

## PONTARDAWE TOWN ACADEMY

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Our Mission: To build and sustain a successful community football club and to strengthen the bonds between the club and the community it serves.

## **CLUB STATEMENT**

## Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Yesterday evening, we were informed by the Football Association of Wales that: Pontardawe Town will be permitted to deliver a Category C FAW Licensed Academy in 2023/24, subject to the Club submitting its application for approval by the annual deadline; June 26th, 2023.

The permission to deliver a Category C FAW Licensed Academy will include and be strictly limited to the delivery of the following age groups:

- U19s participating in the Cymru Premier Development League
- U15s and U13s participating in the Academy Games Program

We are incredibly disappointed by this decision and will be appealing the decision in the hope of gaining Category B status. The deadline for the appeal is Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 5pm.

This is not the outcome we wanted, but we know that all players, coaches and parents will support us in our appeal, as we gather evidence to address the Category B criteria that have been raised as a concern.

This successful academy has been running for 11 years and we have had an incredibly productive campaign with TWO squads in National Finals on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May. We have around **200 players** and **35 coaches** who potentially could be affected by this decision. However, we are hopeful of a positive outcome from the appeal, once all evidence is presented to the Chief Executive Officer and the National Game Board.

We will inform you in due course of any updates.

Yours in Sport,

Pontardawe Town Academy











