



# CHIPSTEAD FOOTBALL CLUB

Formed 1936



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## ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

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## STATEMENT OF INTENT

Chipstead Football Club acknowledges and endorses the FA's identification of bullying as a category of abuse. Chipstead Football Club is committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for everyone, so they can participate in football in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is NOT acceptable at our Club. If bullying does occur, all club members, volunteers or parents/carers should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a TELLING club. This means that anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the Child Welfare Officer (Catherine O'Connell - 07884 496996). Chipstead Football Club is committed to playing its part to teach coaches and players to treat each other with respect.

## WHAT IS BULLYING?

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:

- Emotional – being unfriendly, excluding (emotionally & physically), sending hurtful text messages, tormenting (e.g. hiding kit, threatening gestures)
- Physical – pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Sexual – unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- Discrimination – racial taunts, graffiti, homophobic comments, jokes about disabled people, sexist comments
- Verbal – Name-calling, spreading rumours, teasing
- Cyberbullying – when a person uses technology e.g. mobile phones or the internet (social networking sites, chat rooms, messenger & tweets) to deliberately upset someone. Bullies often feel anonymous and distanced from an incident when it takes place online and 'bystanders' can easily become bullies themselves by forwarding information on. There is a growing trend for bullying to occur online or via text messages - bullies no longer rely on being physically near to the other person.
- Trolling – This is the name given to posting deliberately offensive comments on social media pages aimed at causing upset and distress. This type of behaviour can result in legal action.



Chipstead Football Club commits to ensure our website and/or social media pages are being used appropriately and any online bullying will be dealt with swiftly and appropriately in line with this policy and the Club's Social Media Policy.

### **WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO RESPOND TO BULLYING?**

Bullying hurts. No-one deserves to be the victim of a bully. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect. Individuals who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving. This Club has a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

### **OBJECTIVES OF THIS POLICY:**

- All club members, coaches, officials, volunteers, and parents/carers should have an understanding of what bullying is
- All club members, officials, volunteers, and coaching staff should know what the club policy is on bullying and follow it when bullying is reported
- All players and parents/carers should know what the club policy is on bullying and what they should do if bullying arises
- As a Club, we take bullying seriously. Players and parents/carers should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported

## **BULLYING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**