



CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CLUBS, ACADEMY PLAYERS REGISTERED ON A EFL FORM YD4 AND THEIR PARENT(S) (THE 'CODE')

(Youth Development Rules)

The following Code applies to each Club, Academy Player registered on a EFL Form YD4 and their Parent(s) and sets out the standards expected of each party whilst registered at a Club. By signing this Code, each party agrees to abide by it, and any breach of this Code (as determined by the English Football League) may be deemed a breach of Youth Development Rules.

1. THE CLUB AGREES TO:

- (a) provide a safe and inclusive environment in which the Academy Player can learn and develop free from abuse, bullying, mistreatment and discrimination in any form;
- (b) ensure all Staff receive regular safeguarding training approved by the Club's [Designated Safeguarding Officer](#) and have been subject to safer recruitment procedures;
- (c) protect the welfare of the Academy Player, including their mental and emotional wellbeing;
- (d) ensure medical screening, monitoring and support for the Academy Player;
- (e) provide a structured football learning programme, appropriate to the age, ability and growth of the Academy Player;
- (f) provide participation in football matches arranged or approved by the EFL as part of the Games Programme;
- (g) provide trained and qualified coaching and other staff and facilities as determined by the Youth Development Rules;
- (h) provide guidelines to the Academy Player and Parent(s) on the best ways for them to contribute to the Academy Player's football and personal development;
- (i) provide compensatory education and support (in consultation with the Academy Player's Parent(s) and school) for the continued academic and personal development of the Academy Player appropriate to their educational needs and training model;
- (j) provide regular communication and reports to the Academy Player and Parent(s) on their progress;
and
- (k) provide any additional code of conduct and/or rules for its Academy;

2. THE ACADEMY PLAYER AGREES TO:

- (a) attend the Academy regularly and punctually, behave with self-discipline and give notice of and reasons for any absence;
- (b) practise the techniques and skills taught by the Academy and attempt to apply them in matches;
- (c) maintain their academic progression and attainment;

- (d) follow a lifestyle appropriate to development – spending leisure time positively; eating, drinking, relaxing and sleeping sensibly;
- (e) communicate with the Academy staff, keeping them informed about any matters affecting them;
- (f) at all times, never to engage in abusive, bullying, violent or discriminatory behaviour in any form, including while online; and
- (g) adhere to any code of conduct issued by the Club and/or any rules for its Academy.

3. THE PARENT(S) AGREE TO:

- (a) support the Academy Player to meet targets, including this Code and any code of conduct issued separately by the Club and/or any rules for its Academy;
- (b) support the Academy Player without pressure, praise good work and refrain from criticising lapses;
- (c) set a good example to the Academy Player;
- (d) not approach or engage in communication, either directly or indirectly, with another Academy whilst the Academy Player is registered with an Academy, save as permitted by the Youth Development Rules.
- (e) communicate with the Academy staff to resolve any issues of concern and to keep them informed about any matters affecting the Academy Player; and
- (f) adhere to any code of conduct issued by the Club and/or any rules for its Academy.

We, the undersigned, agree to the Code

Name	
Signature	Football Club
Name	
Signature	Academy Player
Name	
Signature	Parents

Note: This Code should be signed in quadruplicate, one copy being provided to the Academy Player, one to his Parent(s) one being submitted to the League in accordance with Youth Development Rule and the fourth being retained by the Club.