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DWFC ACADEMY

NOW RECRUITING FOR 2026/27



Are you sitting your GCSE's in the summer and wondering what to do next?

The Dorking Wanderers Academy provides the opportunity to play football whilst gaining qualifications recognised by both employers and universities.

With opportunities to play in the FA Youth Cup, National League Academy and Tactic League, take a look inside our prospectus to find out more...



www.dwfc.co.uk/dw-academy



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Forward

We are delighted to confirm that Station View Garage will continue to be sponsor's of the Dorking Wanderers Football Academy (DWFA) for the 25/26 academic year and football season.

Approaching our 10th anniversary year following formation in 2016, DWFA is an exciting initiative for young individuals with a passion for football. Based at our Meadowbank Stadium and Dorking Halls campus locations in the heart of Dorking, DWFA offers an opportunity for students to combine continuation of academic study with professional football playing and coaching.

Our academic programme offers a range of sports related topics including nutrition, business, leadership, coaching and performance profiling opening up a range of career paths following completion of their course. In addition to the classroom based tuition, students receive football coaching and have the opportunity to play for Dorking Wanderers FC within our U19 squads, who compete in the National League Academy, National League Alliance, Youth Development League and Tactic League Divisions, as well as the possibility of representing the club in the prestigious FA Youth Cup competition as well. Some students may even be fortunate enough to progress to Dorking Wanderers first team.

As sport has developed and embraced advances in areas such as technology, psychology and nutrition to enhance performance, the career opportunities have also developed and increased, and DWFA provides a perfect platform for young individuals looking for a future in sport.



The Academy Programme

The Dorking Wanderers Football Academy is an opportunity for students aged 16-19 to gain sports based qualifications alongside professional football coaching.

The students will work in a specialist environment allowing them to benefit from a unique mix of a specifically tailored curriculum and the opportunity to understand the life of a footballer. The programme aims to help all of its students develop as both players on the pitch and confident young adults away from the changing room.

How It Works

Each student enrolled onto the programme can complete either a selection of A Level subjects in partnership with our education partners at The Ashcombe School, Dorking or Dunottar School, Reigate, or, complete a BTEC Qualification in Sports Coaching (worth up to 3 A Levels) in conjunction with our education partners Virtual Learning UK.

Within and alongside the standard education provision, our programme includes:

- A tailored curriculum led by qualified tutors, which includes the opportunity to re-sit GCSE Maths and English exams.
- A Level Study - up to 28 different subjects covering a vast range.
- BTEC Study - a vast range of subjects covered across 19 units, relating to all aspects of sport, from anatomy and physiology to sport as a business.
- A comprehensive football training schedule, including strength & conditioning work, technical centre's led by UEFA qualified coaches, recovery work, and analysis sessions using the latest VEO technology.
- Weekly matches in the National League Academy & Alliance, Youth Development & Tactic League Division's, competing against clubs and academies from across the South East.
- Opportunities to progress in football and different pathways - gaining experience in senior football locally and potentially with the Dorking Wanderers B team.
- Valuable work experience in the club and community - including youth coaching, ball boy/ball girl duties, first team matchday volunteering and designated academy projects.



Where can the course take me?

Following completion of the education and football programme, there are so many future pathways open to students - our programme is designed to offer multiple exit routes for all. These options including University, Higher National Diplomas, Apprenticeships American Scholarships, Non-League Football, Youth Coaching and Personal Training Courses.

Qualifications

As part of the programme, all BTEC students will complete a Level 2 or 3 qualification in Sport, with a focus on development coaching and fitness.

Some of the units which will be completed include:

- Anatomy & Physiology
- Assessing Risk in Sport
- Current Issues in Sport
- Exercise Health & Lifestyle
- Fitness Testing For Sport & Exercise
- Leadership In Sport
- Profiling Sports Performance
- Organising Sports Events
- Practical Team Sport
- Rules & Regulations In Sports
- Sport as a Business
- Sports Coaching
- Sports Development
- Sports Injuries
- Sports Nutrition
- The Physiology of Fitness
- Work Experience In Sport

Virtual Learning uk

Alongside the BTEC qualification, players will have the opportunity to complete FA recognised courses such as:

- Level 2 in Football Coaching
- FA Emergency First Aid in Sport
- Coaching Disabled Footballers



Ashcombe School



We are delighted to be partnered with Ashcombe School, Dorking to provide students the opportunity to complete a wide choice of A Level subjects alongside a provision of football playing and coaching.

