



Blackpool FC School

**Our Alternate
Education Offer**



Our Vision

To change the lives of local residents and build a more healthy, active and work ready community.

Our Mission

To develop and deliver diverse community programmes and build partnerships to provide the people of Blackpool with the best opportunities. We will do this by:

- Increasing social inclusion
- Improving physical fitness, overall health
- Reducing involvement in anti-social behaviour
- Raising aspirations and expanding local education offers

Our Values

In all our work we will be:

Bold & Innovative

Focused on our
Community

Creative &
Forward Thinking





School Vision

The vision of Blackpool FC Community Trust is to build an Independent School to support local secondary education with an Alternate Provision. Pupils that want to maintain a full-time curriculum but struggle in the mainstream setting, however, show a keen interest in sport and physical activity. This vision is fully supported by local schools, as it will clearly support some of the most vulnerable youngsters in the town and fill a very significant gap in provision for the area.

Location

The School is at Blackpool FC's Stadium on Bloomfield Road in a purpose-built facility, designated to the school, in the North Stand area of the Stadium.

Why Choose the BFC School?

Blackpool FC Community Trust has a first-class record and reputation for its pioneering and life changing provisions across Blackpool, and now wants to support with an even greater depth in education. The charity will operate an Alternate Provision School as part of an ambitious £3.5m education, sport and community facility in Blackpool.

The BFC School will welcome and cater for students aged 14-16 years of age who are experiencing challenges in mainstream education. During their time in our care, our team will create individual and innovative learning programmes that are as unique as each student and designed to inspire and re-engage each young person. This offer will build on the excellent experience BFCCT has already acquired in working on a shorter provision for students from various schools.

The school will take a holistic approach to meeting each student's individual education, personal development and wellbeing needs.





Blackpool FC Community Trust Experience

Blackpool FC Community Trust was founded in 2009 and uses the power of football to Inspire, Engage and Educate thousands of people every year.

As one of the largest and leading sports charities in the UK, it has an excellent reputation for its pioneering educational work with children, young people and their families.

The Trust works with tens of thousands of course registrants every year using ground-breaking and award-winning sports, health, community and education programmes.

As a result of our strong relationships, unique expertise, and outstanding educational track record, the Trust is experienced in working with schools and learning providers throughout the region but also has the freedom to work across age groups and with other (like minded) agencies.

The Community Trust's approach to education is innovative; we think outside the box, take risks and work in partnership to provide a safe, inspiring and encouraging environment to develop learning pathways that are as individual as the young people we work with.

Over the last 15 years the Trust has achieved exceptional educational results:

The Trust can attract and reach young people that may not access other services or agencies. Our results demonstrate our track record in motivating young people, particularly those who feel marginalised from the education system or wider society. We don't just measure our success by education and vocational attainment – our results are also visible in improved engagement and behaviour and increased confidence and self-esteem.

All the schools we have worked with would indicate we have provided a track record of success. This commitment to young people, has already allowed us to improve the life chances of a small cohort of students. Our ambitions mean that we want to help more young people in our area.

The Trust inspires, encourages and supports young people to gain knowledge, skills and qualifications to enhance their life chances. We don't just deliver core curriculum subjects such as literacy and numeracy but also focus on employability and offer unrivalled access to vocational opportunities and networks that can connect young people to many local businesses.

Structurally and financially independent of Blackpool Football Club, the Community Trust is the architect of its own success raising over £1.9 million per annum to deliver life-changing learning experiences across the town.

Operation

The Blackpool FC School caters for students between the age range of 14-16 in Years 10 and 11.

- The pupils will attend 8.45am - 3.15pm each day (Monday - Friday).
- The target audience will be Year 10 and Year 11.
- Every student will be provided with a Club/Puma branded uniform.
- Pupils will remain on the designated secondary schools roll, but also be entered on roll with the Blackpool FC School, meaning a shared responsibility will be upheld.



Our Promise to Students

Students will be at the very heart of our school, and we are passionate about embedding strong foundations and values for their future achievement and success. We recognise that every student is an individual and celebrate this through personalised, inspiring and authentic learning experiences which are carefully designed to nurture talent, build character and help to shape futures.

Our aim is to offer young people a chance to shine and help them find their way back into long-term education, subsequently, we encourage commissioning schools to select their students on this basis.

The BFC School specialises in supporting young people where assessments and supporting evidence clearly demonstrates the young person:

- Would benefit from alternative provision intervention to support their reintegration back into mainstream education.
- Is finding it difficult to respond positively to existing behaviour strategies and plans and there is evidence of acceleration in the nature and/or frequency of the incidences of inappropriate behaviour.

