



MATCHDAY SAFEGUARDING FAQS

SEASON 2023-24



MATCHDAY SAFEGUARDING AT EVERTON

Everton Football Club is committed to providing a positive and inclusive experience for everyone who attends a matchday at Goodison Park or Walton Hall Park.

We are dedicated to providing a safe and enjoyable experience for all of our young supporters, and we expect everybody who works with children and young people on matchday to share our commitment to safeguarding, demonstrating a **'NIL SATIS'** approach in everything we do.

Here you will find answers to some frequently asked questions and guidance for bringing children and young people to matchday.



FAQs

Can I bring children to a matchday?

Yes. Children and young people are very welcome to attend matchday, both at Goodison and Walton Hall Park.

It is not advisable to bring very young children, including babes in arms. However, the decision to do so remains with the parent or carer.

In the event that very young children do attend matchday, we encourage responsible adults to be mindful of the following points:

Inclement weather

Matchdays can get cold and spectators can remain static for long periods. Very young children will feel the effects of cold more quickly than adults. It is, therefore, advisable that you check the weather forecast beforehand and that suitable clothing is worn. Please note, evening fixtures will often see lower temperatures than daytime fixtures.



FAQs

Potential of being struck by a football

Responsible adults should be mindful that, on occasion, footballs will enter the crowd at speed.

Wherever possible, ensure very young children are seated at least 30 rows from the field of play and try to avoid seating behind the goals.

If possible, try to avoid attending during the warm-up period (in the 30 minutes prior to kick-off), as this is a time when footballs are most likely to land in areas behind the goals.

Accompanying adults should remain vigilant at all times when attending with very young children and babes in arms.

Noise

Noise levels at football matches can, at times, be very high. While this may not affect an adult, it can be unsettling for a very young child. It is recommended that ear protectors are worn, particularly in the case of very young children.



FAQs

Do very young children require a ticket?

Yes. Every individual attending matchday will require a valid ticket. This includes very small children and babies.

Can a child or young person attend matchday alone?

Club policy states that **all children under the age of 14 must be accompanied by a responsible individual.**

Members of the Stewarding Team may check if they have reason to believe that an unaccompanied individual is under the age of 14.

It may be necessary for a member of staff to contact a parent or carer in the event that a child under the age of 14 attempts to attend matchday unaccompanied.

A responsible individual must be at least 16 years old in order to accompany a child under the age of 14.



FAQs

What should I do if I lose my child or a child in my care on matchday?

In the event that you lose contact with your child during matchday, it is essential you inform a matchday steward as soon as possible.

Stewards receive training on how to respond in this situation. They, along with the Everton Safeguarding Team, are on hand on matchday and can assist in the event of a report of a missing child. Matchday police are also present and may also offer support if required.

As a preventative measure, it is advisable to arrange and agree with the child a suitable, nearby meeting point should you become separated.





SAFE FOR ALL

If you see something, say something