

Rated **Outstanding** by OFSTED
July 2023



Wath
Academy
Sixth Form

Football Scholarship

Specialise in football alongside
A Level/vocational Study



“The scholarship is an **elite football development programme** that ensures all students access a **first-class football experience** in addition to their post-16 education.”

Wath Academy Football: Our Vision

The Wath Academy Sixth Form Football Scholarship aims to ensure the delivery of world-class coaching which inspires every scholar to achieve footballing excellence. Our mission is to ensure the students develop in nine key areas that focuses their development both on and off the football pitch.

The Programme

The Football Scholarship programme offered at Wath Academy Sixth Form is a specialist 16–19 football programme delivering exceptional experiences to aspiring talented footballers. It is a realistic pathway into semi-professional/professional football, while studying at a highly successful sixth form.

The scholarship is an elite football development programme that ensures all students access a first-class football experience in addition to their post-16 education. All players on the scholarship programme undertake A Levels or vocational subjects during the course, with further possibilities to acquire work-based qualifications, such as the FA Introduction to Coaching and The FA Referee Course.

Scholars access a high quality football provision, working with coaches who have previously and currently still work within the professional game.

The programme involves training on a daily basis with the scholarship coaching team. This provides players with a fantastic opportunity to further develop their football education and knowledge of the game.

“The past two years of being on the scholarship programme have been an experience I’ll never forget; it has helped me become the best version of myself not just as a player but as a person representing Wath Academy. There are a variety of opportunities put in place for this to be achieved such as outstanding training every week, in depth video analysis and match preparation sessions that reinforce the style of free-flowing football that is encouraged at Wath. I have received a level of coaching that has been first class and pivotal in my development. The programme helps create friendships that will last a lifetime whilst playing with a squad of high quality players that want to work hard for the team and bring the best of each other.”

Louis Brown, 1st XI Captain



Our Intent

- All football scholars develop an inner belief and ambition to fulfil their dreams
- All football scholars develop a lifelong passion for football
- All football scholars gain first-class continuing professional development opportunities
- All football scholars develop exceptional character
- All football scholars develop high levels of cultural and global awareness
- All football scholars become responsible citizens
- All football scholars gain an array of positive school memories
- All football scholars are given a chance to explore a variety of academic and professional exit routes
- All football scholars reach their full football capabilities

Facilities

Football scholars have access to high quality facilities on the Wath Academy campus to support each player in their individual development, performance and learning.

Our facilities include:

- State-of-the-art 3G pitch
- Four high-quality grass pitches
- Futsal hall
- Three indoor sports facilities
- Strength and conditioning studio
- Structured training programme
- Video analysis classroom
- Match preparation sessions
- Match analysis



"Video analysis is a massive part of our programme, reflecting on games and improving tactical understanding of the players."

veo

Veio is an automated camera solution that enables sports teams to record and analyse matches and training sessions without the need for a camera operator. Veio films the whole pitch as once, and then uses AI to process the game, track the ball and automatically clip key events. All HD footage is upload to an online portal – which is easily accessed by players and coaches alike.



Competitions

Scholars compete in a variety of leagues and cups:

Boys

- U19 National Football Youth League
- National Football Youth League Cup
- AOC Sport Yorkshire and Humberside League
- Sheffield and Hallamshire County FA South Yorkshire College Flexi League
- ESFA Boys Under 18 Schools' Trophy
- ESFA Boys Under 18 Schools' Cup for B Teams
- ESFA U18 Super League
- Rotherham Schools Cup
- South Yorkshire Cup

Girls

- ECFA Premier Women's League
- U21 National Football Youth League
- ESFA Girls Under 18 Schools' Trophy
- ESFA U18 Super League
- National Football Youth League Cup





"I intend to go on to higher education in the USA where I have been offered a scholarship for football (soccer) as well as studying a major in accountancy at Missouri Valley College. This is a great opportunity in which I think is definitely a direct path for other footballers to attain an excellent football experience, whilst attaining a degree that can also set-up for a strong career in whatever you choose to pursue post-18 - in my case, the accountancy/finance sector.

