



# FPF ACADEMY ELITE FOOTBALL & EDUCATION PROGRAMME

16-19 YEARS | 2026/27



Buckinghamshire  
College Group

Train Like a Pro. Learn With  
Purpose. Build a Career in  
Football.

Pathway partners



# WELCOME TO THE FPF ELITE COLLEGE PROGRAMME

## The FPF Academy 16-19 Elite Football & Education Programme

combines a full-time professional academy environment with industry-recognised NCFE qualifications.

Designed for ambitious players leaving Year 11, the programme blends:

- Elite football training
- Competitive fixtures
- Strength & conditioning
- Performance analysis

With a clear pathway into professional academies, semi-professional football, university, or the wider sports industry.

This programme prepares players for football — and for life beyond it.



**IN THE LAST 24 MONTHS  
WE HAVE HAD 30 FPF PLAYERS  
SIGNED TO PROFESSIONAL CLUBS:**

# THE FPF PATHWAY

**FPF Academy is one of the UK's leading independent football academies**, delivering a proven pathway from grassroots to the professional game.

- 10+ development centres
- 600+ players across the pathway
- 30+ professional academy signings in the last 2 years
- Regular fixtures vs Premier League & EFL academies
- Strong links with grassroots, semi-pro and professional clubs

Our college programme mirrors the demands, standards and expectations of a **professional academy**.



## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

- Age Group: 16–19
- Course Type: Full-time Football & Education Programme
- Start Date: September 2026
- Cost: Free for 16–19 year olds
- Qualifications Offered:
- NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Sports Coaching
- NCFE Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sport & Physical Activity



## ELITE FOOTBALL PROGRAMME

Players train daily under UEFA-qualified FPF coaches, following the same technical, tactical and physical methodology used across the FPF Academy pathway.

- 12–14 hours of weekly football coaching
- Strength & conditioning programme
- Position-specific coaching
- Goalkeeping programme
- Video & performance analysis
- Individual Development Plans (IDPs)
- Competitive midweek fixtures
- Games vs professional academies
- County cups & showcase matches



# MEET THE COACHES



## **TOM DONATI - HEAD OF COACHING**

**UEFA A LICENSED COACH**

Tom Donati brings over 23 years of elite football experience, having coached and managed at the highest levels of the professional game. He has worked within academies at Chelsea, Watford and AFC Bournemouth, and has headed up youth programmes at Peterborough United and Cambridge United.

Alongside academy leadership roles, Tom has gained first-team experience as First Team Assistant Manager at Weymouth FC in the National League, followed by Youth Team Manager at Exeter City FC. **At FPF Academy**, Tom plays a central role in shaping both the Development and Elite football programmes, coaching across centres and ensuring players benefit from elite-level methodology throughout the FPF pathway.



## **Alessio Gagliesi**

**UEFA B LICENSED COACH**



## **Jack Pulleyn**

**UEFA B LICENSED COACH**

# EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

Alongside football, players study towards industry-recognised NCFE qualifications, designed to prepare learners for university, employment, or progression within sport.

Designed for ambitious players leaving Year 11, the FPF programme supports development both on and off the pitch — combining education with elite-level football training and a professional academy environment.



## Entry Requirements

- Aged 16+
- GCSE profile appropriate to course level
- Commitment to both education and football
- Successful trial and interview

## Progression Routes

- University degrees in sport-related subjects
- Higher education qualifications
- Apprenticeships
- Coaching & performance roles
- Employment within the sports industry

Train within the FPF Football Academy | Experience a professional academy environment

Take part in competitive fixtures and performance development | Subject to timetable compatibility and selection criteria.

Find out more →

# NCFE Level 2 Certificate Sports Coaching

This qualification is designed for learners who want to take their first step into coaching and the sports industry, while developing practical skills, confidence, and industry knowledge.

It provides a strong foundation for progression into Level 3 Sport & Physical Activity, coaching roles, or employment within sport and physical activity.

- NCFE Level 3 Extended Diploma – Sport & Physical Activity
- Entry-level coaching roles
- Employment in sport, fitness, or physical activity



## Key Areas of Study

- Introduction to Coaching Sport
- Coaching Skills & Session Delivery
- Practical Sports Performance
- Health, Fitness & Training Basics
- Safeguarding & Welfare in Sport
- Sports Psychology Fundamentals
- Planning, Delivering & Reviewing Coaching Sessions
- Communication & Leadership Skills
- Rules, Officiating & Game Understanding
- Working in the Sport & Physical Activity Sector

Find out more →

# NCFE Level 3 Extended Diploma

## – Sport & Physical Activity

This qualification allows learners to develop a deep understanding of sport, coaching and performance, while earning UCAS points for university entry.

The programme supports learners aiming for high-performance sport pathways, university routes, and careers in coaching and sport science.

