



# FIRST TOUCH FOOTBALL COACHING

(Hereinafter referred to as "The Club")

## APPENDIX A

### Code of Conduct for Coaches

Coaches **must**:

- Adhere to all guidelines and policies laid down within the constitution
- Encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance
- Ensure that the activities you direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the players
- Play your part in helping to develop an ethos where all people matter and are treated equally, and with respect and dignity
- Always put the care, welfare and safety needs of a child first
- Listen to any ideas and views a child wants to share with you
- Respect a child's culture (faith and religion)
- Respect a child's right to privacy and personal space
- Respond sensitively to children who seem anxious about participating in certain training activities
- Speak to the Child Protection Officer immediately you suspect that a child is experiencing bullying or harassment
- Be aware of the vulnerability of some groups of children to being isolated and hurt (for example, children with learning difficulties, or from ethnic minorities)
- Ensure that when you are working with children you are at least within sight or hearing of other coaches
- Listen carefully to any child who tells you (sometimes through behaviour as well as words) that they are being harmed and report what you have discovered immediately to your Child Protection Officer
- Report immediately any suspicion that a child could be at risk of harm or abuse to the Child Protection Officer
- Never dismiss what a child tells you as lies or exaggeration
- Only restrain a child who is at imminent risk of inflicting harm to themselves or others, or is at risk of damaging property

Coaches **should not**:

- Exaggerate or trivialise another person's concerns about a child or ignore allegations or suspicions of abuse in the hope that it will either go away, or that someone else will deal with it
- Discuss personal issues about a child or their family with other people except when you are concerned about the child's well being
- Be drawn into any derogatory remarks or gestures in front of children
- Allow a child to be bullied or harmed by anyone in the organisation
- Allow children to swear or use sexualised language unchallenged