

# Sutton United Football Club



## Anti-Bullying Policy

### Purpose

Sutton United Football Club is committed to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive environment where all players, staff, volunteers and spectators are treated with respect. Bullying of any kind is not tolerated.

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### Definition of Bullying

Bullying is behaviour that is repeated, intentional and causes harm or distress to another person. This can include:

- Verbal abuse (e.g. name-calling, insults)
  - Physical behaviour (e.g. pushing, hitting)
  - Social exclusion or spreading rumours
  - Online bullying (cyberbullying) via social media or messaging
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### Expectations

All members of the club must:

- Treat others with respect and kindness
  - Not engage in any form of bullying behaviour
  - Speak up or report concerns if they witness bullying
  - Support others who may be affected
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### Responsibilities

#### Club Management and Staff:

- Promote a positive and inclusive environment
- Take all reports of bullying seriously
- Investigate incidents promptly and fairly
- Provide support to those affected

## **Players and Participants:**

- Follow the club's codes of conduct
  - Report any bullying to a coach, staff member or the Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO)
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## **Reporting and Action**

- Bullying concerns should be reported as soon as possible
  - Reports can be made verbally or in writing
  - All concerns will be handled confidentially and sensitively
  - Appropriate action will be taken which may include warnings, suspension or further disciplinary measures
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## **Support**

- The club will support anyone affected by bullying
  - Measures will be put in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all individuals involved
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## **Review**

This policy will be reviewed annually or following any serious incident.

**Policy reviewed:** March 2026

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**Signed:** OSCAR J LUGG

**Name:** Oscar Lugg

**Position:** Soccer School & Academy Lead

**Date:** 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026