"I believe being a part of the Football Scholarship programme has definitely helped me in so many ways. Primarily, my football ability and knowledge of the game has definitely increased by working with top coaches on a day-to-day basis. From the training sessions to the video analysis sessions and the matches, it is a real top experience for any 16-18 year old person who has an interest in the game and, more importantly, an interest in wanting to improve as a player and develop as a person.

I have been able to share my experiences with current Year 11 students. From me on my own coming onto the scholarship programme from St Pius X, we now have plenty of interest from current St Pius students. This suggests the real positive impact it has had not only on myself, but everybody on the programme."

Jamie McGinnes



The Offer

All those enrolled onto the scholarship programme undertake A Levels or applied qualifications alongside their football programme.

The scholarship provides students with:

- A football coaching programme delivered by UEFA A/B licensed coaches
- Training sessions that focus on technical/tactical detail, team/individual analysis, one-to-one development and, alongside strength and conditioning
- Veo camera technology, recording all games
- Access to state-of-the-art training facilities, including an FA-affiliated floodlit 3G pitch
- A comprehensive league and competition structure on Wednesday afternoons
- Scholarship pathways in America
- Opportunities to participate in overseas tours
- Work experience opportunities

Coaches

Our football scholars have the opportunity to access some exceptional coaching from a highly skilled coaching team. We are privileged to have experienced and knowledgeable football coaches who will guarantee student progression.



Mr Elliott Flowers Lead of Football Development

UEFA A Licensed Coach. Prior to joining Wath, Mr Flowers worked for a variety of professional clubs including Chesterfield, Leeds United and Peterborough United. He has worked in both the elite male and female academy system. Mr Flowers holds both a BSc and MSc Sport Coaching degrees. In February 2022, he took the role of Leader of Football Development, working across the Place Partnership to develop football across both our primary and secondary academies.



Mr Josh Wain Football Development Officer

Mr Wain is a UEFA A Licensed coach. He has an experienced background in Football and Education Scholarships with his time at Chesterfield FC and the North of England Football Academy. Previously he was an age group coach within the Academy system at Chesterfield FC and Sheffield United, across the FDP and YDP. Mr Wain a graduate of Northumbria University with a BSc(Hons) in Applied Sport Science with Coaching. Alongside this, he also holds qualifications in Futsal, Strength & Conditioning and Physical Education Delivery.



Mr Julian Ryan Scholarship Coach

Mr Ryan is a UEFA B Licensed coach. He has worked within academy football for a number of years, including at Grimsby Town and Rotherham United FC, where he has predominately worked within the Youth Development Phase. Mr Ryan has previously held roles within the South Yorkshire Police Force.



Miss Lily-Allison-Edwards Scholarship Coach

Miss Edwards is a UEFA B licensed coach. She has an experienced background in football after spending four years in the USA coaching at youth and semi-pro level, and is now currently working as Head Coach at Notts County Academy. She holds a BSc in Football Coaching, Development and Administration from the University of South Wales and is currently completing her master's in International Sport Management with the Global Institute of sport.



Mr Mark Smith Scholarship Coach

UEFA A Licensed Coach. Mr Smith currently works as Head of Coaching at Scunthorpe United, after occupying roles as Academy Manager at Chesterfield and Loans Manager at Sheffield United. He made over 500 career appearances in the Football League, including for Barnsley, Sheffield Wednesday and Plymouth Argyle, and received 5 England U21 caps.



Mr Will Hunter Scholarship Coach

Mr Hunter is a UEFA B licensed coach. He has an experienced background in football, having played at academy level and is currently playing semi professionally. He has coached at Doncaster Rovers Academy, alongside coaching across the Trust's football scholarship programmes . A graduate of Sheffield Hallam University with a BSc(Hons) in Sport. Alongside this, he also holds qualifications in Futsal, Performance Analysis and Physical Education Delivery.

