment of Fees

Fees are generally paid via monthly standing order (if paid monthly) but regular cash payments are also accepted in some instances. The club has a welfare fund for certain circumstances where fees are unable to be paid due to circumstances beyond the control of parents. For details of this please speak in confidence to your child's age group coach or directly to the club welfare officer.

Payment of Fines

Whether it's the premiership or junior football, there is usually a competitive edge to every game. Good sportsmanship is a quality that our club values and its important that our children respect other teams, players, officials, and the referees at all times.

Of course there are limited occasions that the club is issued a fine in relation to a player's conduct on the pitch. On these occasions, it is expected the player or their parents undertake to repay the club the fine, in line with the club's constitution.

If a parent refuses to pay any such fine, the fine will be paid by the club and the players' membership may be suspended. It should be noted that a player cannot join another club until all financial commitments to Middleton Rangers Junior Football Club are met or an agreement has been made between parent and club.

Committee Members

The club is a 'not for profit organisation', that is run for the young players and is supported by a committee made up from the coaches and parents of the players within the club.

All our team managers, coaches and club officials are volunteers and their time and commitment they dedicate to the running and management of the club is valued and appreciated. No member receives any remuneration for the time given to the club.

The committee is made up of the following:

Club Chairman:	Les Hughes
Club Secretary:	Lee Stephenson
Club Vice Chairman:	Andy Musgrave
Club Treasurer:	David Watson
Club Welfare Officer:	David Nelson

Middleton Rangers Team Lists

We currently offer football to the following age groups

Please go to www.middletonrangers.com for further details

Age Group	Contact Name	Contact Number
Under 6 (Mini Rangers)	Andy Bruce	07725 130098
Under 7	Andy Harris	07973 460470
Under 8	Ish Rehman	07967 805409
Under 9	Budgie Burgess	07854 709196
Under 9 Girls	Dave Watson	07766 942627
Under 10	Les Hughes	07834 858969
Under 11 Knights	Kevin Baines	07596 543196
Under 11 Dragons	Stuart Murray	07950 018184
Under 11 Girls	Gerry Traynor / Ian Saunderson	07703 564024 07846 954736
Under 12	Andy Musgrave	07792 521913
Under 13	Dave Nelson	07929 272990
Under 13 Girls	Dave Watson	07766 942627
Under 14	Altaf Rahman	07976 924767
Under 15	Andy Bruce	07725 130098
Adults	Les Hughes	07834 858969

Teesside Junior Football Alliance (TJFA)

The majority of Middleton Rangers teams are members of the Teesside Junior Football Alliance.

The League caters for junior football clubs within the Teesside area but extends its boundaries to include clubs from Durham and North Yorkshire.

The League recently gained a prestigious award and has now received recognition as an FA Charter Standard accredited League.

The TJFA website is an ideal source for information & provides valuable statistics for all Rangers clubs— log on at www.tjfa.co.uk

North Riding Tees Valley Girls League

The Girls teams are members of The North Riding Tees Valley Girls League which caters for girls teams in the Teesside area, including areas of Durham and North Yorkshire. Info can be found at www.northridingfa.com

How to Become Involved

As a chartered standard club we operate an open and transparent policy and would ask that any parent who wishes to become involved in the club and its activities to contact the chairman of the club.

In addition to becoming involved, we encourage all parents to actively attend any committee meeting they wish to find out more about how we operate, and the policies we have in place.

Committee Meetings take place on the 1st Monday of every month and are held at The Oak Tree Pub, Oak Tree, Middleton St George, between 7pm and 9pm.

During the course of the meetings we discuss issues that may have arisen and consider how best the club can be developed as well as discussing fundraising issues and individual team progress.

It is also at these meetings where decisions are made on equipment expenditure.

What Opportunities Are Available?

Coaching

The club is always on the lookout for promising new football coaches to help teach, coach and train our children. You'll need bags of enthusiasm and no qualifications are needed—we may even put you through your first FA training courses if you want to get serious. You'll need to have a CRB check carried out by the club.

Team Secretary

Organising matches, liaising with the parents and children, phoning in results—all important tasks that have to be done. If you don't have the time to coach—you may have some great organisational skills to contribute,

Supporter

Come rain or shine, all our children welcome positive support from the touchlines. We look forward to seeing you there!



