

LINSLADE GALAXY GIRLS FC

*welcome pack for players,
parents and carers*



2024 / 25 season



**ACCREDITED
CLUB**
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

Respect



CHARTER STANDARD
COMMUNITY CLUB

welcome

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD COACH



**ROBIN
OSBORN**

EMAIL:
GALAXYWILDCATS@GMAIL.COM

At Linslade Galaxy Girls Football Club, we see a future where girls of all abilities come together to play and embrace the enjoyment of football.

Our vision is to create a supporting and inclusive environment that creates a lifelong passion for football while empowering every young player to grow and thrive at their own pace.

We believe that every player deserves the opportunity to discover their potential on the football field, regardless of skill level. We will celebrate diversity and inclusion where each player is valued for their unique talents and contributions. We strive to instil confidence, resilience, and a sense of belonging within our players, nurturing not only their football skills but also their personal growth, arming them with skills that will help in everyday situations.

We aim to inspire a lifelong love for football and develop well-rounded individuals, both on and off the pitch. We want to encourage positive change, promoting gender equality in football and inspiring future generations of young footballers to follow their dreams.

We want to create an environment of commitment, dedication, and support from our coaches and parents / carers, we want our team to be a place where players can succeed, chase their dreams, and embrace the joy of playing football together. We want to create an atmosphere where achievements are celebrated, mistakes are learning opportunities, and every player is encouraged to reach their full potential.

Through shared passion, determination, and a commitment to excellence, we aspire for our club to make this possible for every member, leaving a lasting impact on the lives of our players, their families, and the broader football community.

At Linslade Galaxy Girls Football Club, we are united by a shared goal to build a community of young champions who excel not just in football but in life, where every player can shine and make their mark on the world.



WHAT DOES LINSLADE GALAXY F.C. STAND FOR?

FAMILY CLUB

One Club, not a series of disparate teams
Fully inclusive, with equal opportunities and child safety paramount

FRIENDLY CLUB

Welcoming
Everyone shows positivity and respect in training and in matches
Visible and transparent Club and Committee

FUN CLUB

Playing because it's fun!
Social events and fundraising activities

FULFILLING CLUB

Players develop as footballers and individuals
Growth & training for both players and coaches
Volunteering opportunities for supporters

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to provide a safe, inclusive, and empowering environment for players of all abilities to develop their football skills, build character, and make lifelong friendships.

Through passion, dedication, and skilled coaching, we aim to create a love for the game and inspire our young players to reach their full potential, both on and off the field.

We are committed to promoting gender equality and nurturing confident, resilient, and well-rounded individuals who will make a positive impact in their communities.

OUR VALUES

Excellence and Respect

We strive for excellence in all aspects of the game, creating a culture of development and commitment among our players and coaching staff. We will promote a culture of respect and fair play, where all individuals involved in our team, including players, coaches, parents, and opponents, treat one another with kindness, fairness, and dignity.

Empowerment and Inclusivity

We embrace and celebrate diversity, ensuring that every player, regardless of their background or skill level, feels welcomed and valued as an essential part of our team. We believe in empowering our players to be confident, both on and off the field. We encourage them to take initiative, make decisions, become confident young leaders and to take care of one another.

Teamwork

We emphasise the value of teamwork, recognising that every player's contribution is crucial to the overall success of the team. We celebrate collective achievements and support one another through challenges.

Fun and Fairness

We aim to create fun by creating a positive and enjoyable atmosphere during practices and matches. We uphold principles of fairness and integrity, adhering to the rules of the game and demonstrating fair play in all our actions.

Development

We prioritise the development of our players, nurturing their football skills, character, and personal growth, with a focus on instilling core values that will benefit them beyond their time with our team. We will provide support to our players, both on and off the field, encouragement, and a safe space for them to express themselves.

Community

We actively engage with and contribute to our local community, using football as a platform to promote social responsibility and make a positive impact on society.



SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding is central to any children's football club and something we take very seriously at Linslade Galaxy Girls Football Club. We are pleased to support the FA and NSPCC with its campaigns around safeguarding.

As a club, we are fully committed to ensuring a safe and fun and environment for all our players at every age level. We recognise that no club or community is immune from the familial and societal risks that children and young people face both at home and outside of them.

