

## Game On Elite Information

2020 - 2021



### **Welcome to Game On Elite - we're looking to your child joining our squad.**

We have compiled the following information pack to hopefully answer some of the questions you may have but please do not hesitate to contact our Head Coach Andy Wheeler-King, if you have any further questions (07507 629310).

### **Training**

Game On Elite was set-up in 2013 to provide an opportunity for advanced players to receive specialist football coaching and to further develop their natural ability.

Since the beginning we have held our training sessions at St. Michael's School. Each child is placed in a group of similar aged children and works with an FA Level 2 or 3 coach.

Each year group follows a pre-determined scheme of work for the season, covering a variety of individual techniques and game understanding. We use the FA's 4 corner model for tactical, physical, psychological and technical to vary each year groups training to reflect the key areas we are looking for the children to be able to achieve. We expect children to come to learn and try their best and we will create an enjoyable environment for them to progress.

Occasionally players may be asked to move groups depending on changes in circumstances such as a match being played, number of children in attendance or the topic a group is focusing on.

To give the children a different experience, we play on grass in the summer term and training takes place at Coates Way School, a 2-minute drive from St. Michael's School.

Training is every Wednesday from 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm. We ask children to arrive at 5.45 pm as St. Michael's often allow us on the AstroTurf earlier so we can get an extra 15 minutes of football. We ask parents who are not staying to watch, that they take their child to the toilets before walking round to the AstroTurf pitch. Once a session has started our coaches cannot leave the session to walk your child back round to the toilets.

### **Communication**

Please feel free to contact us at any time if you have any questions or concerns about any aspects of the Elite group. Andy will provide regular email updates on upcoming training and matches to give you as much notice as possible.

In the event a training session has to be cancelled due to the weather Andy will text parents by no later than 5.00 pm to inform you. We ask that parents text Andy at the earliest possible time if they are going to be unable to attend training for any reason.

With all matches, Andy will give advanced notice of dates and times and will set a deadline of when we need parents to respond by in order to ensure we have sufficient players for each match. After this deadline, we will assume your child is unable to play.

## Data and Images

Game On require each child's personal data to ensure the safe running of the group and communication to the parents. This data is held securely until a child leaves and then the data is removed from our files.

Further information on Game On's Privacy Policy may be found on our website - <https://gameonsportscoaching.co.uk/privacy-policy/>

Game On may take photos of the Elite Squad training and matches for promotional purposes. Please confirm your consent to your child's inclusion in any photography on the Registration Form.

## Clothing

To keep the participation costs involved in Game On Elite to a minimum we provide all of the Elite Squad clothing. It is expected children only wear the clothing provided to training.

Below is a list of the items a child will receive and their replacement cost:

Item	Cost (Correct as of 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2020)
Rain Jacket	£20
Jumper	£14
T-Shirt	£9
Shorts	£7
Socks	£4.50
Base layer	£8

Please note:

Children must supply and wear their own shin pads to training and matches each week and are welcome to bring their own named water bottle.

Children must not wear any jewellery to play football.

Children should not wear their own clothing to training or matches (Including coats). As part of the squad we feel it's important the children feel together and therefore once training has started children may be asked to remove any 'non Game On' items.

If a child ever grows out of an item let us know and we will attempt to swap it.

In the event your child stops attending, we require the clothing to be returned. If this is not possible or any items are lost we require parents to meet the outlined replacement costs.

## Matches

We will organise matches throughout the year against professional clubs, organisations similar to ours and local Sunday teams. The dates of these matches can vary due to the commitments of the opposition.

In the past we have played against MK Dons, Watford, Tottenham, Stevenage, Barnet and QPR Academies. These matches have provided a great opportunity for the children to go on and gain further trials at these clubs. Since 2013 we have had 15 children progress through to professional teams. They are amazing opportunities for the players which do not come around too often.

We will email you match details with as much notice as possible. As there are limited spaces available for each match we will set a deadline for a response before opening up your child's space to somebody else. We appreciate your situation can change last minute in case of emergency but we do ask that once you have committed to a game you attend as it could have major implications to the entire match going ahead and the enjoyment of other children.

