

2024 | 2025 SEASON

IMPACT REVIEW

PROUD TO BE SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

www.bfcct.co.uk

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BLACKPOOL FC OWNER

Simon Sadler



As custodian of Blackpool Football Club, I'm incredibly proud of the work carried out by our Community Trust. Anyone who grows up in Blackpool like I did, knows that our town and our Football Club are connected on all levels. In this report you will see examples of the impact that our Club and Trust have had over the last year on the people of Blackpool. I am particularly pleased to see the education outreach work of the Trust featured. Education is the key to the future success of our young people - the work the Trust has done this year is very impressive and should be celebrated.

We know our town faces challenges, and I'm proud that our Trust continues to support adults in our community, many with physical and mental health difficulties. The important work set out in this review shows how our Trust is giving the people in our communities the help they need.

To all our staff, volunteers and community partners I want to say a very special thank you – our Trust wouldn't be able to do its important work without you.





CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Ashley Hackett

As Blackpool FC's official charity, our role is to support people in Blackpool to live happier and healthier lives, whether that's through social engagement, education or physical activity programmes. I think it's fair to say we offer a great range of provision to support people of all ages.

The 2024/2025 season brought many challenges but again many successes, which the charity, Football Club, BFC fans and the wider community should be very proud of.

I'm particularly proud of three new areas for this past season. The first being our BFC School achieving a 'GOOD' Ofsted rating in November. The team do an incredible job supporting young people who have not had the best relationship with education and to see the school rated so highly helps make the more challenging days much easier.

The second focused on managing Montgomery Academy's sports facilities and making them available for the community outside school hours. We have ambitious plans to further develop the site and aim to make it as successful as Aspire Sports Hub.

My third focus is developing a wide range of programmes for working-age adults. This year, we expanded our town-wide weight management offer, Active Minds sessions promoting positive mental health through football, and our men's 5-a-side leagues. These initiatives support a group in our community that I felt previously lacked sufficient provision, and they are now well attended and positively received.

I want to take this chance to thank all the team at Blackpool FC Community Trust for their commitment and hard work. It's inspiring to see the impact their great work has on our community every day.

28,692 PEOPLE TOOK PART IN OUR ACTIVITIES

307,544 VISITS TO SESSIONS THIS SEASON

17,793 SESSIONS DELIVERED TO OUR COMMUNITY

£3,112,419 ..... RAISED TO DELIVER OUR PROJECTS

SEPTEMBER 2024



We hosted our Strategy Launch Event at the stadium

Enterprise winners were invited to hospitality at Blackpool FC





Parents and players attended our Girls' Elite Coaching Pathway Induction

OCTOBER 2024

The Fit2Glow Final took place in the Blackpool Tower Circus





Our Blackpool FC Sports College students enjoyed experiencing NCS

We held a Show Racism the Red Card Event at the stadium



NOVEMBER 2024



EFL Week of Action: Lee Evans visited Premier League Kicks

EFL Week of Action: Oliver Casey met our Tower Above participants





EFL Week of Action: James Husband coached at Walking Football

DECEMBER 2024

Staff & volunteers wrapped over 1,500 presents for our Christmas Campaign





First team players helped us deliver presents to 35 Blackpool schools

Our NAAFI participants enjoyed their Christmas Party



JANUARY 2025



Blackpool FC School achieved 'Good' during Ofsted inspection

We hosted our local PLPS Girls Under 11's Tournament





We launched our Cancer Pre-Habilitation sessions

FEBRUARY 2025

We presented our Premier League Community Captain with an award





The Premier League Inspires Challenge took place at the stadium

We celebrated our four EFL Community Heroes at half time



MARCH 2025

Professional Game Match Officials Ltd delivered a workshop





We visited Wolves' Training Ground for the Premier League Changemakers Event

Jordan Gabriel challenged participants at our Esports Community League



APRIL 2025



Dance Syndrome delivered a fun and inclusive session at our Stars Camp

Our Premier League Kicks participants tried Kick Boxing





Blackpool FC Sports College A Team won the CEFA league title

MAY 2025

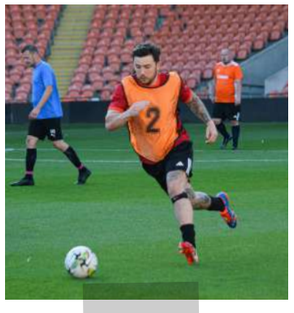
EFL Kids Cup winners, Norbreck Primary Academy visited Wembley Stadium





Our Fit2Go Festival took place on the pitch at Bloomfield Road

Active Minds participants enjoyed a friendly match on the pitch



JUNE 2025



We celebrated Armed Forces Week with funders and participants

Students enjoyed the Blackpool FC Sports College End of Season Awards





For Volunteers Week, we thanked those who give up their time to help us

JULY 2025

We hosted a Kellogg's Day with a special visit from the EFL Trophies





Our Beaverbrooks Enterprise Challenge took place at the stadium

The Premier League Trophy made the Jimmy Armfield Tournament extra special.