Our Promise to Parents and Carers

The BFC School will place great importance on its relationship with students and their parents and carers. Our approach is one of shared aspirations and mutual goals. It is important to us that we involve and engage parents and carers throughout each child's learning journey. By working closely together in partnership we can better support each young person's development and progress.

Our approach is a collaborative one designed to build positive and strong relationships and involves parents and carers in helping to make the key decisions about their child's future.

We encourage parents and carers to become active participants in school life, welcoming them into school and valuing their insights and contribution.

The Potential Education Pathway for Pupils

The opportunities for young people to engage in a much longer-term education, which will initially start with attendance at BFC School are endless, but a simple pathway with BFC CT can include:





Curriculum

The curriculum at the BFC School is very much about early intervention to increase levels of confidence, motivation and engagement.

The key focus of our curriculum provision is to enhance essential academic skills, whilst also providing students with a range of opportunities and experiences focused on personal development and wellbeing.

Our curriculum provides all students with the opportunity to achieve qualifications in:

- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Science – Double Award
- BTEC Level 2 Sport and Coaching

These are all recognised Progress 8 qualifications:

All students will also be entered for Functional Skills qualifications in English and Maths at the appropriate level, from Entry to Level 2. Early entry for these exams has a positive impact on self-esteem and builds confidence which extends to GCSEs.

Additional non-Progress 8 qualifications focus on student personal development in the form of Duke of Edinburgh Bronze and Silver qualifications, NCFE in Digital Skills and ASDAN Certificate of Personal Effectiveness.

Students will also study:

- Geography/ History/ Art & ICT through project-based learning
- PSHE
- Sport
- Life Skills
- Enrichment
- Employability

Students in KS4 also have the option to undertake weekly, full or half-day work placements with local employers where appropriate.

Opportunities are built across the curriculum to support student literacy and numeracy, underpinned by SMSC, British Values, PSHE and CEIAG.





Curriculum Breakdown

Subject	Qualification	Content	Rationale
English Language	GCSE Functional Skills	GCSE / Functional Skills specifications	Core subject essential for a strong balanced foundation of learning
English Literature	GCSE Functional Skills	GCSE / Functional Skills specifications	Core subject essential for a strong balanced foundation of learning
Maths	GCSE Functional Skills	GCSE / Functional Skills specifications	Core subject essential for a strong balanced foundation of learning
Science	GCSE – Double Award	GCSE specifications	Core subject essential for a strong balanced foundation of learning
Humanities, Art & Design & ICT	School Assessment	Project Based Learning	Students will cover History and Geography through a range of projects designed with hands on practical learning. All projects have been designed around the local area.
Vocational	BTEC	BTEC Specification: Sport and Coaching	Option offers practical, hands on experience, balanced with the relevant skills and theory necessary for the future success in the workplace. Linked directly to college courses, achievement at L1/L2 supports post 16 progression.
Essential Life Skills	ASDAN Certificate of Personal Effectiveness	This is an inter-disciplinary course which covers aspects of careers, health, personal safety, physical activity, employment opportunities, applying for jobs and personal finance. Elements of the course map on to programmes of study at Key Stage 4 for Citizenship, British Values and PHSE, such as personal and economic well-being and financial capability.	Students need to feel they are being supported in making informed choices and taking positive steps towards their future employability. The short course provides a range of transferable work-related experiences which will support students in all sectors of industry.
	NCFE Digital Skills	An NCFE qualification that gives students the needed skills to use simple computer programmes, including Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint, whilst also supporting students to use email and safe internet usage.	Students need to be confident with the use of computers in the digital age and feel comfortable in using platforms and programmes used in the day-to-day work environment
	Duke of Edinburgh	The Duke of Edinburgh programme has 4 sections: Volunteering, Physical, Skills and Expedition. Students complete a minimum of 3 months activity for each of the Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections and plan, train and undertake a 2-day/1-night Expedition. They also spend an additional 3 months on one of the Volunteering, Physical or Skills sections.	The Duke of Edinburgh Award offers students the chance to try new and exciting activities, often for the first time. The opportunities can be life-changing experiences which allow students to develop a range of life skills through innovative and unique experiences.



