

To whom this may concern,

17/10/2023

Tom Haering 26/09/2006

Tom is a trustworthy, mature and extremely polite student who I have had the honour of teaching him Physical Education for the past 5 years.

Within Southbank International School Tom is a friendly and well liked individual who shows compassion and patience for all those around him. His dedication towards his work and his general conduct around the school are to be admired. Tom is at a crucial stage in his life now where he has fantastically managed to keep the balance in terms of football, academics and his social life. His grades are of a good nature demonstrating a trustworthy and dedicated individual.

I have also had the privilege of being his Football Coach. During this time I have seen his passion and love for the sport grow immensely. Coupled with that has been his dedication and willingness to improve as a player both physically and mentally. He has built healthy relationships with his coaches based on genuine trust and excellent communication.

Over the years Tom has played in local FA affiliated youth leagues and various tournaments around London and abroad. He has played in international tournaments with visiting teams from Madrid, Barcelona, Aberdeen, Lisbon and Ankara. Tom has been a stand out player at these events. He was exceptional in last year's tournament in Lisbon, Portugal keeping 4 clean sheets in 6 matches.

Tom is always the first name on the team sheet and although playing as a goalkeeper demonstrates excellent level of fitness and game smarts. His kicking ability with both feet is well advanced for his age driving google kicks well into the opposition's half on a full size pitch. His positioning and reading of the game to identify dangerous moments is his stand out factor. Tom constantly stops attacks by regularly coming out of his area in key moments. This is also a reflection of his

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self confidence and ability to 'use his feet' which many goalkeepers of today are doing more and more. During training sessions Tom regularly joins the outfield players in drills and small possession match play. He communicates well with his outfield players, particularly his defenders with clear accurate instructions. On corners he enjoys coming off from his line to catch and at times when needed to punch clear, he commands his area extremely well and is not afraid of tough physical contact.

Tom captained his Grade 10 team last season which was an honour requested by all the players. Verbally he is very patient, encouraging and his lead by example performances were appreciated. Tom demonstrated these leadership qualities from a young age. I have witnessed his journey first hand and seen the development of a boy to a responsible young man who leads by example both on and off the pitch.

Tom's passion and commitment to the sport is second to none and that coupled with his academic responsibility and dedication is the focus of his life right now. I hope this explains what an important contributor he is to our school and football team where I only see a promising future for this fine athlete and trusted individual.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need further information.

Yours sincerely,

Eli Clarke Head of Sport Eli.clarke@southbank.org Office +44 207 436 9699.

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