AUGUST 2025



Blackpool FC Sports College Students celebrated their results

After six busy weeks our summer holiday camps came to an end

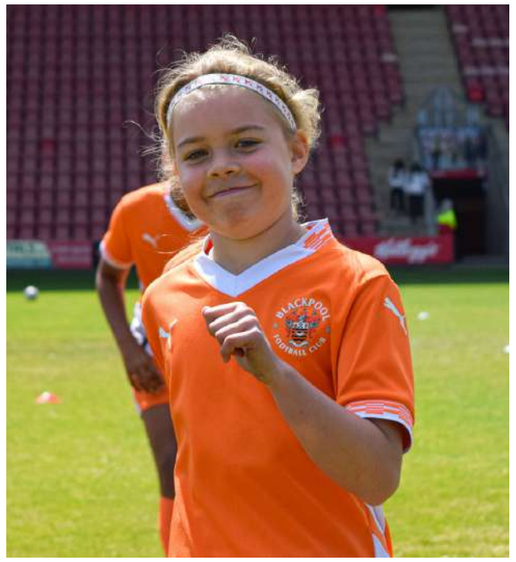




We enrolled a brand new cohort of students at Blackpool FC Sports College

EARLY YEARS & PRIMARY PROGRAMMES















HEAD OF EARLY YEARS & PRIMARY

Marc Joseph



Another successful season has seen our department strengthen partnerships, expand our reach, and achieve meaningful growth in outcomes. We continue to deliver high-quality provision that improves the physical literacy and education of local children, while breaking down social barriers through engaging activities in safe, structured environments. From festivals to tournaments and unique experiences, our work reflects the culture of Blackpool, with the club and our sponsors embedded at every level.

This year, our team made a tangible difference in partner schools, raising the standard of PE through fun, structured lessons and teacher upskilling.

Norbreck Primary Academy were successful in winning both the EFL Kids Cup local and regional tournament, narrowly missing out at the national final at Wembley.

We have remained the leading holiday camps provider in Blackpool, with sports camps supporting over 600 children per day, including 300 through the Government-funded Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme.

The FA Girls' Emerging Talent Centre (ETC) delivered another outstanding season, providing elite-level coaching and opportunities for female footballers to compete against the country's best. Several players progressed to girls' academies, and we have secured funding for a further three years, cementing our ETC as one of the top elite programmes in the Northwest.

At the heart of everything we do is the growth and development of every child in our community. Each opportunity is designed to provide positive experiences, meaningful challenges, and lasting impact. I would like to thank our teams for their passion and dedication, and our funders for enabling us to provide schools and families with experiences that promote wellbeing and instil pride.

273
FOOTBALLERS AT TINY TANGERINES

34 PREMIER LEAGUE PRIMARY STARS SCHOOLS

7,000+
HEALTHY MEALS PROVIDED ON OUR HAF CAMPS



MORE THAN 16,000 YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGED

NURSERY DELIVERY

We work closely with local Early Years (EY) providers to offer a range of opportunities for young children that improve their health, social skills, and physical literacy. We support EY settings to provide children with their recommended three hours of physical activity per day. Our staff are highly motivated and understand the importance of working within the EY Foundation Stage framework through experience delivering physical activities in these private and community settings.

TINY TANGERINES

Mini football sessions for 18-month-olds to 7-year-olds designed to increase confidence, coordination and football skills while allowing them to engage with others. The Sports Development team have created a coaching curriculum that develops and challenges participants of all abilities. The sessions are a perfect introduction to football for some children and a pathway into local grassroots football teams.



SPORTS CAMP

We have delivered affordable holiday multi-sport camps for 15 years and continue to build on our quality and reputation in the town. Our Sports Development team deliver up to eight multi-sport camps each school holiday, they provide a fun, friendly and secure environment for children to socialise and take part in sports, games and arts and crafts. The popular camps span the length of the town and give families cost-effective solutions to childcare.

DANCE CAMP

In partnership with AVR Dance, we have continued to grow our dance camp in the heart of Layton. Designed for children aged 5 to 14, this camp offers a fun, energetic environment where young dancers can make new friends and develop their skills. Each day features exciting dance routines covering a wide range of styles, catering to all ability levels.

FOOTBALL CAMP & GIRLS FOOTBALL CAMP

Situated at Aspire Sports Hub, our football camp and girls football camp are delivered during every school holiday, utilising both the indoor and outdoor space available at the facility. Qualified coaches deliver age-appropriate sessions that cater to all skill levels, with a focus on ball mastery and fundamental football movements to help players improve their game. They were enhanced over the summer by the inclusion of the campaign, Kellogg's Football Camps, in partnership with the EFL.



HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES & FOOD (HAF)

Our wide reach across Blackpool makes us the leading provider of the Department for Education-funded Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme. Our Sports Development team coordinate HAF provision that spans across 12 venues throughout the season, supporting 300 participants a day. The programme aims to assist families in Blackpool who receive benefit-related free school meals to continue to access healthy meals and activities during the school holidays. We provide participants with free access to four hours of enrichment activities, a healthy meal, snacks, and drinks throughout Easter, Christmas and summer holidays.

UNSTOPPABLE - SAFER STREETS

A free PSHE programme for all Year 6 pupils in Blackpool, Unstoppable is funded by Blackpool Council as part of the Safer Streets campaign to enhance public safety through education.

The programme addresses antisocial behaviour, mental health, knife crime, relationships, and the transition to secondary school. Using a literature-based, pupil-led approach, it empowers children to feel safe, heard, and supported. Unstoppable plays a vital role in building safer, better-informed communities.

FIT2GO

We have delivered our free six-week programme for all Year 4 pupils across Blackpool to encourage healthy, informed lifestyle choices for over 15 years. Funded by Blackpool Council, Public Health Blackpool, NHS Blackpool CCG, and BFCCT, Fit2Go combines active learning with classroom-based education on physical activity, nutrition, and wellbeing.

The programme culminates in a three-day Festival at Bloomfield Road Stadium, where 1,200+ pupils engage in a celebration of their learning through activities on the pitch, creating memorable impact.



PREMIER LEAGUE PRIMARY STARS (PLPS)

Funded by the Premier League Charitable Fund, PLPS is offered to every primary school across Blackpool. It supports teachers in building skills, confidence and knowledge in delivering high-quality PE lessons aligned with the national curriculum, helping to raise overall standards of physical education. We promote physical literacy, positive mental health, healthy lifestyles, and greater understanding of equality and inclusion.