We encourage all parents/carers to view visit the FA's safeguarding section on their website, read and enrol in the courses designed for parents and carers, giving you additional safeguarding awareness both in a footballing setting and outside of football. Our Club Welfare Officer (CWO), Phil Burn, is responsible for ensuring that the club is following our child safeguarding policy and that club officials and volunteers understand their safeguarding responsibilities. However, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and we encourage all our parents and carers to be clear on the steps they should take if they have any concerns.

If you are concerned that a child is in immediate danger, you should contact:

The Police on 999
The NSPCC 24-hour helpline: 0808 800 5000

PLAY SAFE Campaign
<https://www.thefa.com/playsafe>

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (EDI)

Our EDI policy sets out our commitment to treat everyone equitably regardless of their age or protected characteristics, and that we will treat people fairly, with respect and provide access and opportunities for all members of our community to take part in the club.

It also emphasises that we will not tolerate harassment, bullying, abuse or victimisation of anyone. The FA's football leadership diversity code commits the club to ensuring the club is representative of the local population, strives to ensure diversity and promotes an inclusive club culture.



Welfare Officer:

Across grassroots football, there is a network of Welfare Officers who support safe and fun environments for everyone.

Please meet **Phil Burns, our Club Welfare Officer**.
Phil can be contacted by email at: lggfcwelfareofficer@gmail.com

PHOTOS AND VIDEOS

We are very proud of our young players and like to take photos of them to create memories, celebrate achievements and share news. However, we understand that we now live in an age in which digital technology has increased the opportunity for photography and videos. We understand that you may have concerns around the use of these photos or videos as well as public pictures of your child appearing on social media or in other publications.

Linslade Galaxy Girls Football Club take the view that risk of a child being identified by a stranger is low and that by ensuring reasonable steps are in place in terms of appropriateness of the photos and to protect the full name, details of children, photography will be permitted.

We are mindful of the fact that for some families, there may be reasons why a child's identification matters. If you have special circumstances, either now or at any time in the future please let us know so we can update your consent on this issue.

We will not use personal details or full names of any child in any publication. If we use an image of a child, we will ensure that the name of that child does not appear in the accompanying text unless we have agreement to do so.

We will only use images of children who are suitably dressed, and no videos or photography will be permitted in changing rooms.

We ask as the parent or carer to sign the Photo and Video Consent Form to give Linslade Galaxy Girls Football Club permission / consent to use photos or videos of your child involved in footballing activities.

We anticipate these images to be used in the following way.

**Within club publications including social media
(Facebook, Twitter, Instagram), for club training and promotional purposes**

As part of the Club Website

Within the local or national press



PARENTS AND CARERS CODE OF CONDUCT

The Code

Have fun; it's what we're all here for!
Celebrate effort and good play from both sides
Attend training sessions
Always respect the Referee and coaches and encourage players to do the same
Stay behind the touchline and within the 'Designated Spectators' Area (where provided)
When players make mistakes, offer them encouragement to try again next time
Never engage in, or tolerate offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour
Make yourself familiar with safeguarding practices & review guidance on physical contact (5.6) & Acceptable Behaviours when Working With Young People (5.7) documents on the safeguarding section of www.EnglandFootball.com

If you do not follow the code, you understand that you may be:

Issued with a verbal warning or asked to leave
Required to meet with the club committee, league or CFA Welfare Officer
Obligated to undertake an FA education course
Requested not to attend future games, be suspended or have my membership removed
Required to leave the club along with any dependents and/or issued a fine

Reasons why supporters should refrain from instructing players in Games:

You can reduce the players ability to problem solve
You can impact the players decision making skills and autonomy
You can impact a player's creativity, confidence and coping skills
You can confuse the player with contradictory instructions
You can impact the enjoyment of the player, team and others around you
You can create additional pressure and anxiety with the individual player or team
You stop players learning from their mistakes, learning new skills and strategies that may become lifelong skills

COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

On and off the field, our coaches will:

Always show respect to everyone involved in the game
Stick to the rules and celebrate the spirit of the game
Encourage fair play and high standards of behaviour
Always respect the Referee and encourage players to do the same
Never enter the field of play without the Referee's permission
Never engage in, or tolerate offensive, insulting or abusive behaviour
Be aware of the potential impact of bad language on others
Be gracious in victory and defeat
Respect the facilities home and away
Only allow appropriate photography or videos during footballing activities

When working with players, our coaches will:

Place the well-being, safety and enjoyment of each player above everything
Never tolerate any form of bullying
Ensure all activities are suited for the players' ability and age
Work with others (e.g., officials, doctors, welfare officers) in each player's best interests

Our Coaches will make themselves familiar with safeguarding practices & review guidance on physical contact (5.6) & Acceptable Behaviours When Working With Young People (5.7) documents on the safeguarding section of www.EnglandFootball.com

Our Coaches understand that if they do not follow the Code, they may be:

Required to meet with the club committee, league or CFA Welfare Officer
Suspended by the club from attending matches
Suspended or fined by the County FA
Required to leave, lose po their position and/or have their license withdrawn

PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

When playing football, our players will:

- Always show respect to everyone involved in the game
- Always play my best for my team and encourage teammates
- Play fairly and be friendly
- Stick to the rules, celebrate the spirit of the game and shake hands with the other team whether you win or lose
- Encourage fair play and high standards of behaviour
- Listen carefully to what the coach tells them to do
- Always respect the Referee and encourage other players to do the same
- Never engage in, or tolerate offensive, insulting or abusive behaviour
- Be aware of the potential impact of bad language on others
- Be gracious in victory and defeat
- Respect the facilities home and away
- Talk to someone / trust the club welfare officer if they are unhappy about anything within the club

Our players understand that if they do not follow the Code, they may be:

- Asked to apologise to the team, whoever they have upset
- Suspended by the club from attending matches or training
- Required to leave the club



Club Volunteers

We know parents already do a lot in simply getting the children to training or to matches (washing kit, taxi driver, motivational coaching, feeding them, encouraging their involvement, learning new skills and creating friendships).

However, our club is run by volunteers, all our officials and coaches are parents like yourselves and that is why it is so important you give them every bit of support they need. They are giving up their time to help your child play and enjoy football. Throughout the season we always need additional volunteers to support with the sustainability of our club. The Club helps fund FA Coaching courses for those who want to progress their coaching knowledge or support new volunteers. If the coaching side isn't for you, there are other important roles such as parent representatives: this role is to help the club with communication and organisation in relation to fundraising and social activities.

Linslade Galaxy Girls Football Club exists because of its volunteers and your support can make a big difference whether that is match day events, social events, coordinating numbers for functions or offering your skillset to the club. We would love your support, as everything we do as a club can have a huge impact on our players, their participation and overall enjoyment in playing football. If you would like to find out more about volunteering opportunities, please contact the club. We also want to provide opportunities for the players. If your son or daughter would be interested in coaching or refereeing, we can support them with FA approved courses and opportunities within the club.

CLUB COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES

All Age Group communications – e.g., fixture information, team availability will be sent via a group chats or apps, e.g., WhatsApp group chat or SPOND. Coaches will not contact players and any specific communication will be via the parent or carer. Participants of such groups are determined by coaches of individual teams, and they will retain administrative rights over the group. As such, it is the coaches' responsibility to report any inappropriate use of the group and make decisions over what is appropriate or inappropriate content. Children will not be admitted a part of these groups.

Emails will only be sent using email groups comprising email addresses given by parents. Coaches will not directly communicate with Children all communications will be via a parent or carer.

Coaches are instructed to approach the committee if they require any advice or guidance on appropriate content. Equally, members of such groups should approach the coach with any concerns in the first instance, or if not possible or appropriate for them to do so, then they can approach the committee with concerns at any time.

Club Officials and Coaches should only communicate directly with individual if the parent or carer is copied on such communication or if there is an immediate risk to the welfare of that child. In this instance the coach or welfare officer may speak with the child on a 1 to 1 basis but in view of other adults or club officials.

