

## **Placement / Grading Policy**

In keeping with the objectives of the club as stated in our constitution this policy sets out the guidelines to be followed with regard to the grading or regrading of players.

The welfare of the child shall take precedence over all else.

The moving of any player up or down shall be done in partnership with the Club registrar, team coach and parents/guardians, having regard to the child's wishes. In the event of conflict between the parties and no agreed position can be achieved the Club committee will have final say.

Leaving Nursery, teams shall be formed on the basis of the child's athletic ability but also recognising the value of friendships. Friendship or other appropriate alliances shall be afforded equal importance when teams are being formed at this early stage. We recognise that athleticism alone is not the only reason children play football. Playing with their friends is equally important. Ideally all children should be playing at their correct age group. Where a child has outgrown their time in the nursery but may still be a year too young ideally for under 8 football the following shall apply-

The player will be allowed to play at under 8, assuming he/she is ready and able for it, but will automatically drop back the following season into the correct age bracket.

As the players approach the under 10 season an evaluation of each player shall be undertaken to establish the appropriateness of the team they are in having regard to their needs and ability at this stage of their development.

When players move to 11 a side and football is fully competitive an annual monitoring of performance and ability is likely. Where a move up or down is deemed appropriate and teams exist within the Club to facilitate it then the player shall transfer to the appointed team.

The purpose of any evaluation is to ensure the child is playing at a level where they are challenged but are able to deal with that challenge and playing in a team where they can enjoy their football.