Working in collaboration with Blackpool FC, Premier League, EFL in the Community, Blackpool Council, Show Racism the Red Card, the National Literacy Trust, PGMOL, and Active Blackpool, we ensure young people have access to exciting, new, impactful opportunities and exceptional support.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

This year, we've proudly welcomed nearly a thousand children through our doors to celebrate birthdays. Whether it's mini matches, cross bar challenges, penalty shoot-outs, foot darts or meeting Bloomfield Bear, our football parties make it a birthday to remember.

Our new Esports parties offer gaming experiences for the birthday child and up to 11 of their friends. Staff host EA Sports FC or Rocket League challenges and tournaments in our state-of-the-art Gaming Suite.

FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT

We deliver high-quality, structured coaching sessions led by FA and UEFA-qualified coaches, including BFC Academy staff. Small group sessions focus on technical development and tactical understanding, following the Academy curriculum.

Our specialist Goalkeeper Development sessions address areas often overlooked in grassroots football, enhancing players' fitness, confidence, and technical ability. Coaches work closely with each participant to refine goalkeeping skills and elevate overall performance.

TANGERINE TEAM MATES

The Tangerine Team Mates initiative has been another successful one, enabling us to enhance the relationship between Blackpool FC players and local grassroots teams across the Fylde Coast. This season saw local grassroots teams engage with their Blackpool FC first team player during training sessions visits, and participated in match day experiences, including flag-baring and a half-time football challenge.

BOOT BANK

The Boot Bank allows previously used boots to be re-homed and re-used and can be accessed discreetly by anyone in the community, no donation is required in return. This is an environmental movement to ensure football boots do not end up in landfills and can be recycled for future use. We currently have over 100 pairs of boots donated.

GIRLS GOALKEEPER DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Our weekly girls goalkeeper development centre for 8 to 12 year olds aim to improve every participant by providing high-quality, structured coaching sessions delivered by FA/UEFA qualified goalkeeper coaches offering shot stopping, distribution, 1v1 and other aspects following our professional curriculum.

GIRLS ELITE COACHING PATHWAY

This invitation-only 30-week programme offers selected players the opportunity to receive weekly 90-minute coaching sessions, delivered by experienced elite coaching staff. The programme aligns closely with the ETC curriculum, providing consistent, high-quality development for aspiring young footballers.

BLACKPOOL SIXTH FORM GIRLS TEAM

Our Female Football Development team continue to coach and manage Blackpool Sixth Form's girls' football team. The weekly training sessions are part of the college enrichment programme and help prepare the girls for upcoming league fixtures against other colleges in the Northwest.

FUTURE LIONESS DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

These sessions are open to everyone but are most suitable to girls who currently play for a football team and are medium-to-high ability players. Sessions offer high-quality coaching mirroring our FA Girls' Emerging Talent Centre.

FA GIRLS' EMERGING TALENT CENTRE (ETC)

Our ETC is funded by the Premier League and has more than 75 girls enrolled. It has expanded and diversified the local talent pool, giving girls the opportunity to take the first steps towards emulating their heroes. We are the central hub for talented players from Blackpool, Fylde and the surrounding areas. We work with grassroots clubs, schools and local coaches to identify talented players for this elite training experience. We offer a comprehensive approach to player development, giving all girls access to a high-quality training, strength and conditioning coaches, an on-site physiotherapist, nutritional advice and health and wellbeing support. Our ETC is free to attend, enabling us to remove financial burden faced when accessing elite-level training.

BLACKPOOL FC GIRLS FEEDER SESSIONS

Our feeder sessions are designed to be an introduction to girls' football and a pathway to Blackpool FC Girls and Ladies. Training is delivered by our staff and focuses on developing key skills in a fun, friendly and safe environment. The sessions specifically focus on developing fundamental football skills alongside agility, balance and coordination.

BLACKPOOL FC GIRLS' AND LADIES

Within grassroots we pride ourselves on developing young female players at all levels, and have an excellent track record in providing pathways from junior teams through to our ladies' first teams.

Our detailed approach to training, games and welfare provides a platform for players to perform to their best. We promote opportunities in Regional Talent Centres, FA Emerging Talent Centres and District Teams.

Our Ladies First Team recently moved their home fixtures to AFC Blackpool and currently play in the 6th tier of women's football, in the Northwest Women's Regional League, where they hope to challenge for promotion. Support from Blackpool FC and BFCCT has allowed the girls to access free kit, hold events at the stadium and take professional team photos on the pitch.

