





## A Warm Welcome!

The Football Scholarship Programme offered at Maltby Academy in conjunction with the world's first football club, Sheffield FC, is a unique opportunity for talented 16 – 18 year old footballers, to secure a realistic pathway into semi-professional/professional football, whilst studying at a highly successful Post 16 centre. The Sheffield Football Club scholarship is an elite football development programme and ensures that all students access a first class football experience, in addition to their Post 16 education.

Sheffield FC and Maltby Academy linked up in 2013, developing what is thought to be a first for a club at that level in the football pyramid and is considered somewhat unique in the South Yorkshire region.

Maltby Academy is a successful Post 16 school that sets standards high across both academic and practical disciplines.

Football Development

"An elite football development programme that ensures all students access a first class football experience, in addition to outstanding Post 16 education."

All players on the scholarship programme will undertake A Levels or BTEC level 3 in sport during the course, with possible opportunities to acquire work based qualifications such as the FA level 1 coaching badge in football. The students will access a high quality football provision working with coaches who have previously and currently coached/played within the professional game. The programme involves training on a daily basis with the scholarship management team. This provides the players with a fantastic opportunity to further develop their football education, development and knowledge of the game.

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## **Our Aims**

### The Programme aims to:









Develop better footballers and people (Life Values).



Enhance technical, tactical, physical and mental development.



Take players out of their comfort zone.



Develop confidence and mental strength in our players so that they can deal with all types of situations on and off the pitch.



Provide realistic academic and football pathways.



Provide a professional football environment whilst at the same time creating an experience our players will enjoy.

## **Philosophy**

The scholarship programme has a clearly identified philosophy whereby:

### In Possession



React quickly to transition (defence to attack).

Counter and attack quickly after regaining possession.

Adopt a possession-based approach played through the three-thirds of the pitch.

Develop effective distribution from the back.

If not can we retain possession of the ball to build an attack (patience).

### **Out of Possession**



React quickly to transition (attack to defence).

Regain possession as early as possible.

Press – nearest player(s) to press the man on the ball. Hunt in packs to recover the ball high up the field.

If we can't win the ball high up the pitch

- recover, delay opposition and get into our shape (patience).

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## **Meet the Team**

**Coaching Staff Qualifications & Experience:** 



Matt Higgins
Sheffield FC Scholarship Head Coach

UEFA A licence qualified coach. Prior to becoming the Scholarship Head Coach, Matt worked for various professional football clubs developing players who have successfully made the progression into professional football. He also has scouted for a number of professional football clubs.



Ronnie Moore Sheffield FC Scholarship Coach

UEFA Level 5 Coach Ronnie Moore played professionally for over 20 years before starting his managerial career at Rotherham United in 1997 where he won The League Manager of The Year in 2001.

# Our Facilities

All scholarship players have access to top class facilities in the Academy Sports Centre, supporting players to perform at the elite level. We use video analysis on a regular basis along with the latest fitness equipment, conditioning and coaching techniques to create an environment where individuals can reach their full potential.

### State of the art facilities include:

- VEO Sports Camera
- 3G full size floodlit astro-turf pitch
- Strength and conditioning studio
- Fitness suite
- Video analysis suite
- Sheffield FC home ground
- High quality grass pitches

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# Veo

Veo is an automated camera solution that enables sports teams to record and analyse matches and training sessions without the need for a camera operator. Veo 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 easy accessed bay platers and coached alike.





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A Typical Week:

	АМ	PM
MON	Technical/Tactical Training	A-Level/BTEC Education
TUE	Technical/Tactical Training	A-Level/BTEC Education
WED	Match Day - EFCA Premier League Fixture	
THU	Post Match Analysis	A-Level/BTEC Education
FRI	A-Level/BTEC Education	Technical/Tactical Training

<sup>\*</sup>Please note: This is an illustration of a typical week and shouldn't be used as an exact timetable.









# **Progression and Experience**

### **Experience:**

The scholarship programme provides an exceptional learning experience that mirrors professional football clubs:

- Performance analysis
- · Record matches and training
- · Analyse matches and training
- Sports photography
- Social media
- Journalism
- · Match days
- Coaching

### **Overseas Football Tours:**

On the scholarship programme we run an overseas football tour. Providing the students with an opportunity to play abroad is a great learning experience and an important tool in developing their technical ability. The scholars learn so much and benefit from playing and watching football of a different style and culture. We have recently visited Murcia, Barcelona and Dusseldorf as part of the football tour.

