

City of Sunderland College



NEW FOR
SEPTEMBER
2008

KICK START YOUR STUDIES WITH THE FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

A UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN CITY OF SUNDERLAND COLLEGE,
SUNDERLAND AFC AND SUNDERLAND RCA FC

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INTRODUCTION

FOR SEPTEMBER 2008, CITY OF SUNDERLAND COLLEGE IS LAUNCHING ITS INNOVATIVE NEW FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE TO IMPROVE THE SKILLS OF TALENTED YOUNG FOOTBALLERS BOTH ON THE PITCH AND IN THE CLASSROOM.

The Football Development Centre will combine elite football training and coaching alongside the high quality education for which City of Sunderland College is already renowned. The Development Centre, a unique partnership arrangement involving Sunderland AFC and Sunderland RCA FC (an Arngrove Northern League club), will be the first initiative of its kind anywhere in the country.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

As part of the Development centre you will undertake, in addition to the BTEC National/ First Diploma in Sport course, the following:

- A minimum of six hours of professional coaching and training per week
- One training and coaching session per week at the Academy of Light
- The chance to undertake nationally recognised coaching qualifications
- Individual player assessment and analysis of performance and fitness by qualified staff
- The opportunity to represent the college in the BCS 'Centres of Football Excellence' League against the best colleges in the North East
- Access to playing and coaching opportunities at Sunderland RCA FC

- Sunderland RCA FC have ambitious plans for developing their club in the National League system (the pyramid) for the first team and with a full range of age range teams, giving opportunities for coaching experience and training. Sunderland RCA FC intend to reach the FA Community Club standard within the next two years. They have a wide range of links with community organisations across the city.

WHAT DO I NEED TO JOIN ?

You must be between 16-19 years of age and meet ONE of the following football criteria:

- Have had professional club involvement or
- Have made National, County or District representation or
- Have attended a centre of excellence or
- Have good footballing references from your school





WHAT WILL THE PROGRAMME INVOLVE?

IN ADDITION TO FOLLOWING A BTEC NATIONAL/FIRST DIPLOMA IN SPORT COURSE, PLAYERS WILL:

- Follow a soccer education programme that will develop your ability in all aspects of the game. A minimum of 6 timetabled hours would be given to coaching which would be delivered by fully qualified UEFA 'A' and 'B' coaches, many of whom would be ex-professionals themselves. As part of our unique partnership with Sunderland AFC one session per week will be delivered at the Academy of Light (Sunderland's training ground). The remaining sessions and base for the Centre will be the college's Bede VIth Form.
- During coaching, time will be spent on individual player assessment and analysis which will be supervised by qualified staff in addition to the coaching staff. This will involve all aspects of the game from skills and techniques, physical fitness through to sports psychology, in order to help you maintain your peak playing performance.
- Have the option to undertake various national coaching qualifications as part of the course in order to provide you with a stepping stone to building a future in the sports industry.
- Be eligible to compete in the BCS 'Centres of Football Excellence' League and Cup competitions on Wednesday afternoons. You would also have the opportunity to represent North East Schools at U-19 level, from which the best can go on to represent England at schoolboy level. Through the partnership arrangement described above, players will also be able to access playing and coaching opportunities at Sunderland RCA FC (Arngrove Northern League), a semi-professional club, to enable them to progress further in the game.

VENUE

The Development Centre will be based at the college's Bede Sixth Form Academy. There is a planned £300,000 refurbishment of sports facilities planned for September 2008 to cater for the new Development Centre, which includes substantial improvements to the existing playing pitches. There will be new and improved indoor facilities, including a sports hall, state-of-the-art fitness suite, sports science laboratory and performance analysis laboratory.

WHAT WILL I GAIN FROM BEING PART OF THE DEVELOPMENT CENTRE?

It is hoped that, in addition to the BTEC National Diploma qualification (equivalent to three A-levels) or the BTEC First Diploma (equivalent to 4 GCSE passes), your involvement in the football programme will enable you to develop your football skills to their full potential. At the end of your time with us, you will have the opportunity to progress into one or more of the following areas:

- Professional and Semi-Professional football
- Industries related to your academic and vocational qualifications studied at City of Sunderland College
- Higher Education

HOW DO I APPLY?

Trials will be held throughout the year for selection and the college will liaise closely with Sunderland secondary schools, Sunderland AFC and Sunderland RCA FC. There will be an intake of 20 players for the first year.

To apply for this unique opportunity, please ring the College Admissions Department on **(0191) 511 6260**.

City of Sunderland College

TELEPHONE 0191 511 6260

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for a better future