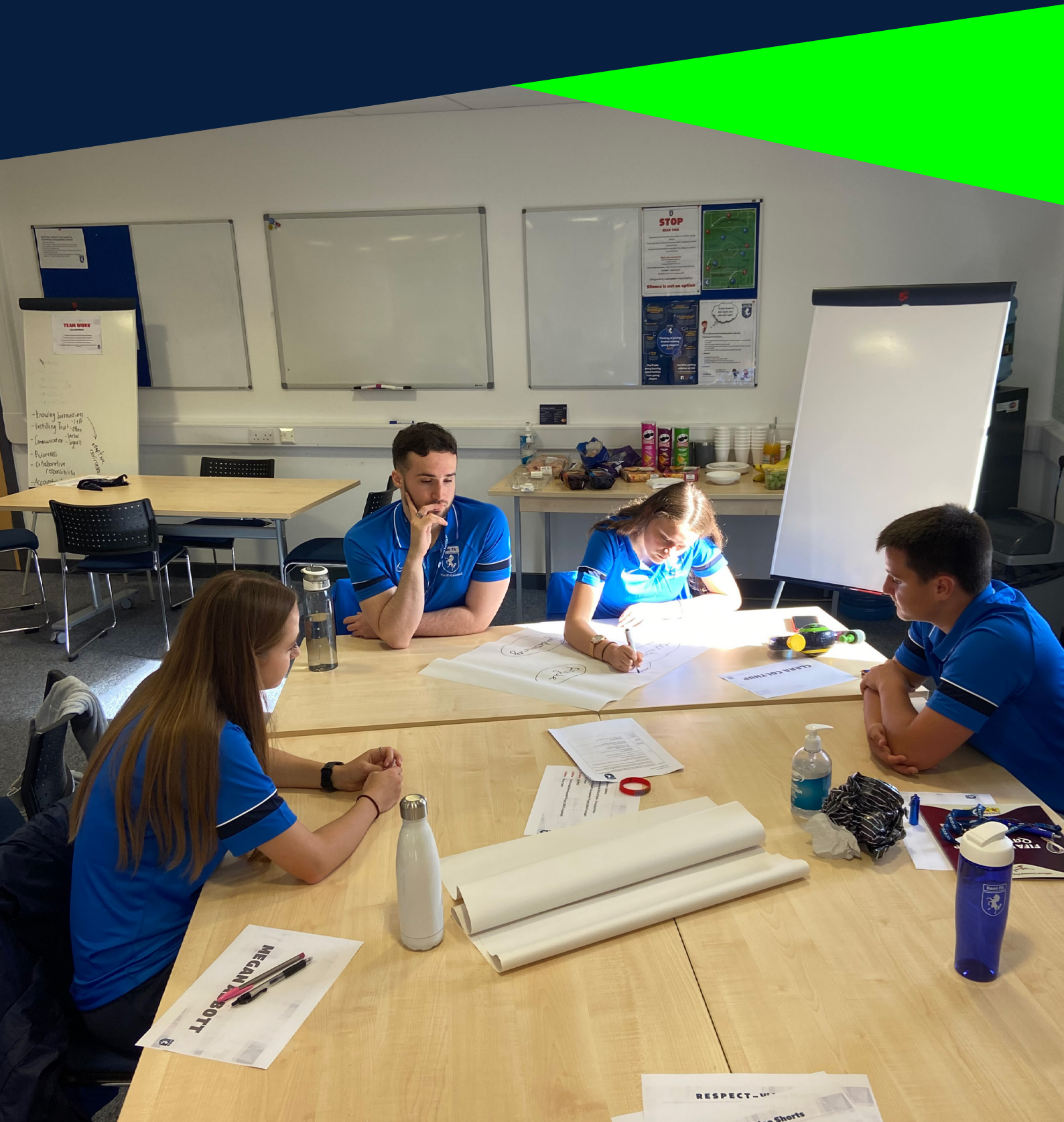




**GIVE YOUR
YOUNG PLAYERS
A VOICE!**

Well, here are some tips on how you can do it and why you should do it, from the voice of those who represent many young people in the county, the Kent FA Youth Council!













HERE ARE SOME TIPS ON HOW YOU CAN GIVE YOUNG PEOPLE WITHIN YOUR CLUB A VOICE:

- ⚽ Provide suggestions boxes and feedback forms via QR codes or on the club website.
- ⚽ Appoint a youth ambassador.
- ⚽ Provide opportunities for young players to referee and coach at the club.
- ⚽ Incorporate players in club committee meetings.
- ⚽ Have a club youth council that has both male and female players with a range of ages.
- ⚽ Create a club wellbeing team that players can approach.
- ⚽ Allow players to lead bits of training and make decisions during games.
- ⚽ Take time at the end of training to have conversations with the players and ask them about the club and if they would like to feedback on their experiences.
- ⚽ Speak to players in small groups to make conversations more effective and provide more opportunities to be heard.



BUT WHY SHOULD YOU LISTEN TO YOUNG PEOPLE AND WHAT IS THE IMPACT?

-  Clubs are nothing without players! By keeping them happy clubs will maintain their numbers and keep growing.
-  Young people are often the ones impacted by a club committee's decisions.
-  Listening to young people will gain their trust and mean they are more comfortable in the environment created and feel a better connection with the club in the long term.
-  Young people often have different perspectives to adults, so may look at something from an angle an adult might not have considered.
-  Young people feel valued when their voice is heard!
-  Clubs benefit, as listening to their players helps create a more open, welcoming, and inclusive environment in the eyes of the players.
-  It helps clubs understand where they can improve and where they might be going wrong. This can help accelerate change and improvements and players will feel included when they can see changes, they have suggested being made.
-  Young people who feel listened to are more likely to give back to the club and volunteer their time supporting the club. This builds their confidence and helps young people develop new skills.
-  Through listening, young players feel as valued as their adult counterparts!
-  Asking what young people want in training will result in better engagement in sessions and creates an environment where young players want to improve and learn.



To find out more about engaging the voice of young people within your club, or setting up your own club Youth Council, please contact development@kentfa.com