



## PARENT PACK

### ASHTON88

## COVID-19 GUIDANCE ON RE-STARTING COMPETITIVE GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020; updated 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2020; Updated 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020; Updated 27<sup>th</sup> March 2021

### INTRODUCTION

This parent information and guidance pack has been produced to inform you of the measures Ashton88 are taking and you should adhere to allow the **competitive** grassroots football including matches and training in line with the updated Government & FA guidance. This must be done with careful consideration for everyone's safety – especially vulnerable groups.

This update 27<sup>th</sup> March recognises the latest FA Guidance a review of our Risk assessment to allow Junior Football to return from 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

#### Key change

- **SPECTATORS ARE NOT ALLOWED 1 PARENT/CARER PER CHILD IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND TRAINING AND MATCHES FOR SAFEGAURDING PURPOSES**

*Track and Trace; All parents/Carers and anyone over the age of 16 should check into the match or training venue using the NHS track and trace app. If you don't have the app a representative from Ashton88 or the venue will take the relevant details from you.*

*Evesham United 3G training venue; please refer to the separate document.*

The link below takes you to the full FA guidance which all parents are encouraged to read.

[https://www.thefa.com/news/2021/mar/24/fa-guidance-for-return-to-grassroots-football-20210324?sc\\_src=email\\_1049352&sc\\_lid=74745768&sc\\_uid=5ACFQLGRNV&sc\\_lid=1775](https://www.thefa.com/news/2021/mar/24/fa-guidance-for-return-to-grassroots-football-20210324?sc_src=email_1049352&sc_lid=74745768&sc_uid=5ACFQLGRNV&sc_lid=1775)

Anyone who is deemed vulnerable in respect of Covid-19 is reminded to follow the government's guidance, only returning when it's right for them to do so. There is no pressure to return. Everyone's health, wellbeing and safety are the priorities.

As the weeks progress, Government restrictions may be likely to change. If they are, the FA will update their advice accordingly. It is essential that everyone is clear about the restrictions and work together to manage social distancing and strict hand hygiene.



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The club has updated its risk assessment and provided a copy for your information with this pack which you are encouraged to read.

### SUMMARY

- We will always follow the latest Government guidance;
- We have football specific protocols which will be in line with Government & FA guidance
  - **SPECTATORS ARE NOT ALLOWED 1 PARENT/CARER PER CHILD IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND TRAINING AND MATCHES**
- **If you are in any doubt, or you're not comfortable returning to football, then don't.**

In line with FA guidelines training sessions and matches are divided into;

[Before sessions](#)

[During sessions](#)

[After sessions](#)

### BEFORE SESSIONS

- All parents/carers, players, coaches, and volunteers must undergo a self-assessment for any covid-19 symptoms prior to any training session or match.
- You should follow government guidelines for travel to venues
- Social distancing is required before the session starts, during intervals and afterwards.
- Please arrive in good time in advance before a training session starts to allow safe parking. Remain in your cars until 5 to 10 minutes before the start of the training session. Enter the 3G training venue safely and keep social distances, and then allow your child to join his group in the allocated zone as per the training plan location map.
  - For Matches please arrive 30 minutes prior to the match Kick off time; your coach will advise your child where their safe zone is located for the match.
- Stay Alert – you must maintain good hygiene, hand washing and social distancing.



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- If you are not happy with the arrangements that have been made, then you should remove yourself from that environment.
- You should arrive changed and ready to play.
- To operate safely, changing rooms, club rooms, and showers will be closed at training sessions
- Emergency WC facility will be available at the training venue and on match days 30 minutes prior to kick off and 30 minutes after, but we encourage parents not to use if possible. If used it will be one child or one Parent and child at a time.

**Your Coach or Club will provide the following information prior to the training session or match:**

1. Session or match date start and finish time
2. The Pitch location on which your child will train or play
3. Parent/Carer viewing areas.

#### **DURING SESSIONS (Training and Matches)**

- Contact during the training is allowed with players but will be kept to a minimum. Contact with the coach is not permitted.
- Avoid touching equipment e.g. cones. The focus should be on kicking the ball and limiting any touching of the ball with hands.
- Clubs/facilities will arrange parking but please try to avoid congregating.
- Coaches will have access to hand-cleaning facilities and we request the children to bring their own hand sanitiser for use during the session.
- You should refrain from spitting. If you need to sneeze or cough, you are encouraged to do so into a tissue or upper sleeve and advised to avoid touching your face. Ensure any tissues are disposed of as soon as possible.
- Equipment will be handled as little as possible by as few people as possible and will be disinfected before and after sessions.
- Ensure you take your own water bottle that is clearly recognisable and has your child's name on it. The drink should not be shared with anyone else.
- Should a child be injured the parent or guardian will be request by the coach to enter the training area to attend to the child but will still need to socially distance unless a



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life or limb-threatening injury necessitates compromising guidelines to provide emergency care. A first-aider will be equipped with the appropriate PPE to protect themselves and others if they need to compromise social distancing guidelines to provide medical assistance.

- If you or your child become symptomatic during the session, you should immediately remove yourselves from the session and return home as soon as possible. NHS guidance on further management of symptoms should be followed.
- Sessions will be carefully prepared by the coaches in advance parents should not shout directions at the children.

### **AFTER THE SESSION**

- When the session is finished your child will return to his/her designated safe zone and the coach will then allow the children to return to their parents.
- You should leave the venue rather than congregate and avoid congestion at gates or doors.
- All participants should wash hands at the earliest opportunity and personal equipment should be wiped down with a disinfectant.

### **MATCH DAY ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE**

The following additional guidance is provided for match days for all to observe and summarised in reference document 5.

- Consultation with opposition team manager will be held before the match day to ensure they are aware of relevant procedures.
- A safety message will be delivered to both teams prior to the match
- Whilst contact is allowed the children will be asked to minimise contact for example goal celebrations, defensive walls etc.
- Goals, footballs and corner flags will be cleaned at half time
- Safe Zones designated by cones will be set up for each player. These will be used to store hand sanitiser, drinks and for players to go for pre-match, end of match and interval breaks.
- Matches will be split into quarters to allow drink breaks and hand cleaning



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Other Documents to be read and referred to by parents before attending any training sessions:

- 1. Parent Picture Guide**
- 2. Player Picture Guide**
- 3. Coaches Picture Guide**
- 4. Updated Risk Assessment**
- 5. Matchday guide**

#### **DISCLAIMER:**

This guidance is for general information only and does not constitute legal advice or replace any Government or PHE advice; nor does it provide any specific commentary or advice on health-related issues. Affected organisations/persons should therefore ensure that they seek independent advice from medical practitioners, or healthcare providers, prior to implementing any return to football activity, as required. While efforts have been taken to ensure the accuracy of this information at the time of publication, the reader is reminded to check the Government website to obtain the most up-to-date information regarding social distancing and any other Government measures.