

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

### CODE OF CONDUCT

The Irish FA strives to contribute to the sporting and social development of children and young people by presenting them with an opportunity to engage in Association programmes.

In order for football to be a positive experience for all children and young people, the Association expects high standards of behaviour to be demonstrated by all players so that everyone can benefit from the positive aspects of the game.

Children and young people have a responsibility to conduct themselves in a manner which does not bring the Association into disrepute. Any behaviour in breach of Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action.

As a player participating in Irish FA programmes, I will:

- Behave and listen to all instructions from staff and volunteers
- Take care of and respect equipment owned by the Irish FA or a rented facility
- Refrain from behaviour that will bring the Association into disrepute
- Refrain from the use of foul, abusive, racial, discriminatory and sectarian references
- Refrain from bullying behaviour or the persistent use of rough and dangerous play
- Refrain from engaging in inappropriate use of social media – this includes posting comments or images on social media sites that may cause harm to other users or bring the Association into disrepute
- Report inappropriate behaviour
- Never tell lies about other adults, children or young people
- Respect my coach and teammates
- Show respect to other players, staff and volunteers
- Respect officials and accept their decisions
- Respect opponents and not cheat
- Play fairly
- Be gracious in defeat
- Not use violence
- Shake hands with the other team and the referee at the end of the match
- Keep within the defined boundary of the playing/coaching area unless instructed otherwise
- Ensure I am punctual for training, matches and any other Irish FA activity

- Advise team manager/coach of any injury or medical condition sustained before or during Association activities
- Advise the team manager/coach of I am unavailable to play or participate in Association activities
- Be collected on time
- Be responsible for my own kit
- Wear appropriate footwear/shin pads
- Bring my own water bottle/fluid

Children and young people participating in Irish FA programmes have the right to:

- Feel safe and protected
- Be respected and listened to
- Contribute by offering constructive comments/feedback
- Privacy
- Enjoy football in a protective environment
- Be referred to professional help if needed
- Be protected from inappropriate behaviour/abuse from staff and volunteers
- Appropriate levels of confidentiality
- Participate on an equal basis, appropriate to their ability
- Experience competition and desire to win
- Be believed when they ask for help