- University (Sport Science, Coaching, PE, Physiotherapy, etc.)
- Higher-level coaching qualifications
- Employment within the sports industry



### Key Areas of Study

- Principles of Coaching Sport
- Practical Sports Performance
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Fitness Testing & Training
- Nutrition for Physical Performance
- Sports Psychology
- Performance Analysis
- Injury Prevention & Management
- Leadership in Sport
- Sports Business & Marketing
- Technology in Sport & Physical Activity

Find out more →



# FOOTBALL ACADEMY OPPORTUNITIES (BOTH COURSES)

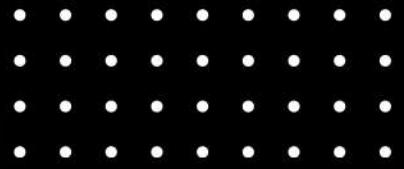
Learners on both Level 2 and Level 3 programmes may have the opportunity to:

- Train within the FPF Football Academy
- Experience a professional academy environment
- Take part in fixtures and performance development



Academy participation is subject to timetable compatibility and selection criteria.

# SAMPLE WEEKLY TIMETABLE



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>9-11 AM</b>	MATHS LESSON	ENGLISH LESSON	FPF GAME DAY COLLEGE FIXTURE GAMES PROGRAMME	LEVEL 2 / 3 SPORTS	LEVEL 2 / 3 SPORTS
<b>11-12 PM</b>	ENGLISH LESSON	MATHS LESSON	FPF GAME DAY COLLEGE FIXTURE GAMES PROGRAMME	LEVEL 2 / 3 SPORTS	LEVEL 2 / 3 SPORTS
<b>12-1 PM</b>	LUNCH	LUNCH	FPF GAME DAY COLLEGE FIXTURE GAMES PROGRAMME	LUNCH	LUNCH
<b>1-1:30PM</b>	FPF FOOTBALL ANALYSIS	LEVEL 2 / 3 SPORTS	FPF GAME DAY COLLEGE FIXTURE GAMES PROGRAMME	WISPA TUTORIAL	FPF FOOTBALL ANALYSIS
<b>1:30-2PM</b>	FPF FOOTBALL BASED STRENGTH & CONDITIONING	LEVEL 2 / 3 SPORTS	FPF GAME DAY COLLEGE FIXTURE GAMES PROGRAMME	LEVEL 2 / 3 SPORTS	FPF FOOTBALL BASED STRENGTH & CONDITIONING
<b>2-3:30PM</b>	FPF PRACTICAL TRAINING SESSION	LEVEL 2 / 3 SPORTS	FPF GAME DAY COLLEGE FIXTURE GAMES PROGRAMME		FPF PRACTICAL TRAINING SESSION

The programme timetable is structured to replicate life in a professional academy, balancing football training, competitive matches, classroom learning, tutorials, mentoring, and recovery time. English & Maths support is available where required.

# PATHWAYS & EXIT ROUTES

- Professional & semi-professional football
- Academy progression
- Showcase fixtures & trials
- UK universities
- US college pathways
- Coaching roles
- Sports science & performance
- Analysis, fitness & wider sports industry careers

# UNIVERSITY & INDUSTRY EXPOSURE

- University visits
- Industry workshops
- Guest speakers
- Performance environment exposure
- Real insight into careers in sport

**FPF provides multiple outcomes, not false promises.**

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# FACILITIES & ENVIRONMENT

- Full-size 3G / Astro pitches
- Strength & conditioning gym
- Classroom learning spaces
- Video analysis tools
- Professional academy environment



# WHO THIS PROGRAMME IS FOR

- Dedicated footballers
- Players seeking elite development
- Students wanting education alongside football
- Those aiming for university, football or careers in sport

# FEES, KIT & ENRICHMENT INFORMATION

## 1 Course Fees (NCFE / BTEC Qualification)

There is no charge for the NCFE or BTEC qualification for students aged 16–18. Tuition, teaching, assessment and examination fees are fully government funded. There are no hidden academic costs.

## 2 FPF Academy Kit Package (Required)

All players selected into the FPF Academy programme are required to wear official academy kit. This ensures a professional training environment, equality across squads, and clear team identity. **Annual cost:** £250 (one-off annual package) **Includes:** Training kit, match kit, tracksuit/outerwear and performance wear.

## 3 Matchday Travel & Transport

Travel arrangements vary depending on fixture location and may include parent-arranged travel, shared minibus transport or a seasonal travel contribution where applicable. **Indicative cost:** £0–£150 per season depending on usage. Any travel contribution relates solely to football fixtures and is not linked to the qualification.

## 4 Optional Enrichment Opportunities

FPF Academy offers optional enrichment activities designed to enhance player development and exposure, including showcase fixtures, professional club experiences, residential camps and UK or overseas tours. All enrichment opportunities are optional and charged separately if selected.

## 5 Financial Support

Students eligible for college bursaries or learner support may be able to use this funding towards academy kit or travel costs, subject to college eligibility criteria.