Careers & Future Opportunities

As part of the scholarship programme, students will open the door to many different career pathways, including:

- Professional/semi-professional football
- US scholarships
- Professional coaching
- Professional officiating
- Strength and conditioning
- Physio and rehabilitation
- Performance analysis
- Business/sport management
- University and higher education
- Apprenticeships

First Team Captains

Men's

- 2018/19: Jamie Oliver
- 2019/20: Chris Powell
- 2020/21: Harrison Shaw
- 2021/22: Mackenzie Grierson
- 2022/23: Louis Brown
- 2023/24: Finly Pickles
- 2024/25: Tejean Wesseh Nah Konteh
- 2025/26: Harry Stokes

Women's

- 2019/20: Daisy Turton
- 2020/21: Daisy Turton
- 2021/22: Chloe Brammer
- 2022/23: Lucie Tinker
- 2023/24: Sidni Simmons
- 2024/25: Jemima Jarvis
- 2025/26: Lily-May Jackson

Player of the Year

Men's

- 2020/21: Harrison Shaw
- 2021/22: Joel Sorby
- 2022/23: Louis Brown
- 2023/24: Tejean Wesseh Nah Konteh
- 2024/25: Jayden Roberts
- 2025/26: Jude Wheeler

Women's

- 2020/21: Delia Hurdiss
- 2021/22: Liberty Shaw
- 2022/23: Eva Butler
- 2023/24: Sidni Simmons
- 2024/25: Lucie Thompson
- 2025/26: Evie Akrill



"Wath has been a fantastic addition to the National Football Youth League North Premier Women's Division. They pride themselves on high standards of professionalism, with player development and welfare at the core. It is a fantastic choice for players to develop their education and football in a supportive environment."

Louise Macey
National Football Youth League

Success Stories

Jamie McGinnes

Wath Academy student Jamie McGinnes secured a playing scholarship with Missouri Valley College, located close to Kansas City.

Our first male footballer to study abroad, Jamie – an external student from St Pius X – chose Wath due to its unique combination of A Levels and a football scholarship. After a successful first year, he became deputy head boy and completed his work experience with the Wath Academy coaching team.

Jamie's commitment and dedication secured a highly sought after college scholarship while studying business.

Eva Butler

Eva Butler secured a place with Sheffield United Women U21 Academy after a successful trial during the first year of her scholarship. She joined the sixth form from Thrybergh Academy and is now playing alongside players with the aim of breaking into the Barclays Women's Championship.

"I have been lucky enough to play with an amazing group of girls who have made every day an enjoyable environment to be a part in. I will never forget the football tour in Salou where we won all our games, toured the Camp Nou and bonded as a group on the beach, in the swimming pool and in our villas. I also had the opportunity to represent Wath as part of the National Football Youth League Representative Squad, playing at St. George's Park against girls from the South."

"The coaches have had a massive influence on me and have pushed me to be the best player I can be. I have learned a huge amount in my two years on the football programme about tactics, psychology and nutrition, as well as developing as a player. This has allowed me the opportunities to progress outside of school at Sheffield United. Alongside this, I've had plenty of opportunities to help out with coaching during football camps and events which I have found really helpful when looking towards future careers and university courses. Being on the scholarship has brought me so many great opportunities, memories and experiences that I will forever be thankful for."

Eva Butler

Jade Butcher

Maltby Learning Trust student Jade Butcher secured a playing scholarship with the University of West Georgia, competing in the NCAA.

Jade was a crucial member of our first girls' cohort. While representing Wath, she also played with Barnsley's first XI, alongside studying at one of our trust schools, Maltby Academy.

A role model to all current and future scholars, Jade showed outstanding qualities to combine her excellent football provision with academic studies. Jade will certainly inspire others in this possible post-18 route.