Child Welfare

As a chartered standard football club, the club operates within the guidelines set out by the FA. The club are committed to the development of all players and take the safety and wellbeing of all children involved with the club extremely seriously.

To this end, the club have an appointed welfare officer, responsible for ensuring the safety of all players is at the heart of Middleton Rangers.

The club also ensures that all individuals involved in the care, training and supervision of children within Middleton Rangers are CRB checked, in line with FA guidelines.

Coaches and managers also expected to have attained or being working towards a Level One Badge in Coaching, which is overseen by the FA.

In order to ensure that the club adopts best practice in all areas related to running a Junior Football club, the following policies and procedures are in place:

Club Constitution

Child Protection Policy

Anti-bullying policy

Equal Opportunity Policy

Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures

Use of Photography and Media materials

Code of conducts for players, coaches and parents

Payments of fines

Late payment of Fees

Further details of these procedures and policies can be provided to you via a member of the club committee or can be downloaded from the club website:

www.middletonrangers.com

If you have any issues relating to the Welfare and Safety of your child, please contact the Club Welfare officer Dave Nelson on 07929 272990.

Club Welfare Issues

In line with regulations set out by the FA, the club has a dedicated Welfare Officer, who deals with all issues in relation to the safeguarding and child welfare.

The officer is able to discuss any concerns you may have about your child during their time with Middleton Rangers, as well as providing advice and guidance to coaches, team managers and committee members of the football club.

The Club also operates a welfare fund which can be accessed during period of financial hardship or whereby a child is injured during the course of playing football—all issues are dealt with on a one to one basis and are treated confidentially, within the club committee.

Child Protection Issues

Where issues of a child protection nature may arise, the club is obligated to report their concerns to the local safeguarding children's board and the FA Safeguarding Unit. Any issues of this nature will be dealt with sensitively and in a confidential manner.

However, any disclosures that are reported to any official of the club can-not be held in confidence and need to be shared with the relevant agencies.

Child abuse is a term used to describe the following:

Any act, statement, conduct or other matter which harms a child or children, or poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children.

Abusive situations arise when adults or peers misuse their power over children or young people.

This club operates following the FA code of practice and as such recognises the responsibility of all adults (coaches and parents) to ensure the safety of the players.

A copy of the full FA policy is held on file at the club as well as being able to be viewed on the club website.

Should you need to discuss any welfare issues, you are able to contact the Club Welfare Officer, Dave Nelson on 07929 272990

Equal Opportunity Policy

Middleton Rangers Junior Football Club is committed to a policy of equal treatment of all members and requires all members of whatever level or authority, to abide and adhere to this general principle and the requirements of the Codes of Practice issued by the Equal Opportunities Commission and Commission for Racial Equality.

All members are expected to abide by the requirements of the Race Relations Act 1976, Sex Discrimination Act 1986 and Disability Discrimination Act 1995. Specifically discrimination is prohibited by:

Treating any individual on grounds of gender, colour, marital status, race, nationality or ethnic or national origin, religion, sexual orientation or disability less favourably than others. Expecting an individual solely on the grounds stated above to comply with requirement(s) for any reason whatsoever related to their membership, which is different from the requirements for others.

Imposing on individual requirements, which are in effect more onerous on that individual than they are on others. For example, this would include applying a condition, which makes it more difficult for members of a particular race or sex to comply than others not of that race or sex.

Harassment or victimisation of an individual, by virtue of discrimination.

Any other act or omission of an act, which has as its effect the disadvantaging of a member against another, or others, purely on the above grounds. Thus, in the entire Club's recruitment, selection, promotion and training processes, as well as disciplinary matters, it is essential that merit, experience, skills & temperament are considered objectively as possible. Middleton Rangers commits itself to the Immediate investigation of any claims of discrimination on the above grounds and where such is found to be the case, a requirement that the practice cease forthwith, restitution of damage or loss (if necessary) & to the investigation of any member accused of discrimination.

Any member found guilty of discrimination will be instructed to desist forthwith. Since discrimination in its many forms is against the Football Club's policy, any members offending will be dealt with under the disciplinary procedure. Middleton Rangers Junior Football Club commits itself to the disabled person whenever possible and will treat such members, in aspects of their recruitment and membership, in exactly the same manner as other members. The difficulties of their disablement permitting assistance will be given, wherever possible to ensure that disabled members are helped in gaining access. Appropriate training will be made available to such members who request it.

