



AFC Darwen Juniors Mission Statement

AFC Darwen Juniors Football Club aim to provide a safe environment for players of all abilities, to learn, develop and enjoy playing football as a community sport, with community values.

For players to enjoy and take part in football, we will ensure that they are encouraged to:

- Take an active part in the sport
- Form relationships and work together
- Develop their skills and improve over time
- Be able to take part whatever their ability
- Develop personal skills in key areas: technical, psychological, physical and social
- Appreciate and demonstrate a good sporting attitude
- Understand the laws of the game
- Be listened to and valued
- Be positive about themselves and others

For players to feel safe whilst learning and playing we will ensure that:

- The Respect Code is understood and upheld by all who are involved in our club – parents, spectators, players, coaches and officials
- Laws relating to child protection are maintained and the Club's child protection policy is understood and followed
- All the teams are supported by coaches qualified to at least FA 1st 4 Sport Level 1 and with in-date Safeguarding Children and First Aid training
- All Managers, Assistant Managers, Coaches and Officials who have connections with the Junior teams all hold current Enhanced CRB Certificates
- Equipment and facilities and the maintenance of both are of the highest standard
- No child will be excluded from participating in football on the grounds of gender, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual orientation
- Club policy relating to bullying is understood and seen to be followed

For players to learn and develop we will ensure that:

- Manager/Coaches place player development above a culture of 'winning at all costs'
- Manager/Coaches are well qualified and encouraged in continuing professional development
- Manager/Coaches are positive, friendly and supportive to all players



- Manager/Coaches' decisions are respected and understood by parents and players
- Players understand what stage they are at and how to progress
- Players, parents managers and coaches are encouraged to get involved with the club via refereeing and coaching qualifications, running the line, joining or taking on key roles and responsibilities
- Exceptional players are given opportunities beyond the club
- Teams are given opportunities to play in tournaments and arrange team events
- The achievements and progress of all players are celebrated at the end of the season
- Every player matters to the team and to AFC Darwen Junior FC

For the Club to promote community sport with community values, we will ensure that:

- Parents are valued, welcomed and encouraged to play a key role in supporting and bringing our ethos to life
- The Club communicates its ethos clearly and consistently in all it does and through each of its members
- The Respect Code is at the very heart of all we do at training and on match day and in whatever capacity – player, spectator, coach, parent, official
- The Club's interests and achievements are well publicised, recognised and represented at all levels to celebrate and develop all we do
- The Club fosters and develops partnerships with key community groups such as schools, the Town Council and other sporting clubs to work together in the service of youth sport
- We welcome and respond to feedback and input from all those associated with the Club to make us fully accountable to our members