Fallon Connolly-Jackson

Fallon spent a number of years at Sheffield United before joining the Wath Academy Scholarship. While training and playing in the NFYL for Wath, she progressed into the U21s at SUFC and then onto the first team, while only 17. During this campaign she also represented Scotland U19s including games against Iceland, Hungary, Wales, Albania and Cyprus.



Find Out More

For more information about the Football Scholarship, pick up a flyer or contact football@wathacademy.com. You can also follow us on Instagram @wath_scholars.





Overseas Football Tours

On the scholarship programme we run overseas football tours, visiting places such as Barcelona, Salou, Lisbon and Malaga, providing the students with an opportunity to train and play against foreign opposition.

This offers a great learning experience and an important tool in creating positive life-long memories. The scholars get a footballing education from playing and watching football of a different style, based on the country's culture.



Pick-up locations



Rotherham Route

- Ravenfield
- Maltby
- Wickersley
- Whiston
- Bawtry Road
- Greasbrough
- Hooton Roberts
- Thrybergh
- Swinton Train Station

Doncaster Route

- Doncaster
- Sprotbrough
- Edlington
- Conisbrough
- Hooton Roberts
- Thrybergh

Sheffield Route

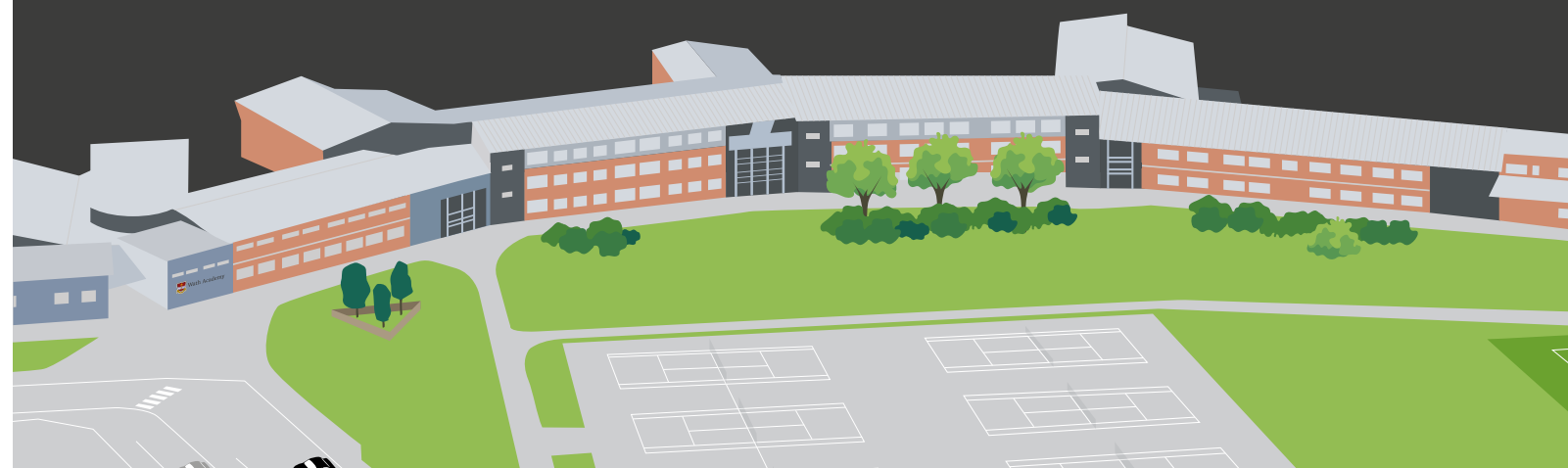
- Meadowhall Interchange
- Asda Chaucer
- Chapeltown
- Thorpe Hesley
- Greasbrough Coop

Barnsley Route

- Hoyland
- Birdwell
- Ardsley
- Darfield
- Great Houghton
- Goldthorpe
- Thurnscoe
- Bolton Upon Dearne



*Pick up locations are subject to student demand







Interested in our scholarship programme?
Scan the QR code to find out more



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