

# **BRINGING A CHILD TO A MATCH**

Manchester City wants everyone who attends one of our activities to have a fun and enjoyable time. If you are thinking or planning on bringing a child to a football match at either the Etihad or Joie Stadiums, please take a look at our top tips to help you all have an enjoyable experience.

#### **Stadium Rules**

There are a number of Club rules relating to children visiting the stadium:

- Under 14s are not allowed in the stadium without being accompanied by an adult (over 18)
- · Children aged 5 and over must be in possession of a valid ticket for the match they are attending.
- A child under age of 5 may enter the stadium for free, without a ticket if accompanied by an adult aged 18
  or over, but in such an event, no seat shall be provided for that child.
- Appropriate supervision must be provided to all children at all times.

#### **Weather Conditions**

Manchester is renowned for its ever changing weather conditions, especially the rain!

Remember to bring a warm waterproof coat. Some areas of the stadium get cold and temperature can drop, so consider bringing an extra layer. During the winter months layers and accessories like hats, scarves and gloves are highly recommended.

When it is wet or icy, some floor areas may become slippery – so make sure your child is wearing strong and comfortable footwear.

Tip - Check the weather forecast before you set off for the match!

#### **Noise**

Football matches are very exciting and are noisy. The noise levels vary during a match and some children may find cheering, singing and chanting a little overwhelming.

Tip – If you have a young child or your child is sensitive to noise, bring ear defenders for them to protect their hearing and help them to enjoy the match and the experience. Consider seats in or around the Family Stand.

#### **Footballs**

During the pre-match warm up and during the match, there is the possibility of the football(s) leaving the field of play and entering the stands – this cannot be helped.

Tip - Keep an on the pitch activity when in the stands and look out for flying footballs!

## **Separation**

The stadium is big, will have a large number of people in attendance and certain areas can be deceiving and look the same. Stay close to your child and supervise them throughout. If you do get separated, please speak to your nearest steward who will be able to help. They can also contact our Safeguarding and Welfare team who can come and support.

Please tell your child to speak to a steward if they get separated from you too.

Tips - Arrive in plenty of time and stay with your child.

Arrange a meeting point which your child will recognise Check out the Website and FAQs for information on our designated meeting places inside the stadium and recommended landmarks outside.

### **Emergencies**

Emergencies can take many forms and we hope that there isn't one, but they can and do happen from time to time. Emergencies and large crowds can be very unsettling for anyone. If there is an emergency or if you or your child need help, please speak with a steward. Listen to any instructions or guidance from members of the workforce.

Tip – Work with your child to come up with your own 'Game Plan' in case there is an emergency.

If you have a concern about a child during a match, please do not hesitate to speak to a steward or ask for a member of the Safeguarding and Welfare team.

And finally ..... enjoy the game!