



## **Charlton Challenge Restart**

### **Introduction**

From 3 October we will be resuming our Charlton Challenge programme at CAFC Training Ground in groups of 24 per session with 2 coaches and one floating head coach for 3 to 12-year-olds. This will be a temporary venue for the Charlton Challenge programme until the leisure centres reopen their sports halls.

CACT understands that the risk of Covid-19 is very concerning with the outcome of contracting the virus being very serious for many people. It is vital that CACT makes the necessary changes to its programmes, ensuring to the best of our abilities the safety of attendees, staff and members of the public. Below is our plan which will allow us to provide Charlton Challenge sessions at the training ground. This plan ensures that CACT continues to follow government guidelines.

CACT is looking to provide this opportunity for parents and participants to attend the Charlton Challenge programme as there is currently no sessions operating within the leisure centres in Greenwich and Bexley as their sports halls are being used to host other activities. As a result we have decided to put on a 10 week programme to meet the demand in the area. Sessions are also available at Sporting Club Thamesmead on Mondays and Wednesdays.

### **Session Logistics**

CACT's priority is to provide a safe and managed environment allowing children to return to football. CACT are offering sessions to children aged 4-12 split into three age groups: 3-5 years, 6-8 years and 9+. The pitch will be split into two areas on a third of a pitch with 12 young people being assigned to each of the coned off areas, a maximum of 24 children per session. We will have 3 staff on site, 1 floating head coach and 2 coaches coaching with a maximum of 12 children in each group.

CACT staff will meet the parents at the entrance of the pitch. Temperature checks will be taken and hands will be sanitised. After this children will be allocated a group and coach. Children will be told to restrict their movements to their designated area. CACT coaches will monitor this throughout and ensure children stay in their designated area.

There will be strictly no pay on the day customers, online bookings only. CACT toilets will be open for children go in and use one by one; the head coach will fully clean the toilet area after use, no-one can go from another group at the same time. CACT staff to clear the site and clean the relevant equipment after each session.

Structured sessions will be delivered by CACT coaches who will encourage social distancing throughout the session by all players and staff. CACT staff will observe

sessions at all times from a distance ensuring all restrictions are followed. Spectators will be allowed on site but must social distance around the pitch, not blocking the entrance and exit gates.

CACT staff highlighted to work on the session will be provided with online training prior to the sessions. The training will cover the session logistics/requirements along with health and safety and risk assessments. CACT staff will sign to acknowledge they are competent to deliver the requirements of working on this session following this training. CACT's Football & Sports Development team is using all 3 of its full time staff to deliver these sessions to ensure all requirements are implemented and any need for de-escalation with young people is done so using the right approach. CACT management staff will be on standby to further support the sessions in the event of staff sickness.

### **Equipment**

Equipment provided will be cleaned in between each session. Children will only be able to use CACT provided equipment. Bags and belongings will be left in a safe area marked on the pitch and will be monitored by CACT staff. Attendees will be asked to bring healthy fluids with them which will be allowed on the designated pitch areas.

### **First aid/Injuries**

CACT staff all hold first aid and safeguarding qualifications. Fully stocked first aid kits will be on site. First aid will be administered where required. If first aid is required, 1 CACT staff member will enter the area but will ask the young person who is not injured to move away to a safe distance. In the event of a serious injury, the emergency services will be called immediately.

### **Comms/Marketing**

CACT will produce comms and marketing for the session via various media channels. The marketing will focus heavily on getting the message across that these sessions will be safe and will always be heeding government guidelines ensuring young people and staff will encourage social distancing throughout their attendance. CACT sees this as a responsible approach to facilitating young people engaging in activity during these current times. Public perception is important and CACT will ensure our guidelines and messaging is clear to avoid negative comments.

## **Partner consultation**

CACT is moving forward with this venture with the full consultation of key partners and stakeholders. Discussions have been held with the Premier League, the Football Foundation, London FA and both Greenwich and Bexley councils. We are also in consultation with the local Police to ensure they are fully aware of the plans as they move forward.

The CACT community pitch is situated on the site of Foots Cray Rugby club adjacent the CAFC training ground. CACT will provide this detailed plan along with the appropriate risk assessments to both CAFC and Foots Cray Rugby club for their agreement prior to the sessions starting.

The above changes and restrictions we feel will allow for the safe use of the community pitch. Below are the main points which have also been captured in the attached risk assessment.

## **Main points for Charlton Challenge sessions at CAFC Training Ground, Footscray Rugby Club, Footscray Road, SE9 2EL**

- CACT pitch to be divided up into two areas on a third of a pitch
- Must pre book via CACT website
- 12 players will be allocated to one coach and one of the area of the pitch
- Players must remain in their allocated area
- Regular equipment cleaning
- CACT Coaches will deliver structured & game based sessions in their group of 12 only
- CACT coaches will manage all aspects of safety while young people are on site
- A minimum of 3 CACT coaches to work on the sessions
- Game/match-based sessions will take place in the groups of 12 only
- Young people will be encouraged to focus their training around fitness, dribbling, passing, shooting and finishing
- Spectators are allowed on site but must socially distance away from other parents
- If young people are later than 15 minutes they will not be able to join in the session
- CACT toilets will be made available during the day but only for one person at a time; toilets will be cleaned after use
- Parents will be asked to arrive 15 minutes before their session starts
- Arrival and departure lanes will be put in place by CACT staff to keep young people apart as they enter and leave the site