



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



MALE FOOTBALL & EDUCATION PROGRAMME



in partnership with Thurstable Sports College & Sixth Form Centre



**TO INSPIRE, ENRICH
AND UNITE OUR COMMUNITIES**

Registered Charity Number: 1159381

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OVERVIEW

The Football and Education programme aims to provide footballing, educational and volunteering opportunities to talented male footballers to assist them in reaching their potential on and off the pitch. Within a professional football club environment at Colchester United, individuals will compete in the EFL Education & Football Alliance, train four days a week addressing each corner of their football developmental needs (Technical-Tactical/Social-Wellbeing/Psychological/Physical), whilst studying full time at Thurstable 6th Form Centre. Students will also access their FA Level 1 & 2 Coaching Awards, alongside Colchester United Football in the Community's Volunteering programme which can lead to potential future employment opportunities within the football club. Over the past year we have now managed to create opportunities for all players in the system by having a Colchester United A and a Colchester United B team.



AIMS & OBJECTIVES

AIM:

To deliver a premier standard football and education programme to nurture and develop advanced footballers so they can achieve their potential on and off the pitch.

OBJECTIVES:

- Provide constant feedback on performance and progression designed to aid players reach optimal performance and progression
- Provide a long-term player driven and success focussed development pathway
- Provide a high-quality football programme operation that will help develop technically-advanced players with optimum decision-making skills within a tactical environment, while promoting self/team evaluation and analysis
- Provide a learning environment that will challenge players to try and achieve their maximum within a growth mindset
- Provide inspiring role models and guidance to individuals
- Provide volunteering, further educational and employability support/opportunities

COACHING STAFF



QUALIFICATIONS

UEFA A License,
MSc Advanced Football
Coaching and Performance

ISAAC BERRY

FOOTBALL COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Coaching has given me a number of opportunities and experiences. This has been across many different roles, countries and clubs.

I am lucky enough to currently be running the college program as well as coach in the clubs academy system. Working across the club in a number of roles is something that I feel will only benefit the program to share experiences and work with the club for the best possible support for our students.

Having completed my UEFA A licence in Wales and my Masters in Advanced Football Coaching and Performance has allowed me to combine my knowledge practically and academically. Being out on the grass every day is a passion and love of mine. Being able to work at Colchester United is a honour. Working in this current role allows me to help with players on the pitch in terms of their performance but also off the pitch academically.



QUALIFICATIONS

UEFA B License

JACK MUNNS

FOOTBALL COLLEGE HEAD COACH

After playing full time professional football for the best part of 10 years since leaving school player for clubs such as Tottenham Hotspur, Charlton Athletic and Hartlepool United.

I then completed my UEFA B Licence at the start of 2022 after always having a big interest in coaching. This began by helping with a Step 7 men's side for the past 4 years while still playing myself for local sides such as Dagenham & Redbridge and Dover Athletic. On top of this I had great experience of going back into Spurs academy where I was as a scholar and professional, to watch and learn from some top coaches.

After this I was offered a role in the Col U academy at the start of the year which has helped take my coaching to another level and fits in well with my part time playing side of the game. I am excited about working alongside Isaac and the other staff to be able to help grow the programme.

EDUCATION



All players are enrolled as full time students at Thurstable 6th Form to study any subject they wish that is taught at school or the University of Essex:

- 📖 A Levels (Various subjects)
- 📖 BTEC (Various subjects)

The breadth of courses available ensures that students can achieve at their individual level, whilst gaining the necessary skills and qualifications required for higher education at University, apprenticeships or employment.

Minimal GCSE grades are required for entry in Thurstable 6th Form and these will be outlined during the application process to the programme.

During the 2-3 years duration of the programme, players will have the option to undertake the following qualifications as part of the football programme:

- 📖 FA Level 1 Coaching
- 📖 FA Level 2 Coaching
- 📖 FA Emergency Aid Training
- 📖 FA Safeguarding Children Training
- 📖 Refereeing Award

CASE STUDY

ARCHIE CORNER

"I joined the programme because of how well it was spoken about. Whether it was the training or the quality of coaching we would receive, I thought this was the best way for me to progress as a footballer, a person and with my education.



"I enjoy the time we spend as a team the most. It really helps build a team collectiveness that pushes me to be the best I can be!"



"At Thurstable you will be listened to, valued and respected. We will make sure that you get the support you need alongside the challenge you need to help you reach your potential!"

GAVIN MUTTOCK, HEAD OF 6TH FORM

CASE STUDY

AARYAMAN PANDYA

"After hearing about the programme, I knew that I could make a lot more new friends. I also really wanted to play football whilst being in education and develop as a footballer. Thurstable School offered me a place in this programme and it was simply a no-brainer as it pretty much gave me exactly what I wanted.



"Every single day, I always look forward to finishing up all my schoolwork and getting outside to train with my teammates. Not only that, but the away days are always fun!

"Volunteering at the club has really allowed me to think about alternate pathways for my career. Not only that but it was very good for me to be able to help the younger generation and allow them to develop into better footballers, but most importantly, better people."

PLAYER PATHWAY



The Colchester United Community Foundation Football & Education College Programme is the affiliated college to the Colchester United Academy. Players who are enrolled onto the College Programme access everything that is in place for our academy players at Thurstable School and Florence Park (the Colchester United Training Ground), including:

- 📖 Facilities
- 📖 Physio
- 📖 Psychology
- 📖 Video Analysis
- 📖 Sports Science
- 📖 Gym
- 📖 Kit
- 📖 Coaching
- 📖 Travel Support available (subject to availability)

Thurstable 6th Form represents Colchester United in the EFL Community & Education Football Alliance (U19s) playing against other professional and academy linked teams nationally.

The progression pathway is always open to any player within Colchester United, following the philosophy of our football club. In the past we've had college players train and go on trial with our U18 scholars and any player that has the required ability has a football pathway to access.

Alternatively, relationships with local non-league clubs opens up development away from the club whilst training full-time on the programme.



VOLUNTEERING & EMPLOYMENT

Various volunteering, work experience and future employment opportunities are available at Colchester United and Colchester United CF. Previously we've had students access the following volunteering and work experience opportunities:

- 📖 Coaching
- 📖 Performance Analysis
- 📖 Physiotherapy
- 📖 Events Management
- 📖 Marketing & Media
- 📖 Matchday Activities
- 📖 Kit & Laundry

We have had a number of students go on to gain part and full time employment with the club direct from their volunteering and work experience placements undertaken while on the programme.



CASE STUDY

SAM BEAVIS

"The Thurstable football college programme provided me with a great opportunity to play and train at a quality level of football whilst completing my sixth form education (BTEC & A-Levels)."

"During my time on the programme I completed my FA Level 1 & 2 coaching qualifications and gained experience volunteering at the club."

"This allowed me to become an apprentice at Colchester United Community Foundation and build my way up to becoming a full-time member of staff, to now leading the Sport & Education department within three years!"

"I would recommend the programme to any aspiring player, coach or anyone who wants to work in the sports industry."





TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TO ATTEND OUR NEXT OPEN TRAINING SESSION AND OPENTRIAL GAME PLEASE CONTACT US:

 isaac.berry@colchesterunited.net

 01206 755160

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SCAN ME



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