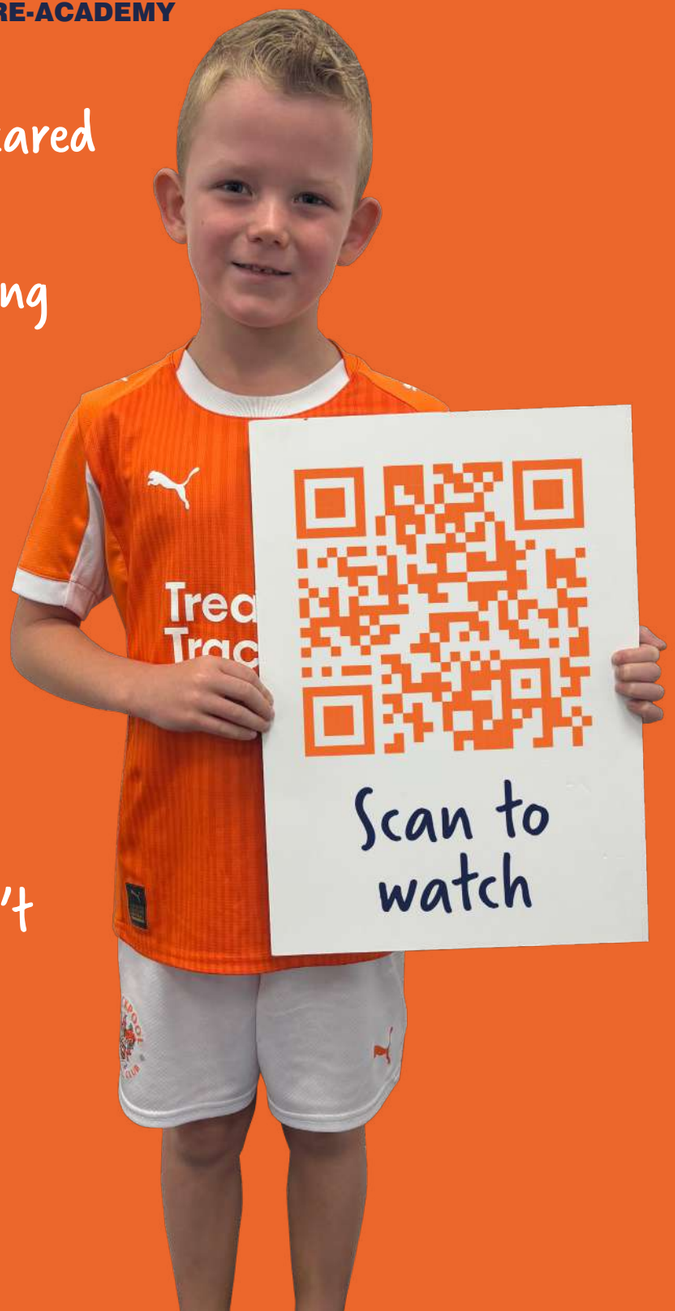


MEET HARRY

TINY TANGERINES TO BFC PRE-ACADEMY

"I felt a little bit scared because it was my first time ever playing football, but Gaz came to hold my hand.

"It gave me confidence to play against the other players when I didn't know anybody."



At the start of Year 4, Niamh was bright and hard working but quite shy. She enjoyed PE, but rarely spoke up or showed her full potential in front of the class. One of our PE Officers, Rob, noticed this and started giving her opportunities to take the lead, demonstrating skills to her friends, leading warm-ups, and helping her classmates.

Over time, Niamh's confidence grew. She started earning weekly certificates for showing the Premier League Primary Stars values (Connected, Fair, Ambitious, Inspiring) and became a role model for her class. Her confidence in PE also carried over into other lessons, with teachers noticing her speaking up more in discussions.

Her teacher, Mr Brent-Reid, added, "At the beginning of Year 4, Niamh was a reserved young lady who enjoyed PE but didn't articulate herself. Recently, I've seen a more expressive young girl who likes to share what she's learned from the coaches."

Niamh said, "Since I've been taking part, I feel more confident speaking during lessons and answering questions. I've really enjoyed learning lots of different sports, and it's helped me understand all the different skills there are in PE. I've learned that making mistakes is okay. I used to be scared to get it wrong, but now I know that's how you learn."



Niamh

PREMIER LEAGUE PRIMARY STARS



Miss Finlay

PREMIER LEAGUE PRIMARY STARS

Even though Miss Finlay is an experienced class teacher, PE was out of her comfort zone. When Revoe Learning Academy adopted a new approach towards PE, they partnered with Blackpool FC Community Trust to help build confidence in their teachers' PE delivery.

At first, Jack, one of our PE Officers, led the sessions while Miss Finlay observed. She watched how he structured lessons, managed behaviour, and linked activities to the wider curriculum. Over time, she began co-delivering elements of the lesson, then took responsibility for warm-ups and end of session feedback.

Each week, Jack and Miss Finlay reflected on what worked and what didn't. Jack offered constructive tips and shared the reasoning behind his teaching methods.

By the end of the first term, Miss Finlay was leading most lessons on her own. The children were engaged and motivated, and Miss Finlay felt ready to deliver lessons that were both fun and educational. She is confident in tailoring lessons to the needs of her pupils while staying aligned with the National Curriculum.

Miss Finlay said, "I feel much more comfortable delivering PE after watching Jack lead the lessons. His planning has made it easier for me to teach, and the children are more engaged. Working with BFCCT has made a big difference, it's improved my delivery and continues to help every child develop."



EFL UTILITA KIDS CUP 2025

Norbreck Primary Academy proudly represented Blackpool FC at the EFL Utilita Kids Cup Regional Finals in Wigan, competing against 11 other club representatives for the chance to compete in the final at Wembley Stadium.

Drawn into a competitive group of six, the team battled through five intense matches, remaining unbeaten and topping the group with two wins and three draws, without conceding a single goal. They continued their strong form in the knock-out stages with a 1-0 quarter-final win over Bolton and a dramatic penalty shoot-out victory against Burton in the semi-finals. Another goalless draw in the final against Wigan set up a tense shoot-out, where Norbreck held their nerve to win 3-2 and secure their spot at Wembley.

Norbreck reached Wembley by progressing through a tournament of over 240 schools. Travelling down with coaches and families, the team embraced the occasion with professionalism and pride.

Before kick-off, the players walked up Wembley Way in their tangerine shirts, took part in a VIP stadium tour, and were inspired by Blackpool FC's 1953 FA Cup legacy. A motivational talk from football icon Adebayo Akinfenwa added to the memorable experience.

After a tense 0-0 draw against Charlton Athletic Community Trust, the match was decided by a dramatic penalty shoot-out, with Charlton winning 3-2.

The final was evenly matched, with strong defending, key saves, and chances for both sides. In the shoot-out, Norbreck held their nerve but narrowly missed out.

