



OXFORDSHIRE PASS THE POSITIVITY

WE WANT TO PROVIDE THE MOST POSITIVE EXPERIENCE POSSIBLE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE AND ENJOY THEIR FOOTBALL ACROSS OXFORDSHIRE.

In a recent Oxfordshire FA Youth Consultation, we received the views of 241 young people across 45 clubs in the county.

Feedback showed a common theme throughout in that they said how important setting the right environment was with everyone having positive behaviour on and off the pitch.

This was a key factor for young people wanting to return and continue playing.

Oxfordshire Pass the Positivity aims to build on The FA's Respect Programme by promoting positive behaviour amongst players, coaches, parents, and spectators and supporting clubs to reinforce key messages.

Using the feedback from young people, we have provided some hints & tips of how you can play a role in making football positive by setting the right environment & ethos to keep young people in the game they love!

PITCH-SIDE ENVIRONMENT

Young people stated that the pitch side can be an intimidating place and can put them off wanting to play.

Are your spectators & coaches setting the right example? Setting up Respect Barriers can play a vital role.

CHALLENGE: How can your club ensure it is setting the right environment to help players flourish?

FA RESPECT PROGRAMME

Do you have The FA Respect Programme implemented at your club? Provide briefings & FA Respect Code of Conducts to club members (players, coaches, parents/guardians, and others) to make sure everyone is creating a positive environment for everyone involved!

LET THEM PLAY!

Keep shouting on the sidelines from coaches and spectators to a minimum. Utilise before, at half time and after the game to communicate key messages. Young people said shouting from the sidelines had a negative impact on their experience.

CHALLENGE: Can you have a silent sidelines or clap only weekend?

Encourage coaches to sign up for '21 Days of Positivity' for support & resources in this area.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Make sure your players, coaches & spectators are leading by example & show respect to their opponents and the referee! Young People said that poor behaviour and bad language from players, coaches and spectators put them off continuing!

Challenge: How can you get this message across to your players, coaches and spectators? Do you have a captain that leads by example?

Can you promote The FA's Introduction to Refereeing Online Modules to your coaches, parents, and spectators?

EVENS STEVENS!

Participation over winning at all costs!
Ensure all players get equal time on the pitch to enjoy the game - think pre match about how substitutions will be managed.

Young People said this was a key factor to them not enjoying the game & wanting to drop out!

NATIONAL RESPECT INITIATIVES

Has your club and parents supported The FA's 21 Days of Positivity & 'We Only Do Positivity' initiatives?

There are some fantastic resources and support available to help educate your members and reinforce key messages!

RESPECT THE OFFICIALS!

Play your role in retaining referees! Every year referees give up their role due to abuse - make sure your members play their part in providing a positive experience for officials & attracting new referees. Youth football attracts a lot of under 18 referees. Abusing them will be a welfare issue and will be reported to the County FA.

Challenge: How can your team play an active role in providing a positive experience for match officials?

MENTAL WELL-BEING

Players might be nervous or anxious with returning. Create a positive environment to support their return. Report any concerns to your Club or County Welfare Officer.

Mental Health Charity 'Mind' have an excellent Mental Health & Physical Activity resource for clubs to utilise in this area which can be found below

SMOKEFREE SIDELINES

Help improve the environment at your club by becoming smokefree across your training and match day sites!

CHALLENGE: Has your club pledged its support to Oxfordshire Smokefree Sidelines?

MATCH OFFICIALS VISITING YOUR CLUB

Young People said that it can be very daunting visiting new clubs as a referee.

What processes could you have in place to make referees feel welcome & supported at your club?

Do you have someone to 'meet & greet' and is a point of contact for young referees? This may just give that extra bit of support & play a vital role in giving them a positive experience!

INCLUSION & DISCRIMINATION

Discrimination has no place in the game. If it happens in the county, we want to know about it. Check the link below for more information on the reporting process. Tell us, we'll Tackle It!

EDUCATING & BRIEFING YOUR MEMBERS

How is your club playing its role in educating and briefing members on the expectations of how to behave during fixtures?

CHALLENGE: How can you look to reinforce key messages to players, coaches and spectators?

Do you provide regular briefings and reminders to coaches, spectators & visiting clubs?

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

Give your players as many opportunities to learn, play and have as many touches of the ball.

Do not take learning ball skills away from young people by coaches joining in at training!

FUN BEFORE FITNESS

Keep training engaging and fun, young people have missed out on a lot of football since March 2020.

CHALLENGE: How many minutes can you get all of your players moving & touching the football in a session?!

There are learning & resources that you can utilise to help support you:

FA RESPECT CODE OF CONDUCTS

FA INTRODUCTION TO REFEREEING MODULES

FA 21 DAYS OF POSITIVITY

FA WE ONLY DO POSITIVE

OFA COACHES CPD PROGRAMME

OXFORDSHIRE SMOKEFREE SIDELINES

BT PLAYMAKER

**OFA COACHES CPD - RETURN TO PLAY
(FUN BEFORE FITNESS AND MANAGING MATCH DAYS)**

REPORTING DISCRIMINATION

MIND MENTAL HEALTH & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY RESOURCE



***Do you have any questions or need some support?
Get in touch via Development@Oxfordshirefa.com***



**PLAY YOUR PART AND MAKE
OXFORDSHIRE FOOTBALL POSITIVE!**