Ottershaw Junior Football Club – Parents & Spectators Code of Conduct

At Ottershaw Junior Football Club, we are committed to providing a safe, positive and enjoyable environment for every child. As parents and spectators, you play a vital role in shaping that experience. This Code of Conduct sets out the standards expected of all adults attending training sessions, matches and Play Phase activities.

By supporting your child at Ottershaw JFC, you agree to uphold the following principles.

Respect for Children

I will:

- Remember that children play football for **fun**, enjoyment and development.
- Celebrate effort, teamwork and learning — not just results.
- Support all children equally, regardless of ability or confidence level.
- Never criticise a child for making a mistake — mistakes are part of learning.
- Help create a calm, positive environment where children feel safe to explore and try new things.

Respect for Coaches & Officials

I will:

- Allow coaches to coach, and trust their decisions.
- Respect the match officials at all times, even when I disagree.
- Avoid giving instructions from the sidelines that conflict with the coach's guidance.
- Support the club's approach to safeguarding and player development.

Respect for the Game

I will:

- Remain outside the field of play and behind the designated spectator area.
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour.
- Encourage players to respect the opposition, coaches and match officials.
- Model the behaviour I want children to learn.

Safeguarding Responsibilities

I will:

- Ensure my child arrives ready to play, with appropriate clothing and a named water bottle.
- Supervise my child's **personal and intimate care needs**, including toileting, as required by FA Play Phase guidance.
- Inform the club in advance if I cannot attend a session and provide the name of the authorised adult collecting my child.
- Keep the club updated about any medical needs or changes affecting my child.
- Remove my child from the session promptly if requested due to illness or behaviour concerns.

Communication & Conduct

I will:

- Raise concerns calmly and respectfully with the Club Welfare Officer or coach.
- Avoid confrontations with other parents, coaches, players or officials.
- Support the club's values of respect, inclusion and positive behaviour.
- Help maintain a welcoming environment for all families.

Consequences of Breaching the Code

I understand that if I do not follow this Code of Conduct:

- I may be asked to move away from the playing area.
- I may be required to leave the venue.
- Serious or repeated breaches may be referred to Surrey FA or The FA.

Our Shared Commitment

By attending Ottershaw JFC activities, I agree to uphold this Code of Conduct and play my part in creating a safe, supportive and enjoyable football environment for every child.