Disciplinary and Grievance Procedure

In line with FA guidance, the club has a set procedure to enable members to bring matters of concern to the attention of the Club Management Committee.

However in order to minimise the need to evoke these procedures unnecessarily, it should be noted that the club exists to provide young players with the opportunity to develop their football in an enjoyable coaching environment.

It has also been proven that early discussion of an issue often resolves matters without recourse to further procedures and that any issues raised should not be personalised and that differences of opinion and approach can exist and may not be resolved.

However, if there is a matter of very serious concern to a member then the following procedure will be adhered to:

STAGE ONE:

Individuals must submit a written document outlining their concerns/issues to the club Chairman.

This information will then be reviewed by the club committee.

STAGE TWO:

The views and observations of other club members will be sought and the persons involved may be invited to attend a committee meeting.

The information will then be further reviewed by the club committee

STAGE THREE:

A decision will then be made and all parties involved will receive a written letter advising them of the outcome of the complaint.

This may take the following form.

The matter is resolved and agreed amicably by all parties.

The matter is resolved by the application of one of the following sanctions:

a member is suspended from some specified club activities

a member is suspended from all club activities and games for a defined period

a member is expelled from the club.

The committee reserves the right to inform the appropriate league or County FA of its action if the matter has arisen as a result of an officials' formal complaint or if the matter is a dispute involving another club.

Some matters may require urgent action to be taken and immediate contact made with the relevant civil authority. In these cases the procedures followed will be as directed by that authority.

Codes of Conduct

As with all football clubs at a grass roots level, Middleton Rangers operates a code of conduct for everyone involved in football and parents are encouraged to undertake the online course — F A Respect Guide for Carers and Parents, which examines a parent's role in supporting their child in their football.

This course can be accessed via www.thefa.com

Coaches and parents must ensure that:

players do not over train beyond their physical or mental capability

players are not exposed to unsafe equipment or extremes of weather.

no inappropriate physical support, treatment or touching takes place.

players are not exposed to bullying: either physical, verbal or emotional criticism that is distressing to the victim.

Code of Conduct - Coaches

As a Charter Standard Club registered with Durham County FA, the club believe that coaches are key to the establishment of ethics in football and as such, the club have adopted a code of conduct for coaches.

The code looks at coaches own concept of ethics and their attitude and how this directly affects the behaviour of players under their supervision. Coaches are, therefore, expected to pay particular care and attention to the moral aspect of their conduct.

Coaches have to be aware that almost all of their everyday decisions and choices of actions, as well as strategic targets, have ethical implications.

It is natural that winning constitutes a basic concern for coaches. This code is not intended to conflict with that. However, the code calls for coaches to disassociate themselves from a 'win-at-all-costs' attitude.

Increased responsibility is requested from coaches involved in coaching young people. The health, safety, welfare and moral education of young people is a first priority, before the achievement or the reputation of the Club, school, coach or parent.

Code of Conduct - Parents

Parents and Spectators have a great influence on children's enjoyment and success in football. All children play football because they first and foremost love the game – its fun.

It is important to remember that however good your child becomes at football, parents should always remember that positive encouragement will contribute to:

1. Children enjoying football.
2. A sense of personal achievement.
3. An improved self-esteem.
4. Improving the child's skills and techniques.

And that your own expectations and attitudes towards your child will have a significant bearing on a child's attitude towards:

1. Other players.
2. Officials.
3. Managers.
4. Spectators.

We ask that all parents observe the following during training sessions and matches:

1. Applaud the opposition as well as your own team.
2. Avoid coaching the child during the game.
3. Not to shout and scream.
4. Respect the referee's decision.
5. Give attention to each of the children involved in football not just the most talented.
6. Give encouragement to everyone to participate in football

Code of Conduct – Players

Players are the most important people in the sport. Playing for the team, and for the team to win, is the most fundamental part of the game. But players should not adopt a 'win at all costs' attitude. Fair play and respect for all others in the game is fundamentally important.