### **Progression Opportunities:**

There are many different progression routes our scholars have taken following completion of their scholarship programme. We have developed players that are now playing regular Evo-Stick or NCEL Football whilst continuing their education through University in the UK and in the US as part of an overseas scholarship programme. Others are now enjoying full time employment drawing upon their experiences from the scholarship programme.

### **Progression - Football:**

- · Professional football
- Semi-professional football
- America football scholarship
- · Sheffield FC first team
- Sheffield FC under 21's
- Sheffield FC under 18's
- · Coaching certificates

### Links to US College Scholarship **Providers:**

We have strong links with specialist companies that provide football scholarships in America. The students who perform to a high level both academically and on the football pitch will have a better opportunity to gain a US scholarship.

As part of the scholarship programme we provide the opportunity for students to excel both in the classroom and on the pitch.

Based on this preparation and the strong relationships we have forged with our partners, many of our scholars have progressed through the programme gaining either a part or fully paid football scholarship in the US.





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# **Scholarship FAQS**

### How long is the course?

The course is generally a two year programme at Post 16 at MLT.

#### Who is it for?

It is for boys and girls who are between 16 - 18 years of age that want to further their knowledge, understanding and ability in football whilst at the same time gain a first class academic education.

### What qualification will I gain?

Post 16 at MLT provides a broad range of specialist pathways from full academic A levels, to a mix of A levels and BTEC qualifications to fully vocational BTEC courses. This will depend on your previous qualifications at GCSE and your future career aspirations.

#### Where do I study?

You will study at both Maltby Academy and Sir Thomas Wharton Academy.

#### Where do I train?

You will train at Maltby Academy using the new 3rd generation astro-turf; strength and conditioning studio; fitness suite and video analysis suite.

### What type of training will I receive to help me progress?

Training will be based on improving you as players on ALL aspects of the game, with sessions concentrating on a players technique, tactical, psychological and social development. This may also involve footage of your very own SFC Scholarship games that will be played back to you in our analysis sessions to aid further player development.

#### Who will be teaching me?

Fully qualified teachers will be responsible for delivering your chosen academic or vocational courses, whilst our licensed coaches, who have experience in professional and semi-professional settings, will provide your football coaching and development.

### Do I get a kit?

As part of the Sheffield FC Scholarship programme, it is compulsory that all players purchase our kit package. The total cost of the kit package is subsidised. All scholarship players must wear their Sheffield FC kit for both training and match days. The kit will be given to players when they start on the programme in September.

### Can I still play for a Local Football Club if I am on the scholarship?





## **Sheffield FC Testimonials**

### Player

"I am very grateful for the opportunity I have been given at the Sheffield FC Scholarship at Maltby Academy.

Matt and the rest of the coaching staff are excellent and offer a very high level of coaching to help me progress and to become the best player I can be.

It's a great atmosphere to work in which makes me enjoy my football a lot more and anyone who's still looking to play at a high level and get an education should definitely look here."

### **Parent**

"I just wanted to drop you a quick email thanking you and your team for making my son feel so welcome at the training sessions. Having quizzed him about the session it is clear to see how much he enjoys attending. In his words the "coaching is class". I agree, from the sessions I have watched they are delivered in a professional manner as though these lads are pro footballers.

He comes off the training pitch with a smile on his face as he has been treated and coached in the right way... Full credit to you and your staff.

I have noticed that when you stop a session to coach, the lads are not made to feel like they have made a mistake, they are made to feel good in what they are doing but at the same time given the different options to improve their skill set. My son is really looking forward to next season and more quality sessions ahead. Thank you."







Contact Head Coach, Matt Higgins

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You will be invited to attend a training session with our current Scholars.



You will sign the Sheffield FC Scholarship Contract and will need to order your Sheffield FC Kit.



Following a successful training session, you will be invited to meet with the Post 16 team to discuss your A-Level/BTEC education.



You will join the Sheffield FC Scholarship Team in the Summer and start Pre-Season training, before starting your Post 16 Education in September.







### **Interested? Get in touch.**

Any players who are interested in our Scholarship Programme and want to find out more information, please contact Matt Higgins

Call 07384815037 or e-mail mhiggins@maltbyacademy.com