There are many factors which can influence the results of our matches and whilst it's nice to win we don't measure our success on this. We will be asking children to take the information from our training sessions and put it into a competitive match. We want children to try their best to compete but not at the expense of their development. During matches children will be given specific tasks to complete and this may involve them playing in a different position to their Sunday team. Our coaches will look at the needs of the individual and the squad and use their experience before making a decision. We will explain these decisions to the children and if you would like to discuss them then please feel free to do so after any matches.

With all matches we will guarantee a child plays a minimum of half the allotted time.

### **End Of Term Progress Evaluation**

At the end of each term, our coaches will evaluate the development of every child and how they are progressing within their group. Each child will receive a report certificate completed by their coach detailing their progress through the term. Parents are always welcome to discuss the report if they require more information. We will aim to be as honest as possible with each player and focus on their strengths as well as providing an area to improve upon.

As the Elite group is 'Invitation Only' we have a responsibility to ensure all children are being challenged. If we or you feel your child is struggling with the demands of the training sessions then we may need to assess if it's in your child's best interests to continue or if it would be more appropriate for them to return to an extra-curricular club at their school.

### **Registration Renewals**

At the end of each term Andy will invite you via email to confirm your child's attendance for the upcoming term. On receipt of the email we'd be grateful if you can please confirm your child's attendance for the next term by emailing Andy back.

Payment is due before the first session of each term. Please notify us of any changes in your contact details and any changes in medical circumstances. We will assume all your details remain the same unless you inform us otherwise.

### **Cancelled Sessions**

Each term we work on the basis that one session may be cancelled due to the bad weather. In the event more than one session per term is cancelled we will re-arrange the session (Training or matches) or offer a credit note for the upcoming term. In the event sessions are cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions we re-arrange all sessions.

### **Weekend Football**

We strongly encourage children to play as much football as possible and joining a Sunday team will aid their development. Game On Elite's sessions will stretch the children's football understanding and add to the work they do at the weekends. In our experience the children who develop quickest are often the ones who play for a Sunday team as well. If you need any assistance with finding a club, please let us know as we have links to a number of local clubs.

### **Code Of Conduct**

Game On Elite has a Code Of Conduct for parents (see next page). By signing your child up to the Elite Squad you are agreeing to adhere to these guidelines.

**We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game.**

Game On Elite is supporting The FA's Respect programme to ensure football can be enjoyed by everyone in a safe and positive environment. Play your part and observe The FA's Respect Code of Conduct for spectators and parents/carers at all times.

**When attending matches and training sessions with the Game On Elite I will:**

- Remember that children are learning and that they play for FUN and ENJOYMENT!!
- Let the coaches' coach and not confuse the players by telling them any conflicting ideas
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition and any match officials
- Never criticise a player for making a mistake - mistakes are part of learning
- Ensure that my child is ready to play and has the correct Game On training kit, shin pads and a water bottle
- Ensure my child arrives promptly for training and matches - if we are unable to attend for any reason then I will let the coach in charge know as early as possible

**I will:**

- Remain outside the field of play and behind the Designated Spectator Area (where provided)
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour
- Assist with my child with understanding their own Code Of Conduct
- Meet the replacement costs for any lost or damaged Game On clothing
- I will respond to any emails about matches as quickly as possible, whether we can or cannot attend
- Not pull my child out of any matches that we have already committed to unless we give the coach 72-hours' notice. I understand that failure to attend matches that I have committed to can have a serious impact on other players enjoyment and participation
- Reinforce the information passed from Game On coaches to my child. I understand the coaches may have different opinions to other coaches they work with and are creating different environments for my child to develop.
- Speak directly to Andy or Graham if I have any questions or concerns
- Return all items of clothing as soon as possible should my child leave the Elite group for any reason. I understand if I am unable I will need to meet the costs involved to replace them.

**Finally, I understand that Game On Elite is an 'Invitation Only' club. I understand that if Game On coaches feel my child is struggling with the demands of the training sessions or matches then we will discuss the appropriateness of my child continuing their attendance with Game On Elite.**

## **Further Questions**

Should you have any further questions regarding Game On Elite please do not hesitate to contact us:

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