

NEXTGEN FC

THE FUTURE IS YOU

ADULTS' CODE OF CONDUCT · 2026/27

PARENTS · CARERS · SPECTATORS

Who this is for. Every adult who comes to a NextGen FC session, fixture, camp or club event — the parent or carer who registered the child, and equally grandparents, step-parents, a parent who isn't the one who signed up, family friends, or anyone else bringing or watching a child. **If you stand on our touchline, this applies to you.**

How it is laid out. Part One is the standard for every adult. Part Two applies only to the registering parent or carer — it covers fees, medical information and consents, and no one else is asked to agree to it.

Your child has their own, separate code. Please read the Players' Code of Conduct with them.

PART ONE — EVERY ADULT

THE STANDARD WE ALL KEEP

WHY WE ASK YOU TO SIGN THIS

Children play football because they enjoy it. Everything below exists to protect that — to keep NextGen FC a safe, positive and ambitious place for every child, and to make sure the adults around the pitch help rather than hinder.

This is not about assuming the worst of anyone. It is about everyone knowing where the line is, so that nobody has to guess.

This code follows the FA's Grassroots Code and Respect programme: Enjoy the Game · Give Respect · Be Inclusive · Work Together · Play Safe.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM US

- Qualified coaches holding, as a minimum, an FA coaching qualification, an enhanced FA DBS check, FA Safeguarding Children training and first aid training (or working towards, and supervised until they hold them).
- A safe, organised and fully planned session every week, following our published syllabus and our four values: Desire, Teamwork, Leadership and Resilience.
- A first aider on site, and any accident or injury reported to you promptly.
- Children treated with dignity and respect, never ridiculed or shouted at for mistakes.
- Coaches who will always make time for a proper conversation — away from the touchline, at the right moment.
- The same standard of behaviour from us that we are asking of you.

WHAT WE ASK OF YOU

At any NextGen FC session, fixture, camp or club event, I will:

- **Remember the children are playing for their enjoyment, not mine** — and that mistakes are part of learning.

- **Let the coaches coach.** I will not shout instructions from the sideline. Conflicting messages confuse and pressure young players.
- Applaud effort and good play from both teams, **and never criticise, ridicule or single out any child — whether or not they are related to me.**
- **Respect match officials and accept their decisions without complaint.** Many grassroots referees are teenagers themselves.
- Never use foul, abusive, threatening, discriminatory or sarcastic language.
- **Never confront a coach, official, opposition parent or player** during or after a session or game. Concerns come to Reece, calmly and privately.
- Stay off the pitch and behind the designated spectator area at all times.
- **Not attend under the influence of alcohol or drugs,** and not drink alcohol, smoke or vape at the touchline or anywhere children can see.
- **Apply the 24-hour rule.** If something frustrates me on a matchday, I will sleep on it and then raise it properly. The touchline and the group chat are never the place.
- Set a positive example, and remember my behaviour reflects on the child I came to watch and on NextGen FC.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILMING

- You are welcome to photograph or film **your own child.**
- **Please do not publish anywhere — including WhatsApp groups and social media — any image or video that clearly features another child, unless you have that child's parent's permission.**
- Some of our families have not consented to their child being photographed. You will not always know which. If in doubt, do not post it.
- Never post negative comments about any child, coach, referee, parent or club on social media. Concerns come to us directly.

IF THIS CODE IS BROKEN

Most things are settled with a quiet word, and that is always our preference. Where behaviour falls short, NextGen FC follows a staged process:

- **Stage 1 — Reminder.** An informal, private conversation with a coach or with Reece.
- **Stage 2 — Formal discussion.** A meeting with Reece and a written note of what needs to change.
- **Stage 3 — Suspension.** A temporary ban from attending sessions and fixtures.
- **Stage 4 — Removal or exclusion.** For a registering family, the place at NextGen FC is withdrawn. For any other adult, permission to attend is permanently withdrawn.

Serious behaviour — threats, abuse, discrimination, intoxication, or anything that puts a child at risk — skips the stages. You may be asked to leave immediately, and the matter may be reported to the West Riding FA and, where appropriate, the police. Safeguarding concerns are always handled under the Safeguarding Policy, not this process.

The child is never punished for an adult's behaviour.

If an adult is suspended or excluded, that decision applies to **the adult, not the player**. The child remains a welcome member of NextGen FC, and we will work with their registering parent or carer to arrange drop-off and collection so that their football is unaffected. No child should lose their place because of how a grown-up behaved.

WHO TO SPEAK TO

Anything about a child's welfare or safety

Jess Garside — Club Welfare Officer (Designated Safeguarding Lead)
07512 044480 (call or WhatsApp)

Anything else — conduct, questions, concerns about the club

Reece Garside — Founder & Chair · 07495 826664
reece@nextgenfc.co.uk · nextgenfc.co.uk

If a child is in immediate danger, call 999.

If your concern is about anyone at NextGen FC — including the Welfare Officer or the Chair — you do not have to raise it with us. Contact the **NSPCC Helpline on 0808 800 5000** or the **West Riding FA safeguarding team** directly. You will never be criticised for going straight to them.

