



ACADEMY SOCCER FC & YFC

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY POLICY

As a provider of Youth and Adult football in the community; Academy Soccer FC & YFC acknowledges its social responsibility in supporting our neighbours and the community, whilst also doing our utmost to safeguarding the environment for the children and generations to come.

With this in mind our policy outlines what we expect as a minimum standard on all aspects that could have a future environmental impact.

1. Reduce dependency on car use

- Parents and Senior players are encouraged to car share for both home and away matches; this is successful given that most players live in close proximity to one another and rotas are popular with parents. At grounds where parking is restricted this is seen as helpful and team managers co-ordinate sharing where empty car space exists.
- Bus routes will be advertised on the club's website not only to discourage car use but as a way of social inclusion for people without their own transport.
- Neighbours at sporting venues we use must be respected by parking in a sensible and lawful manner or by using public transport where possible.
- The Academy Soccer FC Committee will endeavour to find an area of land where space is available for all our teams to play reducing the travelling for parents where multiple siblings play at different ages.
- The club will look into safe secure bike storage similar to that found at our training venue. We will also look at running cycling proficiency courses for our younger members. Both will promote a reduction in car dependency.

2. Reduce and Minimise Waste

- Recycling bins are used on match days, at Club tournaments and all club events, we ensure that recyclable materials are separated and taken to the local recycling centre.
- The club will continue to recycle packaging from presentations, tournaments including polystyrene packaging (EPS) and Cardboard.
- All football kits are used for a minimum of three seasons and in situations where outgrown are passed down to younger age groups. All kits beyond this lifeline will be donated to charitable organisations.
- The club already operates a boot exchange programme which is extended outside of the club to fellow clubs at tournaments. This programme has been a huge success seeing the life cycle of football boots extended.
- On attaining land mentioned above Academy Soccer FC will endeavour to compost all weeds and grass cuttings which can be used or distributed around the community.



3. **Reduce Energy/Resource Use**

- The Club will ensure that any lighting used will be that of low energy lighting.
- We will strive to use solar energy resources and actively seek sponsorship to this aim.
- Where feasible rainwater harvesting to reduce the amount of water used to water pitches.
- The Club aim to have drainage installed on all pitches to assist with the recycling and harvesting of rainwater.
- The main media communications for Academy Soccer FC is electronic; with and avoidance of printed literature reducing the destruction of trees.
- The Club will always strive to purchase wood based products from a sustainable source.