<p>Enrichment</p>	<p>Contributes towards ASDAN certificate of personal effectiveness</p>	<p>Beyond the school curriculum, students have the chance to further participate in activities such as sport, charity work, volunteering, community partnerships and work experience.</p>	<p>Students are given the freedom to undertake their own enrichment activities and find a pursuit that they are most interested in. Students are encouraged to become involved in school life which creates a community ethos within the school and as a result, fosters development of further skills, such as teamwork, communication and commitment. Opportunities are on offer for students to build their knowledge, skills, understanding and personal development through leisure and enrichment activities.</p>
<p>Employability</p>	<p>Contributes towards ASDAN certificate of personal effectiveness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining work standards • Teamwork • Career exploration • Overcoming barriers to work • Enterprise skills • Rights and responsibilities at work • Applying for a job • Interview techniques • Health and safety in the workplace • Customer service • Tackling problems • Learning through work experience • Work Experience 	<p>Students learn skills such as how and where to find employment opportunities, how to apply for jobs and courses and how to prepare for an interview – all vital experience for life after school.</p>





Governance

The Governance of the school will be responsibility of Blackpool FC Community Trust's Board of Trustees, who employ a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to oversee the governance, strategic direction, development and overall management of all operations of the Trust.

Blackpool FC Community is subject to a strict Capability Code of Practice, governed by the EFL Trust and Premier League. Subjects within this process include Safeguarding, Recruitment, Behaviour, People, Governance and the Board, Strategy, Finance, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, Data Protection, Risk Management, Health and Safety and Incident Reporting to name a few.

The school will also be subject to inspections by the Department for Education, as part of the Independent School expectancies.

Our Staff

Aside from an inspirational and unique environment to study, one of our strengths is the expertise and quality of our staff.

All of our teaching team are highly experienced educators who are dedicated to making a difference to the lives of young people, and to inspiring, encouraging and energising their love of learning.

Our highly skilled team of qualified teachers and support staff ensure all our students are at the very heart of our educational offer. This shared vision of excellence for all and drive to help each young person reach their true potential, promotes a school culture and ethos of high expectation, personal responsibility and achievement.

Our student pathways are devised from a holistic approach to learning and tailored to meet the unique needs and ability of each young person. Our experienced educators are focused on raising standards in literacy and numeracy and removing barriers to wider educational success. All our staff are skilled in recognising the strengths and potential of each individual and are adept at nurturing and cultivating these unique talents.

With a curriculum firmly embedded in developing academic and vocational skills, alongside personal development and wellbeing, our teaching staff also aim to prepare our young people for a life beyond school. Ensuring that the pupil's positive contributions as members of their community will be valued and encouraged.

Every student matters and our dedicated staff strive to 'go the extra mile' to ensure every student enjoys a life-changing experience and makes the progress they are capable of. Using detailed assessments of how we can support our students, insightful knowledge of our students' needs as individuals, and our considerable teaching and learning experience, we are confident every young person will learn more, do more and be more.



Staffing Structure

A staffing structure will be put in place to cater to the students' needs and to deliver the developed curriculum.

The Head of School will oversee the day-to-day operation of the facility, in addition to the education standards, enrichment offer, safeguarding and welfare of all pupils and staff.

Curriculum leads will be employed for Maths, English, Science and BTEC sport, with pastoral care/ teaching mentors based with each of the four classes on site.



Teacher of English	Teacher of Mathematics	Teacher of Science	BTEC Sport Officer
Learning Mentor	Learning Mentor	Learning Mentor	Learning Mentor





Admissions

The BFC School welcomes students aged 14-16 years by referral from partner schools and education providers.

Our students are likely to be young people who feel they are on the margins of a mainstream school. They are possibly young people for whom life beyond school is an enormous challenge, which could be due to family or personal circumstances or situations they have become involved in.

Our Admission goals:

- Year 10 or 11 students will be inspired and encouraged to become re-engaged with their learning, through exposure to creative, vocational and work-based experiences that will enable them to achieve success in academic and vocational courses.
- In Years 10 and 11 students have the opportunity to experience first-hand the real-life world of work and to acquire valuable employability skills working with our unique network of business partners.

The BFC School will operate an admissions process that supports schools, academies and local authorities to accommodate youngsters who are in need of alternative educational provision and who would benefit from an alternative learning placement.

The young people who attend the BFC School will be dual registered and will remain on the roll of their host school or academy. The BFC School will work in partnership with commissioning organisations (schools, academies, local authorities) to ensure that all our young people will benefit through improved outcomes, re-engagement, focus and renewed aspiration as a result of a clear pathway for the future.

Carefully planned transition, curriculum continuity and appropriate re-integration are key features of admissions to the BFC School.

Number of Places

The school will initially host 2 classes for Year 10 pupils, consisting of 8 pupils per class.

This will be the same for Year 11, meaning a maximum occupancy for the school is 32 full time pupils, with potential aspirations to expand this offer to 48 pupils, in future years, subject to capacity and local need.

Schools will sign pupils to 1-year agreements, with a review in the Spring 2 term (February-April) of the academic year for proposed provision the following year.

Blackpool FC Community Trust will take responsibility for catering services and uniforms for all pupils on site. The school and pupils will have responsibility for transport arrangements.