YOUR CHILD'S PLACE AT THE CLUB

This part does not apply to spectators.

Everything below concerns the adult who registered the child — fees, medical information, consents and day-to-day arrangements. If you come along to watch but did not register the player, **Part One is the whole of your agreement** and you are not being asked to accept any of this.

PUNCTUALITY, DROP-OFF AND COLLECTION

- Please arrive around 10 minutes before the session start time so players are ready to begin warm-ups on time.
- Collect your child promptly at the end of every session. Children are never left unsupervised, but late collection takes coaches away from packing down safely.
- Tell the coach in advance if someone different is collecting your child.
- Remain contactable for the full duration of every session, and let us know in advance if your child cannot attend.

KIT AND EQUIPMENT

- Players should arrive in appropriate sportswear (NextGen FC training wear where issued), with shin pads and suitable footwear for the surface — moulded studs or astro trainers for 3G pitches.
- Every player needs a filled water bottle at every session, plus warm layers and a waterproof in colder months. Sessions run in most weather — only cancelled by the venue under exceptional circumstances.
- No jewellery — watches, earrings and bracelets must be removed or taped before playing, in line with FA rules.
- Current club match kit is required for fixtures; existing kit remains welcome at training.

COMMUNICATION

- Official channels are the age-group WhatsApp groups, email to reece@nextgenfc.co.uk, and nextgenfc.co.uk. **Coaches will never message a child directly** — all communication goes through parents and carers.
- Please keep WhatsApp groups for club matters. Individual questions or concerns should come to Reece or Brad directly, not into the group.
- We would always rather you asked than wondered. No question is too small.

FEES, PAYMENTS AND CANCELLATION

- Monthly fees are collected by Direct Debit (GoCardless) on or around the 1st of each month: **Elite Programme £85 · NextGen Foundations £35 · Goalkeeping £42**. Siblings receive 20% off session fees for every child (the £15 match fee element is not discounted).
- Fees cover your child's place across the month and are payable in full regardless of individual missed sessions.
- To cancel, please give **one month's notice** to Reece so we can plan squads fairly.

- If you are ever worried about affording fees, speak to Reece directly and in confidence. We will always try to find a way to make it work before a child leaves over money.

KEY POLICIES — PLAIN-ENGLISH SUMMARY

Full policy documents, including the complete Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy, are available from Reece on request at any time.

Safeguarding & child protection

- Every NextGen FC coach holds an enhanced FA DBS check and FA Safeguarding Children training before working with children. No one works unsupervised with children without a valid enhanced DBS check.
- Coaches maintain professional boundaries at all times: never alone with a child in a closed or private space, never in direct contact with a child by message or social media.
- A register is taken at every session, a first aider is present, and children are never left unsupervised.
- Any concern about a child's welfare goes to our **Club Welfare Officer & Designated Safeguarding Lead: Jess Garside — 07512 044480**. If your concern is about anyone at NextGen FC — including the Welfare Officer or the Chair — contact the NSPCC Helpline on 0808 800 5000 or the West Riding FA safeguarding team directly. If a child is in immediate danger, call 999.

Anti-bullying

- Zero tolerance for bullying of any kind — physical, verbal, emotional or online, by children or adults. Incidents are recorded, investigated promptly, and parents of all children involved are informed.

Health, medical and first aid

- You must tell us about any medical conditions, allergies or injuries via the Player Information Form, and keep us updated if anything changes.
- A qualified first aider and first aid kit are present at every session. Any accident or injury is recorded and reported to you promptly. Please keep children at home if they are unwell.
- By signing you consent to basic first aid being administered to your child if needed, and to us calling 999 in an emergency.

Photography, video and social media

- We photograph and film sessions and matchdays for coaching review, our website and social media. We only publish images of your child **with your written consent**, given when you sign, and children are never identified by full name without explicit consent.
- Consent is recorded on our register and can be withdrawn at any time by contacting Reece.

Trials and joining

- Every new player's first session is a **free trial** — one session, with no obligation and no payment details taken. Players joining after a trial complete the Player Information Form and this agreement before their first paid session.

Concerns, complaints and discipline

- Concerns go to Reece directly — in person (away from the touchline), by WhatsApp or by email — and matchday frustrations are best raised after the 24-hour rule. We take every concern seriously.
- Breaches of this code follow the staged process in Part One. Safeguarding matters are always handled under the Safeguarding Policy.

READ & SIGN

TWO MINUTES, ON YOUR PHONE

Signing is online — scan the code that applies to you, or type the address into a browser. Nothing needs printing, and you can do it on the touchline.

I REGISTERED THE PLAYER — PARENT OR CARER



nextgenfc.co.uk/sign

One form per player. Covers Part One and Part Two, the Players' Code, and photography consent.

I COME ALONG TO WATCH — ANY OTHER ADULT



nextgenfc.co.uk/spectators-sign

Part One only. No fees, no medical information, no consents for someone else's child.

Prefer not to use a phone? Ask Reece or any coach for a paper copy at a session and we will take your signature there. Both codes are also at **nextgenfc.co.uk/policies**.