



Anti-Bullying Policy

Policy information			
Date policy created	25/08/2024	Policy Lead	David Rees
Review Date	24/08/2025	Board sign off date	30/08/2024

Policy Statement

Hanworth Villa Football Club is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for all players, coaches, officials, and members. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable within the club, and all allegations will be taken seriously and addressed promptly. This policy applies to all activities associated with the club, including training sessions, matches, social events, and online interactions.

Definition of Bullying

Bullying is defined as repeated behaviour that is intended to hurt someone either physically or emotionally. It can take many forms, including but not limited to:

- Verbal bullying - name-calling, insults, threats, or offensive jokes.
- Physical bullying - pushing, hitting, kicking, or other physical aggression.
- Social bullying - excluding someone from activities, spreading rumours, or public humiliation.
- Cyberbullying - abusive messages, social media harassment, or online intimidation.

Who the Policy Covers

This policy applies to all individuals involved in Hanworth Villa Football Club, including:

- Youth team players and adult players
- Coaches and managers at all levels
- Club officials and volunteers
- Parents, guardians, and spectators
- Any other individuals associated with the club's activities

Club Commitments

Hanworth Villa FC will:

- Promote a culture of respect, inclusion, and teamwork.
- Take all bullying allegations seriously and ensure they are investigated promptly and fairly.
- Ensure that all club members understand what constitutes bullying and how to report it.
- Provide support to victims and take appropriate action against offenders.
- Encourage open communication where players feel safe discussing concerns.
- Ensure that club officials, coaches, and volunteers set a positive example in behaviour and language.

Reporting and Responding to Bullying

If anyone witnesses or experiences bullying, they should:

- Report it to a coach, team manager, club official, or designated safeguarding officer.
- Keep a record of incidents, including dates, times, and descriptions.
- Speak up if they see others being bullied, offering support where possible.

The club will respond by:

- Investigating reports confidentially and impartially.
- Taking appropriate action, which may include warnings, suspensions, or removal from the club.
- Supporting victims and providing guidance to all involved.
- Reviewing and updating policies as needed to maintain a safe environment.

Prevention and Education

- Regular training and awareness sessions for players, coaches, and parents.
- Encouraging positive behaviour through team talks and club values.
- Displaying anti-bullying messages at club facilities and online.
- Ensuring all club members are aware of the policy and their responsibilities.

Hanworth Villa Football Club stands firmly against bullying in any form. By fostering a culture of respect and inclusion, we aim to create a footballing environment where everyone can enjoy and participate in the sport free from fear or intimidation.

