AFC Mackworth Anti-Bullying Policy

Statement of Intent

At AFC Mackworth we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our members, so they can participate in football in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our club. If bullying does occur, all club members or parents should be able to approach us and tell us freely, knowing that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively.

WE'RE A TELLING CLUB

This means that anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell one of the Club Welfare Officers (CWO) or any committee member. Contact numbers can be found below. Alternatively, any of the Managers will have contact information if asked. Additionally, ChildLine has a free-phone number if required to raise any concerns.

The Club welfare officer is;
Amy Robinson (CWO@afcmackworth.co.uk)

AFC Mackworth Football Club is committed to playing its part to teach players to treat each other with Respect and follow the Respect code. Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person, bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

Bullying can be:

<u>Emotional</u>
Being unfriendly, including (emotionally and physically) sending hurtful text messages and tormenting (e.g. hiding football boots, shin guards, threatening gestures)

<u>Physical</u>
Pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence.

<u>Racist</u>
Racial taunts, graffiti, gestures or discrimination.

<u>Sexual</u>
Unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments.

<u>Homophobic</u>
Because of or focusing on the issue of sexuality.

<u>Verbal</u>
Name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours or teasing.

Bullying hurts - No one deserves to be a victim of bullying!

Everyone has the right to be treated with respect, Individuals who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving. AFC Mackworth Football Club has a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

AFC Mackworth Football Club Anti-Bullying Procedure

1. Report bullying incidents to Child Welfare Officer, a member of the club's committee, or the County Football Association Child Welfare Officer – Jenny Blewitt (Jenny.Blewitt@derbyshirefa.com).

2. In cases of serious bullying, the incident will be referred to the County Welfare Officer for advice and may then possibly be passed to the Football Association case management team.

3. Parents should be informed and will be asked to attend a meeting to discuss the problem.

4. If necessary and appropriate, the police will be consulted.

5. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly.

6. An attempt will be made for the bully/bullies to change their behaviour.

7. If Mediation fails and the bullying is seen to continue, the club will initiate disciplinary action under the club's constitution.