Further information in relation to the codes of conduct can be seen on the Club Website: www.middletonrangers.com

Obligations towards the Game

A player should:

1. Make every effort to develop their own sporting abilities, in terms of skill, technique, tactics, stamina and understanding the rules of the game.
2. Give maximum effort and strive for the best possible performance during a game, even if his team is in a position where the desired result has already been achieved.
3. Set a positive example for others, particularly young players and supporters.
4. Avoid all forms of poor gamesmanship and time-wasting.
5. Always have regard for the best interests of the game, including where publicly expressing an opinion on the game and any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game.
6. Not use inappropriate language.



Obligations towards One's Own Team

A player should:

1. Make every effort consistent with Fair Play and the Laws of the Game to help his own team win.
2. Resist any influence which might, or might be seen to, bring into question his commitment to the team winning.

Respect towards the Match Officials

A player should:

1. Accept the decision of the Match Official without protest.
2. Avoid words or actions which may mislead a Match Official.
3. Show due respect towards Match Officials.

Respect towards Team Officials

A player should:

1. Abide by the instructions of their Coach and Team Officials provided they do not contradict the spirit of this Code.
2. Show due respect towards the Team Officials of the opposition

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Respect For the Laws of the Game And Competition Rules

A player should:

1. Know and abide by the Laws, rules and spirit of the game, and the competition rules.
2. Accept success and failure, victory and defeat, equally.
3. Resist any temptation to take banned substances or use banned techniques.

Respect towards Opponents

A player should:

1. Treat opponents with due respect at all times, irrespective of the result of the game.
2. Safeguard the physical fitness of opponents, avoid violence and rough play, and help injured opponents of the opposition.

If you have any feedback relating to our club, our activities or any general comments, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please email us at hleshughes@aol.com or call any of our volunteers listed in this pack—we would be delighted to hear from you!



Celebrating Football through Photographs and Video

'Let's make football safe – not sorry'

Recommended Guidelines

Middleton Rangers in line with FA guidelines has developed a policy in relation to the use of photographic and video material used in conjunction with club activities, as well as adopting FA guidance in relation to media materials.

As a club we endeavour to adopt a safeguarding stance towards our players but understand that there has been much talk about who is allowed to take pictures of children (under 18s) playing sport and in particular what parents/carers are permitted to do.

Therefore, as parent you will be asked at the beginning at each season (normally club registration evening) to complete a consent form, stating that you are agreeable to photographic images of your child been taken for the use of club purposes only.

Such use may include the following:

Photo's displayed on the club website – as we have a photo gallery showcasing individual teams publication of photo's for submission to local news agencies.

Display of photo's at awards and presentation evenings

The club have also adopted FA guidelines in relation to use of photographic material and the following information states that:

The FA would like to assure parents, carers, coaches, spectators, players and local media that we encourage the taking of appropriate images of children in football.

However in order to minimise the risk to children, individuals need to be aware of potential risks and the FA has devised the following information to help avoid the following:

Potential risks

- The inappropriate use, adaptation or copying of images for use on child abuse websites on the internet (often incorrectly referred to as pornography sites)
- The identification of children when a photograph is accompanied by significant personal information that will assist a third party in identifying the child. This can lead, and has led, to children being 'groomed'

The identification and locating of children in inappropriate circumstances which include:

- (i) where a child has been removed from his/her family for their own safety;
- (ii) where restrictions on contact with one parent following a parental separation exist e.g in domestic violence cases;
- (iii) in situations where a child may be a witness in criminal proceedings; or

(iv) other safeguarding children concerns.

It's important to remember the majority of images taken are appropriate and taken in good faith. If we take the following simple measures we can help to ensure the safety of children in football.

It's important to remember the majority of images taken are appropriate and taken in good faith. If we take the following simple measures we can help to ensure the safety of children in football.

Common sense considerations to ensure everyone's safety

Do:

1. share The FA's guidance on taking images with all parents, carers and members when they join the club
2. ensure the club has parental consent to use a player's image if it is to be used in the public domain e.g. club website or newspaper article. This is essential in relation to point 3 below
3. ensure that any child in your club who is under care proceedings, is protected by ensuring that their image is not placed in the public domain. This can be done by using a Consent Form, so that parents/carers can identify whether this applies to children in their care
4. focus on the activity rather than the individual
5. ensure all those featured are appropriately dressed (a minimum of vest or shirt and shorts)
6. aim to take pictures which represent the broad range of youngsters participating safely in football e.g. boys and girls, disabled people, ethnic minority communities.