Despite the result, the team left Wembley with heads held high, having shown resilience, composure, and team spirit.

Congratulations to Charlton Athletic Community Trust, and thanks to the EFL, organisers, and all who supported the journey. Representing Blackpool FC on such a stage is a lasting honour these young players will never forget.



MEET DARCY

BLACKPOOL FC GIRLS AND FA GIRLS' EMERGING TALENT CENTRE

"When I'm stressed, I go stiff, but kicking a ball helps me release it all.

"I forget everything when I'm training. I'm so happy every time I play."



EDUCATION & EMPLOYABILITY PROGRAMMES













HEAD OF EDUCATION & EMPLOYABILITY

Selina Hayes



This year, we have continued to develop a range of opportunities and proudly celebrate our success.

The 24/25 season has once again seen our students excel, with 93% of BTEC students achieving their target grade or above. Our University of South Wales degree programme saw three out of seven Sports Coaching students achieve a first-class honours classification, and all second-year foundation degree students achieved a 2:1 or above.

Blackpool FC Sports College brings learning to life through our unique embedded work experience offer, students completed 3,500+ work experience hours across the academic year, and 25% gained paid work alongside their studies.

Our college education provision, supported by York College, has continued to expand with the official introduction of our Esports education pathway. In our first cohort of Esports students, we had a 100% pass rate. The development of a purpose-built gaming and education suite has added a new dynamic to our overall education offer, preparing our students for jobs in a digital future.

This year we expanded our support to include Elected Home Educated (EHE) young people. Initially funded in partnership with Youth Futures Foundation, we provide EHE young people with a safe place to build friendships and develop their skills.

Once again, our Level Up programme supported people aged 16-24 to develop confidence and employability skills, with over half of them re-engaging in education, employment or training.

In our final year of NCS delivery, we successfully delivered NCS Open to All and NCS Targeted to over 200 participants. These programmes focused on skills development and raising aspirations in alternative education and for those at risk of not being in education, employment or training.

2,000+

PARTICIPANTS IN HIGH SCHOOLS, FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION

22 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS COMPLETED WORK EXPERIENCE WITH BFCCT

MORE THAN 4,000 SESSIONS DELIVERED

20%

OF OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS EXCEEDED THEIR TARGET GRADE



BFC SCHOOL RATED ‘GOOD’ BY OFSTED

HEAD OF BFC SCHOOL

Gemma Trickett



As we reflect on the season and academic year, BFC School is proud to celebrate a series of fantastic achievements that highlight the progress and dedication of our students and staff.

A key milestone this year was receiving a ‘Good’ rating from Ofsted in November. The report praised many areas of the school’s work, with a stand out comment stating that “pupils flourish at this school.” This recognition is a testament to the hard work and commitment of our entire school community, and we are incredibly proud of this outcome.

In sports, we achieved the School Games Gold Mark, recognising our outstanding provision and inclusive approach, ensuring all pupils access a broad and engaging PE curriculum. This year, students were introduced to a range of new sports, including basketball, table tennis, mixed martial arts, and darts. We’re excited to build on this with new additions such as flag football, handball, and volleyball in the upcoming year.

We were also delighted to receive the Bronze Award for Employability Skills, celebrating our growing commitment to embedding essential life and career skills across the curriculum. This aligns with our goal to prepare students for successful futures.

On the football pitch, we competed in our third Alternative Provision Football League, participating in three competitive tournaments throughout the year. After some intense and spirited matches, we proudly finished as runners-up in the league.

Finally, we’d like to congratulate our Year 11 leavers. Seven out of eight students have successfully progressed into further education or employment, taking vital steps toward achieving their goals. Thank you to all staff, students, and families for making this season a success.

HIGH SCHOOL HUBS

Funded by Premier League Charitable Fund, Public Health Blackpool and our partner high schools, our High School Hubs provision is made up of four core programmes to provide further support to pupils in Blackpool schools alongside their academic pathway. High School Hub Mentors are based in our five partner high schools in Blackpool for one or two days per week, providing support from Year 7 to Year 11.

YEAR 7 TRANSITION

Transitioning from primary to secondary school can be an extremely challenging time for any young person. New environments, experiences and relationships can be overwhelming, triggering changes in behaviour, raising anxiety, and igniting other mental health concerns.

We work in high schools to help pupils come to terms with change, normalise it and thrive within it. The themes covered are coping strategies, working with our assets and skills, planning a pathway to success and creating new friendships.

The programme provides pupils with the opportunity to have a voice, feel heard and improve their confidence within their new surroundings.

1:1 MENTORING

Working with our partner schools and the Premier League Charitable Fund, we provide 1:1 mentoring to young people aged 11 to 16 in high schools.

Each week, students work with their dedicated mentor to build their resilience, confidence and self-esteem. Mentors help pupils to cope with stress and implement strategies to overcome any difficulties they may face in their lives or at school.



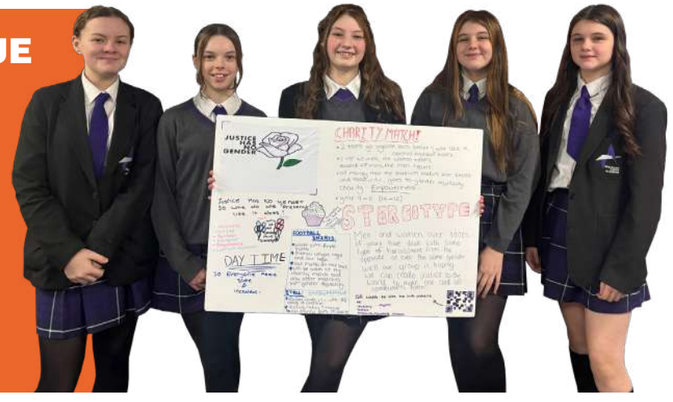
BEAVERBROOKS ENTERPRISE

In partnership with Beaverbrooks and Northwest Young People's Development Trust, the Enterprise programme works with Year 8 pupils to introduce them to business and entrepreneurship. The programme helps to develop essential employability skills, raise aspirations, and unlock potential.