In partnership with DWFA for over 4 years, the Ashcombe 6th Form is a genuinely comprehensive school which allows and enables high academic standards for all, providing a strong and caring pastoral system with a wide range of extracurricular opportunities and an environment measured in capacity to ensure all students are known as individuals. Minimum grade entry requirement for Ashcombe application's is five 5 grades and above.

Students in the programme will study 3 A Levels at Ashcombe 6th Form, whilst completing their football provision from Meadowbank Stadium, a 5-10 minute walk from the Ashcombe site.

Subjects include:

Art & Design - Art, Product Design, Photography

Humanities - Classics, English Literature, Geography, History, Maths, Media Studies, Philosophy & Ethics

Languages - French, German and Spanish

Performing Arts - Drama & Theatre, Music

Sciences - Biology, Chemistry, Physics

Social Sciences - Business, Economics, Politics, Psychology, Sociology

Dunottar School

Our partnership with Dunottar School, Reigate provides students looking to continue private education and pursue A Levels the opportunity to do so within the academy education and football provision.

In partnership with DWFA for over 4 years, Dunottar students have access to a state-of-the-art Sixth Form centre, which provides a modern, university-style working space with both silent study and collaborative work rooms, social spaces, the Pelican café and a recreation room with pool table.

Students in the programme will study 3 A Levels at Dunottar 6th Form, whilst completing their football provision from Meadowbank Stadium (transportation from Dunottar to Meadowbank provided by the academy)

Subjects include:

Art - Art, Craft & Design, Three-Dimensional Design

Computing - Computer Science,

Humanities - English Literature, Geography, History, Maths, Further Maths, Media Studies, Philosophy & Ethics, Politics

Languages - French, Spanish

Performing Arts - Drama & Theatre, Music

Sciences - Biology, Chemistry, Physics

Social Sciences - Business, Economics, Politics, Psychology, Sociology



Football Provision



TRAINING

- All students are provided with a kit pack suitable for both study and training.
- Training sessions take place on the all-weather 3G pitch at the home of Dorking Wanderers - Meadowbank Stadium.
- Training is scheduled for a minimum of 6 hours a week, with sessions led by our UEFA qualified coaching team.
- Sessions are arranged in either a team/squad session format or as a technical centre - focusing and developing on detail play and game-related scenarios.
- Designated Goalkeeping sessions run alongside team/squad sessions.



ANALYSIS & RECOVERY



- Weekly, designated Strength & Conditioning & Recovery sessions are scheduled for each team/squad.
- Following matches, analysis sessions are run by each lead coach, reviewing individual and collective performances in detail using the latest VEO recording technology
- Bi-monthly Individual Development Plan's (IDP's) for each student to track and review latest progress.



Success Stories



- First Year academy player Dom Plank joins Wolverhampton Wanderers as a full-time scholar (22/23), before going on to play for Heart Of Midlothian & Stranraer in the Scottish Football League.
- Academy graduates Hayden Gale, Jack Saunders & Seb Tauta-Caballero have all signed first team professional deals.
- Jack & current second year student Joshua Hebert are the first player's to start National League South fixtures for the Dorking Wanderers first team (25/26), whilst several students including current academy captain Ted Sullivan have featured in league and cup fixtures.
- Current second year student Jasmine Smith signs for Tier 4 Women's side Worthing FC (25/26).
- Academy graduates Markos Panoutsos and Terian Serkedzhiev both enrol on 4-year US scholarship's to continue higher education and footballing development.
- 100+ academy graduates have gone on to study at Universities across the UK.

Partners & Sponsors

A big thank you to our partners and sponsors who support the Dorking Wanderers Academy and help us provide an unrivalled education and footballing structure.

