

# BUXTON FC ACADEMY

## FOOTBALL & EDUCATION





**YOUR PATHWAYS. YOUR FUTURE.  
FOOTBALL. UNIVERSITY. EMPLOYMENT**



# **Buxton FC are on a journey. Be a part of it.**



## **The story so far...**

Following an investment of nearly **£1million** at the Tarmac Silverlands Stadium and under the steer of a dynamic Board led by Chairman David Hopkins, Buxton Football Club has ambition and intent to progress, and now boasts **one of the best 4G pitches in Europe.**

Central to our plans is a commitment to provide a direct pathway from our new academy to the semi-professional First Team and beyond. As such, we've chosen to partner with **Buxton & Leek College part of the University of Derby** to deliver our academy provision.

As part of this programme, our highest performing academy players will be selected to train and potentially begin integration into the First Team. In Paul Philips, Buxton FC has one of the youngest and most progressive First Team managers in the Northern Premier League. Paul is **committed to developing young talented players** and regularly fields one of the youngest average age teams in the Northern Premier League. In addition, for those students with an interest in progressing into backroom staff/coaching, this programme offers an abundance of opportunities, including analysis and coaching badges.

# The Course

## An amazing opportunity...

Students will represent Buxton FC in the **National Alliance Under 19's League** playing teams such as **Tranmere Rovers, Preston North End, Crewe Alexandra & Rochdale AFC**. Course content includes minimum two hours per day training, statistical analysis and a tailored physical development programme including Video Analysis Technology & PlayerTeK GPS analysis, heat mapping and more. Students will be able to access optional extra courses such as refereeing and coaching pathways.

## Level 3 Extended Diploma In Sport (Up to 168 UCAS points)

### Year One:

- Anatomy, Physiology and Bio-Mechanics
- Fitness and Performance
- Health and Safety
- Fitness Training and Programming
- Sport Coaching
- Fitness Testing
- Practical Skills
- Nutrition in Sport
- Sport and Sociology
- Gym Instructing

### Year Two:

- Psychology for Performance
- Sports Injuries and Rehabilitation
- Analysis in Sport
- Talent Identification
- Rules and Regulations in Sport
- Organising Sports Events
- Exercise and Lifestyle
- Business in Sport
- Working in the Leisure Industry



- **Direct pathway opportunity to multiple university degree programmes**
- **Direct pathway opportunity from academy to semi-pro and pro First Teams**
- **£1m+ invested in state-of-the-art facilities (including Video & PlayerTeK GPS analysis)**
- **ALL delivered at the Tarmac Silverlands Stadium (education, training and matches)**
- **Opportunities to train with the First Team and shadow professional coaches and players**

# UNIVERSITY PATHWAYS

This programme offers the opportunity to complete a Level 3 Extended Diploma thanks to our partnership with Buxton & Leek College part of the University of Derby, rated. This programme is equivalent to 3 A Levels with **up to 168 UCAS points awarded**. This is a credible, and in some ways preferable, post 16 study route for many, when compared to staying on at school to sit A Levels. Not every person enjoys the school environment or performs well in exams.

The majority of this programme is coursework-based and it is realistically more than possible to actually outperform A-level students in terms of UCAS points gained. Please see the grade comparison table to help you calculate points and compare with the A-level route. **Sports Science, Sports Performance, and Physiotherapy** are obvious progression degree routes and most universities welcome candidates from this programme. However, other diverse degree routes are possible including **Business Studies**. To find out more, search the entry criteria for the degree and university you may be interested in (entry criteria including UCAS points).

# Grade Comparison Table

A Level	UCAS Points	BTEC L3 Extended
A*A*A*	168	D*D*D*
AAA	144	DDD
BBB	120	DDM (128 points)
CCC	96	MMM
DDD	72	MMP (80 points)

- **Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sports**
- **Up to 168 UCAS points and a direct pathway to almost all UK Universities**
- **Onsite education by subject specialist teachers (NOT eLearning)**
- **Diverse degree route options including Sports Science and Business Studies**
- **Majority coursework with similar academic contact time to 3 A-levels**

# Common Misconceptions Answered

Myth 1: “Bright/able students don’t do this sort of programme”

Fact: The educational aspect of this academy programme (Extended Level 3 in Sport) is respected by universities and in widespread delivery across colleges and academies throughout the UK. It attracts many highly able candidates and it is possible to gain up to 168 UCAS points. You would need to score 3 A\* grades at A Level to match that score.