Pupils also take part in the Enterprise Challenge set by Beaverbrooks, to identify a business gap or local need and develop a plan to address this. This includes a Dragon's Den-style activity with a board of 'dragons' from Blackpool-based companies, including Blackpool FC.

PREMIER LEAGUE INSPIRES

A 15-week, positive mental health and resilience programme delivered to selected Year 9 pupils funded by the Premier League Charitable Fund and Public Health Blackpool. The primary focus is to help young people reach their potential by developing coping strategies and ensuring they're engaged and inspired.



BLACKPOOL FC SCHOOL

Currently providing both full-time and part-time provision for Key Stage 4 students, who require an alternative to mainstream education.

We work with Blackpool Council, Educational Diversity, and local high schools to provide students with Maths, English, and Science subjects to GCSE level, while also completing project-based learning, PSHE, and a qualification in sports and fitness.

LEVEL UP

In partnership with Youth Futures Foundation and DJS Glasdon Charitable programme, Level Up supports young people aged 16 to 24 years old to gain the confidence and transferable skills to start their journey to employment. This programme seeks to remove barriers to skills development and employment to enable participants to gain their first job or enter education or training.



NCS TARGETED

Funded through the NCS Trust, our NCS targeted programme works with local Year 11 pupils who access alternative education pathways to take part in a seven-week course, focused on life skills and future aspirations. Participants take part in a variety of workshops to prepare them for life after school, raising awareness of the opportunities available to them.

NCS OPEN TO ALL

In partnership with EFL in the Community and the NCS Trust, our Open to All programme works with young people aged 15 to 17 over 12 weeks to support them in the development of life skills to enable them to become more work and world-ready.

BLACKPOOL FC SPORTS COLLEGE

We deliver full-time further education courses, including Level 2 and 3 in Sports Industry Skills, Sports Coaching, and Esports, with Functional Skills and GCSE English and Maths offered where required.

Learners benefit from a wide range of exclusive work experience opportunities, extra-curricular activities, and innovative Esports programmes.

Our Esports pathway engages young people across Blackpool through school and community leagues, supported by a purpose-built games room and mobile gaming units. It helps them develop skills in communication, entrepreneurship, and event management alongside their studies.



FOUNDATION DEGREE

In partnership with EFL in the Community and the University of South Wales, we offer a foundation degree (2 years) in Sports Coaching & Development. This programme is an ideal progression route for our Blackpool FC Sports College Level 2 and 3 students, as well as others wanting to pursue a career in the sports industry.

TOP UP DEGREE

Our Top-Up programme (1 year) to consolidate learning from the foundation degree and gain a full BSc Honours Degree. On programme, students gain their FA football qualifications (Introduction to Coaching Football and UEFA C) and a Level 2 Multi-skills award, funded by EFL in the Community and University of South Wales.

MEET ROB

SPORTS COLLEGE STUDENT TO BFCCT STAFF

"The opportunities to study, play, and coach helped me grow.

"Being able to coach in different environments has enhanced my skill set, thanks to BFC Sports College."



Zach was referred to the Premier League Inspires mentoring programme to receive additional support with his confidence, communication, and wellbeing. He sometimes found it difficult to express himself, which affected both his learning and relationships.

Joining the programme with Ryan, one of our High School Hubs Mentors, gave Zach a space to reflect, set small goals, and work on communication and managing his emotions. Together they tracked his progress weekly, covering school and home life, using themed activities focused on resilience and confidence-building to make positive changes.

Over time, Zach grew more willing to participate in lessons, communicate with classmates, and manage conflicts at home. He also rekindled his love for football and is considering joining a local team, showing his new-found determination and motivation beyond the classroom.

Zach said, "Taking part in the mentoring programme has really helped me. Ryan has supported me with relationships between teachers and friends. He's helped build trust in myself and taught me ways of dealing with my anger. The programme has helped me believe in myself and focus better, which will really help when I leave school."



Zach

PREMIER LEAGUE INSPIRES



Zach

BLACKPOOL FC SPORTS COLLEGE

Zach joined our Sports College in 2021, completing his BTEC Level 2 and Level 3 in Sports Coaching and Development. He quickly became known for his enthusiasm, commitment, and willingness to help, both in class and during work placements.

Outside of the classroom, Zach gained practical coaching experience through volunteering at Trust activities, including Sporting Memories, Fit2Go, Premier League Kicks, and Premier League Primary Stars. He is now a paid coach on our Stars Camps and part of the match day mascots staff.

In summer 2024 Zach took part in a 12 week coaching camp in the USA. The experience allowed him to work in a new environment, build independence, and further develop his coaching skills. Back in the UK, he continued his studies with BFCCT on our degree course applying all the new-found confidence and practical skills he has gained.

Zach said, "This course will allow me to achieve a degree in Sports Coaching and Development, which I'm passionate about and is key to my future goals. I chose Blackpool FC Sports College because the Trust has supported my coaching journey by providing valuable opportunities, including paid coaching hours that I wouldn't get anywhere else."

Dave Maclean, Community Engagement Manager, added, "Zach's progression into a paid role is a testament to how far he's come and how hard he's worked. We're proud to have supported his journey and look forward to seeing him continue to grow."



COLLEGE A TEAM VICTORY

Alongside their academic studies, Blackpool FC Sports College students have the opportunity to enrol in one of our enrichment pathways such as the Football Academy which provides access to professional coaching, regular competitive fixtures against other professional clubs, and the chance to earn a scholarship.

