

## Chesterfield Town Football Club

### History, Club Philosophy and our Mission

The Club was formed in the summer of **2004** with its main aim at the time to provide the youngsters living in and around the Dunston, Moor and St Helens Wards of Chesterfield with a chance to play organised football. The very first season saw us field just two teams and a Sunday morning training club for boys and girls aged 4 to 7 years old.

Over the last fifteen years the club has grown to be one of the biggest amateur football clubs in Derbyshire. For 2020/2021 we are fielding 14 teams including our newly formed girls team.

We are also an FA Charter Standard Community Club that has won the Chesterfield and NE Derbyshire Sports Club of the year (twice), Derbyshire Charter Standard Club of the year and the FA Charter Standard Community Club Award.

As well as fielding teams at most age groups, we continue to nurture our younger players with our Feeder Squad programme. A fun session aimed at developing ball mastery and football fundamentals with lots of fun games.

Away from the field the Club has built up a growing list of links with partners and sponsors. In particular we have built up key relationships with Chesterfield Borough Council, Local Community Forums and the Derbyshire County FA who are the providers for the majority of the courses our members attend.

Costs to keep our club running, whilst welcoming new members, is continually increasing at a time when funding streams are reducing. New sponsors therefore are always appreciated and anyone interested in helping can **contact our Club Secretary (details in the officials section)**

Our Mission is 'To be a football club which encourages and promotes fair play in a safe and secure environment and where players of all ages, abilities and social backgrounds have the opportunity to develop their skills without prejudice or discrimination'.

Chesterfield Town FC has a clear playing and coaching philosophy which is based on creating an identity as a possession based passing football club. This game style will encourage players to stay on the ball when necessary, and to pass with quality and purpose to penetrate through the thirds to provide goal-scoring opportunities".

We have a player centred approach where players will be encouraged to take risks to keep the ball in all areas of the pitch, rather than taking a 'safety first, win at all costs' approach.

This is not to say we do not see developing a winning mentality as being extremely important, a player striving to win is considered to be a fundamental commitment for a player at our football club however the holistic development of our players is considered more important than winning a game and we will not attempt to win football matches to the detriment of player development.

As a club we expect parents to support our philosophy by encouraging their children to listen to the team Manager & Coaches instructions and not shout from the side-lines. We expect parents to abide by codes of conduct, club and FA policies and reasonable requests from the team Manager.

## **CLUB ETHOS**

To provide opportunities for children of all ages and abilities, to play football in a safe and friendly environment.

To deliver age-appropriate coaching to support long-term player development.

Our football club will encourage all players to try their best and make the most of their abilities.

To develop decision makers in a challenging but supportive environment where children can learn from their mistakes without undue pressure and anxiety.

Our football club will promote good behaviour and respect for others.

Our Coaches will give our players a “voice” and empower them to be part of the learning process.

## **COACHING PHILOSOPHY**

Our coaches will deliver age-appropriate coaching and will utilise the FA 4 corner model to develop players by understanding that each of the corners is connected and relies on support from the other 3 corners.

Make coaching sessions appropriate challenging, educational, and enjoyable.

Our coaches to provide leadership, and integrity, along with consistent, repetitive, frequent, and unconditional messages for all players, irrespective of results or performance.

Understand the story behind each individual player taking into account their date of birth, physical, psychological and social maturity as well as the amount of football practice/experience.

Our coaches to create a “player centred” environment.

For coaches to be committed to coach education and to continue to improve their knowledge of how to develop young players.

## **ROLE OF THE COACH**

To be able to differentiate and set appropriate challenges to inspire the players.

To give players responsibilities and ownership within the sessions and games.

To allow players to make mistakes and to offer support or allow them to self-correct when necessary.

To develop decision makers and to facilitate a games-based approach to training

Improve the player’s movement skills: agility, balance, and co-ordination.

To give the players the freedom to try new skills.

Plans sessions and have the personality to inspire and motivate players.

Support and empower the players to practice away from the football club.

Consider the 4-corner model and the need to integrate each corner to maximise learning

Plans and delivers sessions for the player and not the coach.

Understand issues arising from the 4-corner model that impact upon young player development.

Develop and demonstrate an understanding of how children learn (Visual, Audio, and Kinaesthetic).

Communicate using age-appropriate language and instructions.

Understand that children are not mini-adults and that developing football players is a long-term process.

Fosters a life-long love of the game.

Praise players for their effort as well as ability.

### **COACHING QUALIFICATIONS**

All coaches to have a minimum of level 1 qualification and work towards other age appropriate Levels as per FA Pathway.

All coaches MUST have a valid DBS, Safeguarding and First aid Certificate

Coaches are required to strictly follow the Respect Code of Conduct and club policies and procedures.

### **PLAYING PHILOSOPHY**

Positive Attitude, Respect and Sportsmanship for all.

Chesterfield Town FC will endeavour to play creative possession-based football that is structured around developing players who are innovative and comfortable in possession of the ball.

In possession we want to build from the back by creating and exploiting space.

Out of possession we strive to win the ball back quickly.

Our long-term goal is to inspire and provide older players with exit routes into adult football along with opportunities for coach education and refereeing, and for some of them to support the development of the next generation of players.

### **POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

We are committed to providing a positive learning environment by demonstrating a caring & supportive culture for all involved in the club.

We are to have a strong emphasis on fun and enjoyment.

Our players will be encouraged to play attacking and creative football.

Our coaches will allow players to have opinions, discuss shape & tactics.

Our coaches will encourage players to be creative and take considered risks in training & matches.

Players must be free to make their own decisions during matches, with positive encouragement from coaches.

### **LET THE CHILDREN PLAY**

Encourage our teams to play through the thirds.

Equal playing time per game for all players irrespective of the match / opposition up to & including under 11s thereafter equal playing time to be measured over the season.

Have a game-based approach to training, teaching games for understanding.

Ensure that players are given the chance to play a game during training.

Lots of small-sided games in training from 1v1 onwards.

Give players equal opportunities to learn different positions, rotating those positions at regular intervals during the season to ensure adequate experience is gained.

