



What will Year 12 students learn and how many lessons will they have each week?

A mixture of theory (classroom based) lessons and practical sessions. There are approximately 12 hours theory/9 hours practical during a week. The core academic qualification that students will achieve is the Level 3 BTEC Diploma in Sport. This will be mainly assessed by coursework based assignments with a written exam for 3 of the units over the 2 years.

Units studied are Anatomy & Physiology, Fitness Training & Programming, Skill Acquisition and Coaching for Performance

What will Year 12 students need to do to get the most out of their lessons?

Students will need to have a real passion and enthusiasm for sport in general and football in particular. Ideally students will have some previous experience of sport outside of school. This could be playing for a team outside of school, or some experience of leading or helping to lead others. (For example, coaching younger age groups.

Be prepared for the physical demands of 9 hours of practical each week, including matches.

How much homework will Year 12 students have in this subject?

For each unit, you would be expected to complete a piece of homework each week.

There is also an expectation that you make yourself available for extra commitments and opportunities outside of timetabled lessons. For example, helping to lead and officiate sports tournaments for our lower school partnership events.

Which careers can this subject lead to?

Football-specific roles, both in grassroots development as well as the elite section of the industry. From coaching and leading roles through to analysis, strength and conditioning, and sports therapy. There are many other closely related careers, including teaching, and wider business roles. The transferrable skills developed throughout the course are extensive, and often students who complete the two year course find jobs and careers outside of sport, but use these wider skills on a daily basis.

Which other subjects complement this subject?

Football Academy are not obliged to take any further qualifications with their course and may chose to focus solely on the BTEC Diploma in Sport.

However, some students have chosen to take an extra A Level alongside their studies. The most common ones are Psychology and Business. The ability to study an extra A Level is dependent upon your GCSE results.

Are there trials to determine my playing level?

There are no formal trials, as your place is not determined by how good you are as a player. However, it does help if your knowledge of the sport is already well developed, and you would probably already have plenty of experience of playing either at a local club or within an elite programme, perhaps at an Academy or Development Centre.

Can I go to University with this qualification?

Absolutely. We are proud of the exit routes that our students take, either directly into work or onto further study within sport. Roughly 75% of students go on to University, and we work closely with these students to help them choose the right course. All students who have made an application to University have secured their first-choice option.

How will I develop as a player and where can I go next?

Training sessions and matches are coordinated by an experienced UEFA A Licensed Coach. A variety of player-centred methods are used, and the school is well equipped to serve training needs. Access to grass and 4G pitches, sports hall for Futsal and Shenley Leisure Centre for strength and conditioning sessions.

The games programme is extensive and competitive with local regional and national competitions. On an individual basis, if your ability and development are relevant there are many excellent playing opportunities within the semi-professional and professional game.