Our Blackpool FC Sports College A Team, secured the 2024/25 CEFA Division 3 league title following an outstanding season. While confirmation of the title came when Liverpool were unable to fulfil their fixture, the championship had already been effectively sealed through a dominant campaign.

Comprising of local 16 to 19 year old students with a passion for football and sport, the team clinched the league with three games to spare. They recorded 14 wins from 15 matches, suffering only one defeat, and amassed 42 points. Their commanding performances saw them net 78 goals, finishing the season with a goal difference of +61.

After opening the season with a narrow loss away to Liverpool, the team responded emphatically with a 13-game winning streak. Stand out moments included a 4–0 win over Preston North End, a 4–1 victory against Accrington Stanley, and a dramatic 3–2 comeback against Everton, secured with two goals in added time.

Individual achievements were equally impressive. J'Quan Richards finished as top scorer in the league with 27 goals, while Korey Oliver-Willis added 20. Freddy Livesey, joint captain, delivered consistently strong performances. In goal, Nicholas "Pickle" Henshall-Flynn proved a key figure, also representing Lancashire FA's Under-18 side.

Coach Steven Brown praised the squad, stating, "The success is down to the players and the hard work they've put in to achieve this moment. There is some serious talent in this group, and I look forward to watching their continued development and progress in football, and in the classroom."

Joint Captain Kai Riley added, "I've loved every minute of playing for the college team. We've got a great group, and all the hard work on the training pitch and in the classroom has paid off."



In recognition of their achievement, the players were invited to Wembley Stadium for the EFL Play-Off Final, where they were presented with their league winners' medals, a fitting celebration of a truly remarkable season.

MEET CONSTANTIN

BTEC ESPORTS STUDENT & STREAMER

"I have learnt communication skills and how to speak to viewers.

"The staff are incredibly helpful and my teachers are there for me all the time, now I'm feeling more confident."



COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES













HEAD OF COMMUNITY & DEPUTY CEO

Matt Hilton



This year, we made great strides in supporting community health, wellbeing, and cohesion.

Our cancer awareness initiative, supported by Spring North and Lancashire & South Cumbria Integrated Care Board, reached people through awareness days, match-day events, and creative workshops, encouraging early screening and diagnosis. The Cancer Prehab programme, funded by Lancashire & South Cumbria Cancer Alliance, offered free support to boost physical, mental, and overall health before treatment.

We secured £64,000 from Blackpool Council to extend Safer Streets into the next academic year, while our Walking Football, funded by the National Lottery, expanded.

Tower Above, backed by the Police Crime Commissioner and Premier League Charitable Fund, expanded to engage even more young people.

Thanks to £20,000 from the CRH Charitable Trust, we delivered Heads Up across Blackpool, supporting mental wellbeing through peer groups, mentoring, and physical activity. Over 1,200 young people took part in Premier League Kicks, engaging in sport, workshops, and social action.

To support families during the cost-of-living crisis, we delivered free Family and Community Clubs at Bloomfield Road for a third year, welcoming over 1,900 visits. In partnership with Blackpool Food Banks, we distributed 14+ tonnes of food, including 1,103 family bags. Surveys showed real impact: 70% accessed affordable fruit and vegetables, 73% ate more fresh produce, and 70% cooked more meals at home.

Over the last year, we launched Keep Fit to support local well-being. Keep Fit has provided an inclusive health and fitness community dedicated to helping everyone lead a healthier, more active lifestyle.

MORE THAN

6,000

SESSIONS DELIVERED

274

LOCAL VETERANS SUPPORTED

MORE THAN

75,000

VISITS TO SESSIONS

14 TONNES+

OF FOOD PROVIDED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

THE BIG FOOD TRUCK

EQUIVALENT TO

2.5 ELEPHANTS!

PREMIER LEAGUE KICKS

Funded by the Premier League Charitable Fund, Premier League Kicks provides free, positive activities for young people aged 8 to 18 across seven targeted wards in the evenings.

The programme aims to reduce anti-social behaviour by providing safe, engaging opportunities to stay active, build confidence, and make new friends. Activities include football, dance, boxing, Esports, creative workshops, and opportunities to represent Blackpool FC Community Trust in local and national competitions.

PREMIER LEAGUE KICKS HAF

In partnership with Blackpool Council, the Premier League Kicks HAF camps are delivered during school holidays and offer full days of engaging activities for ages 8 to 18. These include football, multi-sports, kick boxing, Esports, day trips, and every participant receives a free meal, snacks, and drinks.

PREMIER LEAGUE CHANGEMAKERS

Changemakers is a 12-week programme for girls and young women, funded by the Premier League Charitable Fund. It focuses on improving mental and physical well-being, raising awareness of gender equality and mental health, and developing leadership skills. Participants build confidence, learn key life skills, and are empowered to create positive change in their lives and communities.



TOWER ABOVE

Funded by Blackpool Council and the Premier League Charitable Fund, Tower Above provides 1:1 mentoring for children aged 8 to 12 who are referred to us through Blackpool Council's Early Help and Support team.

Using sport and physical activity to build trust and confidence, the programme works to prevent anti-social behaviour and keep young people on the right track.

DISABILITY SCHOOL SPORT

We deliver disability specific lunch, curriculum, and after-school physical activity sessions for local SEND and SEMH Schools in Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre that are tailored to each school and pupil's needs.

We use multi-skills activities and additional sports to engage students in positive fun and educational sessions to create a lifelong love of P.E, sports, and physical activity.

CHAMPIONS YOUTH

Champions is funded by the Lancashire Violence Reduction Network and part of a wider strategy to reduce violence across the region.