Don't:

1. publish photographs with the full name(s) of the individual(s) featured unless you have written consent to do so and you have informed the parents as to how the image will be used
2. use player profiles with pictures and detailed personal information on websites
3. use an image for something other than that which it was initially agreed, e.g. published in local press when initially produced for a clubhouse commemorative picture
4. allow images to be recorded in changing rooms, showers or toilets – this includes the use of mobile phones that record images.

Filming as a coaching aid

The FA advises that coaches using videoing as a legitimate coaching aid should make parents/carers and players aware that this will be part of the coaching programme. Care should be taken when storing videos.

Remember

- It's not an offence to take appropriate photographs in a public place even if asked not to do so
- No one has the right to decide who can and cannot take images on public land
- If you have serious concerns about a possible child protection issue relating to the recording of images then call the Police. This action should only be taken where you believe that someone may be acting unlawfully or putting a child at risk
- The land or facility owner can decide whether or not photography and or videoing at football activities will be permitted when carried out on private land. However you need to make this known before allowing individuals access to the private property. If they do not comply then you may request that they leave
- Try not to use images that include individuals wearing jewellery (as wearing jewellery whilst playing is contrary to the Laws of the Game as well as being a health and safety issue).

Commissioning professional photographers and the local media

If you are commissioning professional photographers or inviting the press to cover a football activity, ensure you and they are clear about each other's expectations.

The key is to plan ahead and communicate early on.

- Provide a clear brief about what is considered appropriate in terms of content and behaviour
- Inform them of your club's commitment to safeguarding children and young people. Establish who will hold the recorded images and what they intend to do with them, e.g. place on a website for sale, distribute thumb nails to the club to co-ordinate sales
- Issue the professional photographer with identification, which must be worn at all times. Inform participants and parents or carers prior to the event that a professional photographer will be in attendance and ensure you have established that no under 18s will be compromised due to safeguarding children concerns if their image is taken – remember this can be done by using a Consent Form at the start of the season.

If you have any further questions please contact the club's welfare officer.



Middleton Rangers Junior Football Club



Players Consent and Medical Form

Information for Parents & Carers

Please complete the questions below and sign the consent. The personal and medical information requested is to ensure that a proper duty of care is undertaken in relation to all club activities your child may be involved in.

Name of Player		Date of Birth	
Home Address		Telephone Numbers	Home Mobile Work
Email Address			
Doctors Name		Doctors Telephone No	
Surgery Address		Emergency Contact Details	Name

			Relationship to Child
			Address
			Telephone No

Medical Information

If your son or daughter has a medical condition of any sort, please ensure that this information is completed on this form. You should also ensure that your child has any relevant medication with them prior to undertaking any activities with the club.

Questions	Please Tick	
	YES	NO
Has your son/daughter had a serious illness in the last two months? If Yes , please describe		
Is your son or daughter recovering from an accident, injury or fractured bone?		
Does your son or daughter have any of the following conditions?	YES	NO
Epilepsy		
Diabetes		
Asthma		
A Heart Condition		
Hearing impairment		
Visual impairment		
Any Allergies		

Any conditions not previously mentioned		
If you have answered yes to any of the above could you please describe in more detail any information your feel the club needs to know to ensure the safety of your child		
Has your son or daughter been inoculated against tetanus? If yes, when		
Do you consider your son/daughter to be medically fit?		

Medical Attention	YES	NO
Are you happy for coaches to administer basic first aid to your child in relation to pulled muscles, sprains, cuts etc		
If there is a need for your child to undergo professional medical assistance, we will contact you by phone , however please indicate whether you are willing for your child to undergo emergency treatment from a doctor or hospital, should this be necessary		

Photographic Materials and the Use of:

As a club we will from time to time take and use photographic media for club purposes, including photographs being used on the club website and within local newspapers. There as a parent or carer, we are asking your consent for any images to be taken of your child to be used in this manner. (full details in relation to the use of photography can be found on our website)

I have read the above in relation to the use of photographic materials and the use of images and have hereby give my consent for my child's image to be taken for club purposes.

Signature of Player		Signature of	
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		parent/carer	
By signing this form you have agreed to abide by the code of conduct for players and parents as highlighted in the club welcome pack.			
Signature of Player		Signature of parent/carer	
Date		Date	