CLUB VENUES



Cedars Upper school

The club train at the 3G pitches at Cedars Upper School, which is a FIFA 1 STAR rated facility. The club also use grass pitches at the school for training and occasional matches

ADDRESS: Mentmore Road, Linslade
Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire LU7 2AE



Vandyke Upper School

The club play matches at Vandyke Upper School grass pitches

ADDRESS: Vandyke Upper School, Vandyke Road
Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire LU7 3DY

HEALTH & SAFETY AT TRAINING AND MATCHES

It is important that during training and matches that players take on plenty of fluids and coaches will encourage players to do so in each break.

In the event of warmer weather coaches will provide additional drinks breaks and review the planned session in some circumstances.

In the event of extreme weather conditions training may be pause or cancelled if the coach deems the conditions to be unsuitable for training.

Sun cream should always be worn during the hot summer weather and should be applied by the parent or carer prior to training or a match. Parents or carers may reapply sunscreen but please note coaches will not be permitted to do so.

Suitable footwear and shin pads must be worn during matches and training. It is the responsibility of the parent or carer to ensure their child always has available any medical equipment e.g., inhalers or epi-pens that have been prescribed and have made the club aware of any medical conditions your child may have as part of the sign on process.

It is equally important to advise the coach if your child has been suffering with any types of aches and pains before or after the game.

Jewellery (including necklaces, rings, bracelets, and earrings) is not permitted, and players will not be allowed onto pitch whilst wearing them. It is the coach's decision to remove players or suspend play if there are any health and safety issues.

Coaches have been asked by the club to remove any players who are not following the clubs ethos and behaviours, the players code of conduct, players who are posing a risk to themselves or other players on the pitch.

DATA POLICY

We need to collect some information about players and their parents/carers in order to:

Register your membership of Linslade Galaxy Girls Football Club (LGGFC)
Register you with the FA's Whole Game System (WGS) database, which is now an FA requirement
Register players with the relevant leagues

This is a summary of what we ask for, how we store and use your information:

Player details

- All players, at whatever age group, will be required to register with LGGFC if they decide to join the club [after a trial period].
- Registration forms are provided by team group coaches and require key information such as the name and age of the player, parent/carer details, any important medical information etc.
- We ask for a copy of a form of identification (e.g., a birth certificate or passport) so that a player's age can be verified when they register with us to play in league football. This is an FA rule, and clubs can be disciplined if this procedure is not followed. Once a date of birth has been verified and checked against the FA's WGS, this can on request be deleted from the database, however a league may request to see this later
- Information submitted via registration forms is held securely by the relevant team coach.
- These details are shared with the club secretary (and/or assistant secretary) and used on the FA's Whole Game System (WGS) to search for and register players with the FA and leagues. Each player and parent/carer will have a unique FAN (FA number) created on WGS (if you haven't already got one), which is unique to an individual and is permanent, representing your football career as you go through life as a player, supporter, coach, administrator.
- The Club Secretary will hold a list of players names and emergency contact details for club administration only. This is held securely.

Player photos

- Player photos are required for league registration and will be uploaded onto the FA's WGS.
- Team managers will download a squad sheet containing these photos and player names which they must not share. This sheet must be shown to the referee and opposition manager at a match in accordance with FA rules.
- Team coaches may occasionally include photos of matches or team photos on our website.

Parent/carer details

- We will retain parent/carer contact details so that we can contact you. These are not shared outside the club (WGS)
- The Club Secretary has access to the full details held on WGS. You may view the Privacy Notice for WGS [here](#).
- The FA have made it mandatory for an email address to be included on a player's profile. For a player under the age of 16 years, this must be a parent email.
- Once a player is registered on WGS, the parent will receive an email from the FA to register on WGS and establish the link between parent and child (if not already linked). A further email will be sent to gain consent to register the player with a league.

Details of all our Club policies can be found on the Linslade Galaxy website, however we have included our Linslade Galaxy Girls Football Club Safeguarding Children policy with this welcome pack.

Policies you will find on our club website.

Safeguarding Policy

EDI Policy

Complaints Policy

Data Protection Policy

Separated Parents Policy

Anti-Bullying Policy

Whistle Blowing Policy

Photography & Video consent form

Ofsted Adult to Child Ratio

Accident / Incident Form

Commitment Form

Risk Assessment

Training Grounds

Any questions?

Please EMAIL:
GALAXYWILDCATS@GMAIL.COM



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