

Star Soccer Academy – Players' Code of Conduct

Season 2026/27. Based on the FA Respect Code of Conduct for Young Players.

Football is a team game. Everyone makes mistakes, and how we treat each other when things go wrong is what makes us a team. This code sets out what Star expects from every player, at every session and every match.

On the pitch

- I will always try my best and play to win, but I will play fairly and within the rules.
- I will accept the referee's decisions without arguing or answering back.
- I will shake hands with opponents and officials before and after the game.
- I will never use foul, abusive, threatening or discriminatory language towards anyone, including opponents, officials, coaches or my own teammates.

My teammates

- I understand that every player makes mistakes, including me. When a teammate makes a mistake, I will encourage them, not blame them, shout at them or swear at them.
- I will not single out, mock or put down any teammate for their ability, a mistake or anything else.
- If I am angry or frustrated during a game, I will take a breath, walk away and let the coach deal with it.
- I will treat every teammate with the same respect I want to be shown.

Coaches and training

- I will listen to my coaches, follow their instructions and let them give feedback and manage the team.
- I will arrive on time, with the right kit, and be ready to train.
- I will look after the equipment, facilities and other people's belongings.

Off the pitch

- I will not bully anyone, in person or online. This includes messages, group chats, social media and sharing photos or videos of other players.
- If something happens that upsets me or makes me feel unsafe, I will tell a coach, my parents or the Club Welfare Officer. I will not be in trouble for speaking up.
- I will speak up if I see a teammate being treated badly.

What happens if I break this code

The coaches will deal with most things with a quiet word. If it is more serious, or it keeps happening, the club may:

- give me a formal warning, which my parents will be told about
- ask me to apologise to the person affected
- leave me out of a match or training session
- review my place at the club

The club follows FA guidance in deciding what is fair and proportionate.

Agreement

Your parent or carer confirms in the Star app that you have read this code together and that you have agreed to follow it. If your family cannot use the app, ask your coach for a paper copy.

Approved by Matt Finnigan, Owner and Club Welfare Officer, September 2026.

Club Welfare Officer: Matt Finnigan – matt@starsocceracademy.co.uk. Any player, parent or carer can contact the Club Welfare Officer at any time.