*Participation in the FPF Academy football programme is an enrichment opportunity alongside the student's college study programme. No charges are made for the delivery, assessment, or certification of the NCFE or BTEC qualification. Any costs relate solely to optional enrichment, kit, or football-specific activities.*

# How to Get Here

## Buckinghamshire College Group – Flackwell Heath Campus

### By Bus

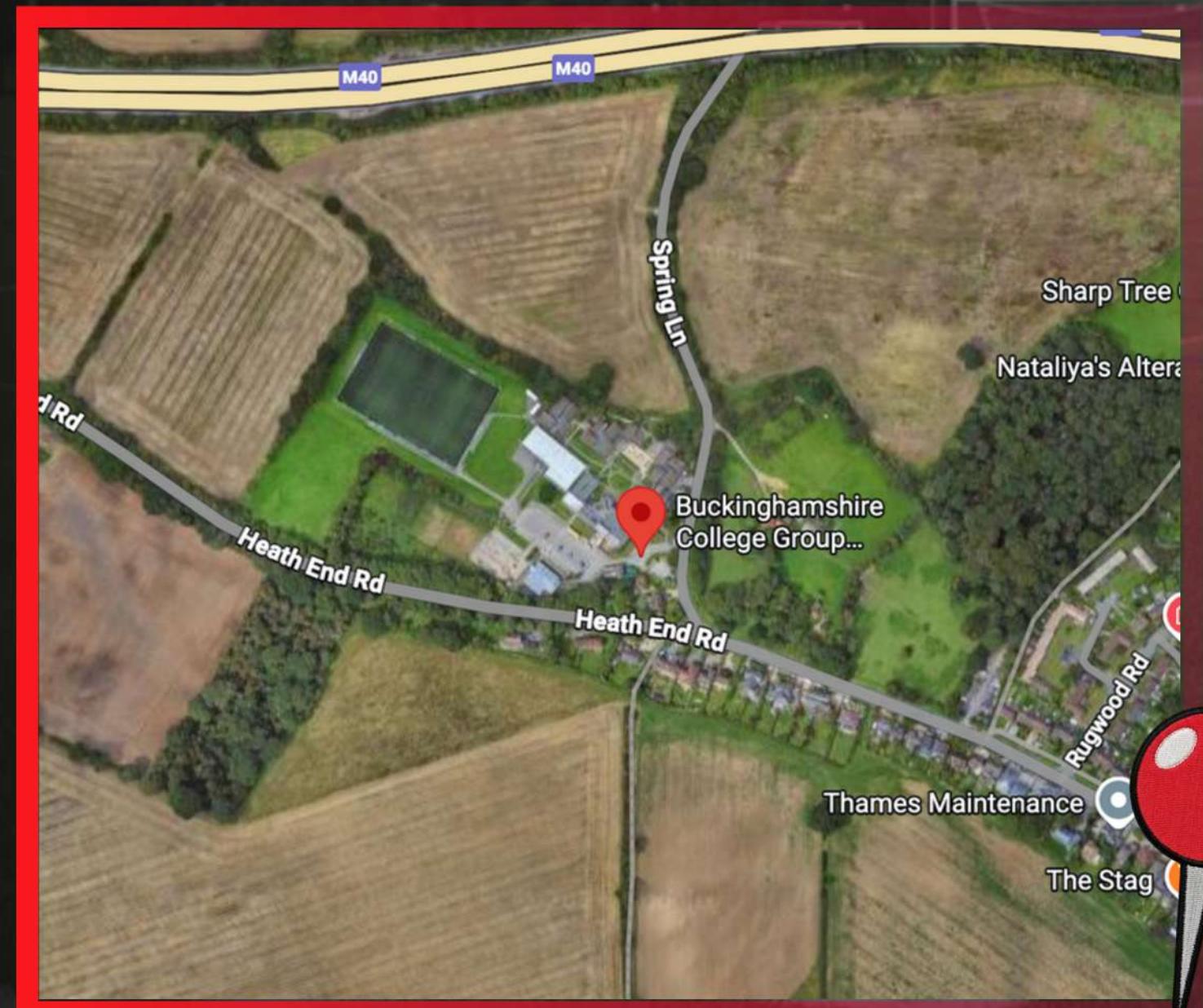
The Flackwell Heath Campus is well served by local bus routes connecting High Wycombe, Marlow, Bourne End and Beaconsfield. Bus stops are located within a short walking distance of the campus.

### By Train

Nearest stations are Bourne End and High Wycombe, with regular services from London Marylebone. A short bus or taxi journey connects the stations to the campus.

### By Car

Easily accessible from the A404 and M40. On-site parking is available with dedicated drop-off and pick-up areas for students.



## HOW TO APPLY

1. Register interest
2. Attend trial / assessment
3. Interview & selection
4. College enrolment
5. Programme induction

## NEXT STEPS

Trials: Feb/April/May/June 2026 (Dates TBC)

Enquiries: [info@fpfacademy.com](mailto:info@fpfacademy.com)

[www.fpfacademy.com/fpf-bcg](http://www.fpfacademy.com/fpf-bcg)