Myth 2: “This will limit my child’s opportunities of going to University”

Fact: An Extended Level 3 is the equivalent of 3 A Levels. Three A Levels at B grade are worth 120 UCAS points and an Extended Level 3 with three Distinctions is worth 144 UCAS points. Three A Levels at C grade are worth 96 UCAS points and three Merits are worth 96 UCAS points. It is possible to get 168 UCAS points with 3 Distinction stars on this course.

Fact: In general, students usually drop a grade between GCSE and A Level due to the increased difficulty, so if you are predicted grade 6/7s at GCSE (formerly Bs), statistically a student is likely to gain 3Cs at A Level. Excellent results in this programme are highly achievable with hard work, aided by the fact that it is majority coursework-based.

Fact: According to Which? 95% of universities now accept Extended Level 3 qualifications including Russell Group universities. You can study non sports related degrees as well as sports fields. Examples at Manchester Met University include Business Studies, Sports Science, and Sports Coaching & Development, all of which require a very achievable 104 UCAS points (DMM). To be clear, this programme is suitable for all sports related degree programmes, but there are many non sports related degree fields where the entry requirements are not subject specific. Please contact individual university admissions teams to discuss the degree you are interested in studying

Myth 3: “This is only for aspiring professional footballers”

Fact: Football is an important practical part of this programme, however many students attend similar programmes to prepare for careers in elite sports (coaching, physiotherapy, analysis), fitness & leisure, and non-sports related industries. Progression to both sports and non-sports degrees are common outcomes.

Myth 4: “Extended Diplomas are inferior to A levels”

Fact: Extended Diplomas offer a different route to work and higher education and when integrated into academy type programmes they have several advantages. Unlike continuing at school for A levels, this programme requires discipline, analytical skills and teamwork as students work in an elite sport performance environment with high expectations. These are rare skills in young people and in high demand by employers but not always developed in a larger sixth-form environment. What stories will your child be able to tell during future job interviews...?

Myth 6: “The education is secondary to playing football”

Fact: Teaching contact time on our course is similar to that of a three A Level programme. The training, preparation and matches are all completed in time over and above the important core education component and coaches exercise the right to withhold access to training sessions if academic targets are not being met. This programme is designed to enable not limit future opportunities.

Myth 7: “This scheme uses inferior teaching and facilities”

Fact: Unlike many academies, Buxton FC have committed to a high-quality academic teacher-led experience as opposed to sitting students in front of eLearning. Significant use of IT, media and performance analysis will be incorporated including player video & PlayerTeK GPS analysis, heat-mapping, and more. Over £1million has been invested in facilities, staff and technology. Our brand new teaching facility incorporated within the stadium using the latest technology, makes us one of the best football and education providers outside of the football league.

## Our Partners



# Employment Pathways

Being part of an elite sports environment shapes character and develops skills that are highly transferrable to the workplace. This football academy programme provides a unique opportunity to experience an elite performance environment alongside an academic study programme.

There are significant employment opportunities to specialise and work within the professional sports industry. However, beyond this sector, **today's employers want staff that are motivated, disciplined, able to critically analyse situations and develop solutions, and understand how to excel as part of a team.** In a highly competitive job market, these are exactly the transferrable skills that can set CVs apart from others that have stayed at school to complete post 16 education.

- **Employment opportunities with elite sports to specialise and beyond**
- **Develop highly transferrable skills relevant to the modern workplace**
- **Develop a CV that stands out against the majority of young people**
- **Development opportunities within elite sports, fitness, leisure and far beyond**
- **2 years' experience in a disciplined high-performance environment (including a reference)**



**BE A PART OF IT...**

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