

# Basingstoke & Mid Hants Athletic Club



## LETTER TO PARENTS

### RE: CHILD PROTECTION

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Basingstoke & Mid Hants AC (BMH AC) has a Child Protection Policy which may be viewed on the club's website. Essentially, all Coaches, Athletes and Volunteers are expected to follow this policy and, for that reason, we enclose a copy of the 'Athletes Code of Conduct' in our welcome pack for your son / daughter to read and refer to.

The Child Protection Policy serves principally to protect the child, but also to provide protection for the Coach or Adult Volunteer. Cases of possible child abuse can only be investigated if they are brought to the attention of one of the Child Protection Officers through the child, parent, coach or another person. It is important to report any suspicion of child abuse immediately.

Child abuse can take the form of physical abuse, emotional abuse, neglect and / or sexual abuse. Again, it is important for you to stay calm, reassure the child and not to promise anything should you suspect child abuse. If your son / daughter talks to you about a possible incident such as outlined above, allow him / her to talk freely, without too much questioning, and then record as much information as possible. BMH AC would request that you then do not discuss the incident with others until the Child Protection Officers have had time to investigate and reply to your concerns.

The Child Protection Officer is listed at the bottom of this letter.

Your son / daughter, and indeed yourself as a parent / guardian, should do as much as possible to make sure that he / she is not placed in a vulnerable position. This would include making sure that children are delivered and collected on time from training and competition events.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Murdoch  
**BMH AC Child Protection Officer**