

## The Chairman's welcome

WELCOME TO HOLMFIRTH TOWN!

We have booming numbers from Under 4 to Under 15 and are always looking for more children to join the club! Boys and girls of any ability are welcome. We also have children with us from every single school in Holmfirth! Come and have a month on us to ensure you like it too!

### THE CLUBS FORMATION

Having formed Holmfirth Town in 2010 as my project for my beloved Holmfirth community, and having taken the full UEFA B coaching licence to be the best I can be at coaching football and teaching children, I am on a continuous journey to educate myself, and therefore our coaches, in coaching children.

Despite playing professionally for five years (Huddersfield Town and Exeter City) and spending 17 years in the professional game, working my way up to be chief executive at Huddersfield Town, it is the magnificent FA (Football Association) coaching qualifications (and Barcelona FC!) that provide the real education. Level one is the standard local coaching qualification.

Dr. Andy Williams, one of the outstanding head teachers of his generation, heads up the administration set up, after taking early retirement from Holmfirth High School where he was head teacher for many years, and where he assisted in the formation of Holmfirth Town Football Club back in 2010.

I'm still as passionate as I was back in 2010 - in fact more so - to give the children of Holmfirth the best football/sport and motor skill start to life that we can.

### ACADEMY STANDARD COACHING

Our USP is UEFA B standard coaching for all our age groups (the qualification that professional academy coaches have to earn) and these are the qualifications I have gained and that you therefore are bought into through our coach education programme:-

#### COMPLETED SINCE FORMING THE CLUB BETWEEN 2010 AND 2020

- FA coaching levels 1 and 2.
- FA youth modules 1, 2 and 3.
- Full FA Youth award.
- FA psychology level one.
- UEFA B coaching licence.
- FC Barcelona's level one coaching qualification.
- LMA (professional game Managers association) qualification 'Creating a Culture of Excellence'.
- CMI level 7 certificate in strategic management and leadership practise.
- L2 Certificate in introducing caring for children and young people.
- L2 Certificate in equality and diversity.
- L2 Understanding autism.

#### TO COMPLETE - 2021

- PG Cert in management and leadership (Masters level 7).

#### TO COMPLETE IN 2022

- L2 Psychology.
- L2 Principles of working with children with learning difficulties.

I oversee coach the U4-7 intake, taking the children through their first year of 'league' games at U7.

We are assisted by a superb set of parents, who have taken the care to take the level one coaching qualification to assist their own, and the other children, in their age group.

#### THE BEST PITCHES AND TRAINING FACILITIES IN WEST YORKSHIRE!

We also boast the best mini soccer pitches and training facilities in West Yorkshire. In my eight years of doing this, I haven't seen better. We hire the outfields of our two Holmfirth cricket club partners - so it's like playing on a carpet!.

#### THE MANAGEMENT TEAM

To be the best we can be we have a quite superb club management team; all professionals in their field and all doing their bit voluntarily for their beloved Holmfirth community. Dr. Andy Williams heads the administration team, as vice chairman and the clubs welfare officer.

#### WHAT AND WHY

We want to give the Under 4-15's of Holmfirth and the Holme Valley the perfect 'football' start to life, using the FA 'four corner' coaching model: technical, social, physical and psychological.

As well as football skills we want to develop our children's motor skills: agility, balance and coordination along with speed, posture and strength. These skills, which are essentially formed between the ages of 0-11, are vital in all walks of life and 90% of English pre-school children have been found deficient (Loughborough University) .

Motor skills are well on the way to being formed by the age of five and hence the reason we were the first club in Holmfirth to coach at Under 5 level, and now going down to U4.

All our coaching is based around our motto of *'fun, excitement and creativity'*. Primary school coaching, as motor skills are being formed, simply must be that way. We don't do the proverbial coaching model of children being lectured and stood around in queues awaiting a passing or shooting drill, or methodically dribbling round cones and mannequins, which bears no resemblance to the game of football! Our children are on the move, never many seconds from their next touch of a ball. They learn to play football, through playing football.

#### HOW

We teach: ball skills, exciting 1v1 attacking and defending principles; 2v1, 2v2 and 3v3 – small sided games to learn the game as a whole. Your child will have multiple touches of the ball; attacking/ defending opportunities; and be encouraged to be creative and develop their own unique style.

We also encourage a multi sports activity programme through our partners Holmfirth and Cartworth Moor Cricket Clubs, KIXX and Project Sports multi sports programmes.

#### WHERE

Sessions and mini soccer matches are carried out on the finest mini soccer surfaces in Huddersfield (using the outfields of our cricket club partners) and the finest indoor soccer centre in West Yorkshire-Shoot 5.

## REGISTRATION

To find out more about us or to register please email [info@holmfirhtownjfc.co.uk](mailto:info@holmfirhtownjfc.co.uk) or call or email chairman Andrew Watson on 07931 371169 - [aw.tgs@btinternet.com](mailto:aw.tgs@btinternet.com).

To complete the necessary paperwork allow at least 48 hours before your first session. You are required to stay with your child for the whole session.

## PROGRESSION OPPORTUNITIES

You have the option to join Holmfirth Town Under 4-15 teams and progress through the ranks which will cover all ages from U4 to U18 by 2024. And we have an adults team!

## OUR COACHING MODEL WORKS!

The first ever Holmfirth Town U5 team were Huddersfield U9 junior cup winners by 2016; and three age groups reached the cup quarter finals/semi-finals in 2017! We win tournaments at many age groups!

We have boys at several professional academies right up to Premier League Manchester City!

All are Holmfirth children.

## HAS IT BEEN EASY!?

The reason for always wanting to boost the numbers is that we are finding (the FA are nationally) that numbers are falling off once hitting teenage years. It is an alarming concern for football and sport in general. Hence needing to ensure we have the numbers at our youngest age groups to carry it through.

What happens is that mini soccer grows from 5v5, to 6v6, to 7v7, to 9v9 and then at Under 13 it goes to 11v11. Therefore, you need more as they get older!

We are tending to lose one/two at each age group to professional club academies (two at Manchester City who would be in any England team for their age group! And several at Championship clubs) and also the one or two who lose interest. Therefore, you are always needing more!

Welcome to Holmfirth Town!

Andrew Watson  
Chairman  
Holmfirth Town  
2021/22