

3v3 Introduction for Parents and Carers

Why 3v3?

3v3 provides young players with more touches on the ball and more playing time on the pitch, increasing physical activity, opportunities to develop their skills and positive teamwork.

What are the benefits of 3v3 for your child?

3v3 provides a great early experience of the game because:

- It allows every player to have an impact on the game.
- It's fun, fast and forward-thinking.
- It encourages creativity and problem-solving.
- It provides lots of opportunities to score and stop goals.
- It's about individual action – not positions.
- It encourages players to take ownership of their game.

How can you contribute?

- Enjoy watching your child play from designated spectator areas and socialise with other parents and carers.
- Have minimal input while the game is in play to give players opportunity to express themselves freely.
- Promote fair play, respect and the spirit of the game.
- Applaud and congratulate all players at the end of each game.
- Ask your child about their experience of football, focusing on the things they enjoy and do well.
- Reinforce feedback from your team's coaches, on the way to and on the way home from matchdays.

What can you expect to see?



Smaller pitches and smaller goals

Multiple smaller pitches encourage more touches of the ball, smaller goals mean no goalkeepers.



Shorter games and lots of them

Your child will play multiple short games on a matchday, with each game lasting between 6-10 minutes.



No substitutes

We want every child to play for the maximum time possible. This will sometimes mean playing 2v2 or 3v2 and potentially with different teammates during a matchday. It also brings different challenges to players as well as increasing levels of social interaction.



No referees

Coaches will act as pitch facilitators and oversee games, but players will self-officiate their own games, with adults stepping in to help only when needed.



Quieter sidelines

We are asking coaches/pitch facilitators to step back and observe, rather than constantly provide instructions from the side. Some players may need additional support, but 3v3 gives children opportunity to make their own decisions and enjoy the game, in a pressure-free and supportive space.