



Club Ethos and Coaching Philosophy

2019

Who we are / want to be

Club Philosophy

“Together We Grow” is our club motto and symbolises everything we are about as a club.

We are an inclusive and friendly club that promotes best practice and fair play where no one individual is more important than another. We all develop by helping each other and this is the greatest lesson we can implement as individuals, as a club and as a community.

Our players & teams’ development is all derived from players, coaches, parents and friends in the community all pulling together in the same direction. Win, lose or draw it does not matter! As a club we strive to create a positive environment where players can learn and enjoy the game of football, express themselves and develop at their own pace without pressure or anxiety. In fact we recognise we are all learning and through our shared experiences as parents, coaches and being an active part of the club and in the community we will continue to Grow Together.

As a club we want to;

- To provide football to children of all ages and abilities, in a safe, supportive and friendly environment
- To deliver age-appropriate coaching to support long term player development
- To encourage all players to try their best and make the most of their abilities
- To give equal playing time and opportunity to all where age appropriate especially during the key years of 5-12 with fun and player development being the main priorities
- To offer a challenging but supportive environment where children can learn from their mistakes without undue pressure and anxiety
- To promote good behaviour and respect for others
- To retain footballers to under 18s and provide a sustainable link from youth to adult football

How we play

We want to:

- Develop and sustain an identity as a club playing attractive, attacking, creative football. Ball retention (possession) is at the heart of this for both the individual player and the team. Both are as important as players learn to keep the ball as individuals, the team can also keep possession of the ball.
- Maintain and enhancing our reputation as a club that gives 100% both on and off the pitch, and fully respects opponents, supporters, coaches and officials.

The player

Our coaches aim to promote an environment which allows players to:

- enjoy the game of football, play with a sense of fun, fairness and togetherness
- develop individual skills and techniques and help players to reach their full potential
- Develop players who are excellent decision-makers both on and off the ball
- Develop players who take responsibility for themselves and their teammates – realise they are part of a team
- We coach our players to learn to play in every position on the pitch as we want them to develop into great ‘all-round footballers’
- Our coaches aim to enhance players football knowledge and understanding of the game so they can adapt to different situations on the pitch
- In return we expect players must listen and respect their coaches at all times and when playing in a certain position during training or on match-day, players must accept the role and show 100% commitment,

“The Team”

- Win, lose or draw it doesn't matter! We want our players to play football with fun, focus and freedom without the pressure of needing or having to win. Of course we set them up to go for a positive result but it's not the be all and end all
- Winning games is great, but losing will also help improve players because in life nobody wins all the time and players need to learn how to ‘win’ and ‘lose’ games:
 - in a respectful manner
 - to learn from their mistakes
 - to prepare for their next challenge
- Blaming team mates if they make a mistake is not accepted, it's a team game and everyone makes mistakes
- Teams will learn to
 - encourage their team mates in a positive way
 - help each other to improve by offering good advice

- stick together “Together We Grow”
- Our coaches will not tolerate players who talk back in a disrespectful way, dive, cheat or pretend to be injured, however our coaches will act as educators to explain to children why this is wrong
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- We use ‘The 6P’s of Football’ for our players and teams:
 - 1 Passing
 - 2 Pressing
 - 3 Patience
 - 4 Possession
 - 5 Penetration
 - 6 Positioning
- Most importantly we give the freedom to our children to express themselves, make their own decisions no matter how many mistakes they may make and allow their individual personalities to shine. All in a fun, safe and friendly environment.

How we coach

We want to:

- Provide age appropriate coaching in a safe, friendly environment.
- Remember at all times that football is an activity to be enjoyed.
- Develop the whole player using the four corners of the Football Association LTPD model. Social, psychological, physical, technical cover.
- Share experiences and learn from other coaches within the club.
- Take responsibility for enhancing and improving our education as coaches including achieving the relevant qualifications for all youth coaches.

How we support

We want to:

- Encourage and promote the FA Respect protocols.
- Include parents in the ethos, aims and approach of their children’s coaching group and the club in general.
- Ensure that communication with parents is thorough, open and honest.
- Work hard to make sure that parents are committed to maintaining the values of Headley YFC