Champions Youth is a preventative programme for young people aged 10 to 17 who are at risk of criminal exploitation, offending, or entering the justice system. Each participant is matched with a dedicated 1:1 mentor to co-create a personal development plan based on their strengths and goals. This helps them build resilience, grow in confidence, and take control of their future.

CHAMPIONS ADULT

Alongside Champions Youth we deliver Champions Adult to support those aged 18 to 25 who have committed violent offences.

Starting in custody and continuing post-release, the programme provides 1:1 support to help address the root causes of offending. By focusing on practical guidance, goal-setting, and long-term change, it aims to break the cycle of re-offending.

STARS CAMP

During school holidays, we deliver a very successful camp for young people living with a disability aged 7 to 25 from Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre. These camps are delivered by highly qualified and experienced staff.

With support from Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Council, we deliver multi-skills activities, interactive games, sports, as well as arts and crafts to engage children living with disabilities.



ADULT PAN DISABILITY

Delivered by qualified coaching staff who specialise in disability football, the sessions aim to unite people with intellectual, physical, sensory, or mental health-related conditions and are designed for those who are new to football or at a beginner's level.

GET VOCAL

Get Vocal is a Blackpool Council-funded project, building on the 'Get Vocal' campaign, which has featured as the main sponsor on Blackpool FC's away shirt in previous seasons. This social group aims to provide a safe space for men to come together and talk with peers in a non-judgemental setting.

HEADS UP

Heads Up is supported by Spring North funding from the Integrated Care Board to improve well-being across Blackpool through a multifaceted offer of activities using peer support, 1:1 mentoring, and group physical activities such as Unified Football.

The target group is adults aged 18+ with moderate to severe mental health needs. We tailor and adapt activities to ensure sessions are accessible for adults of different age groups and abilities. We focus on creating a supportive community through shared experiences between participants, and incorporate physical activities to promote overall well-being.

MAN V FAT

Man v Fat commission us to deliver a semi-competitive football league designed to support men in losing weight while enjoying the game. Fixtures are played weekly, and all participants must begin with a BMI of 27.5 or above, registering through the official Man v Fat portal. Players are weighed before each session to monitor progress, with time also dedicated to discussing positive lifestyle changes and sustainable habits.

ENGAGE 4 CHANGE

Engage 4 Change is a multi-agency project supporting 18 to 25 year olds in a targeted area of Blackpool who are not in education, employment, or training.

Delivered in partnership with Empowerment, Blackpool Coastal Housing, Streetlife, and Freestyle Urban Soccer CIC and funded by the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund, the programme offers 1:1 and small group sessions with a focus on breaking down barriers and providing real, practical support that addresses what matters most to participants.

FIT BLACKPOOL

FIT Blackpool is a 10-week weight management programme, funded by Great Places, which combines both workshop and practical interventions to help you achieve your goals throughout the programme. Sessions run weekly for 90 minutes, with the first 45 minutes covering a topic via workshop, followed by 45 minutes of physical activity.



KEEP FIT

Keep FIT is an inclusive health and fitness community dedicated to helping everyone lead a healthier, more active lifestyle. Our affordable schedule is designed to make fitness accessible to all. More than just a workout, our group exercise classes provide motivation, foster social connections, and enhance overall wellbeing.

ASPIRE 5S

Aspire 5s is a dynamic five-a-side league series featuring eight competitive teams, hosted at Aspire Sports Hub. Each 14-week season sees all teams face each other twice, culminating in prizes for the champions. Matches run weekly for 40 minutes, split into two 20-minute halves, and are officiated by qualified referees.



ACTIVE MINDS

Active Minds is positively impacting the lives of local people, creating a sense of belonging, encouraging new friendships, and improving physical and mental well-being. It's more than just football; it's about being able to switch off for a few hours, away from the stresses of everyday life. Weekly sessions are more than just showing up for an hour and then heading back home. We want our participants to be part of something bigger, experiencing togetherness and self-achievement, whilst getting the rewards of being physically active.

MOVE MORE

Move More, funded by The National Lottery, brings together the local community and local organisations to create and deliver a plan for the identified wards in the town. It is part of Active Through Football, a national programme delivered by the Football Foundation and Sport England. The project is ring-fenced for the Bloomfield, Tyldesley, Victoria and Park wards of Blackpool, focusing on both mental and physical wellbeing, as well as weight management. Working together with local partners, we have five years of funding to set up a wide range of football-related activities from exercise classes to walking football and more. As a team, we are working in new ways to give communities the best possible opportunity to be able to sustain activity, even after the initial funding comes to an end.

WALK & TALK

Through funding from the Masonic Charitable Fund, our walks encourage anyone to get together as a group and help each other become more physically fit and combat loneliness.

EXTRA TIME

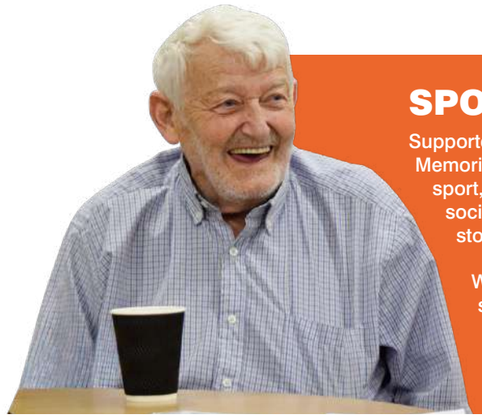
Extra Time is a needs-led programme for adults aged 55 and over. Participants help shape the schedule, which may include chair-based exercise, bingo, dominoes, quizzes, themed afternoons, trips, or simply coffee and a chat.

MASTERS FOOTBALL

Masters Football is a slightly slower-paced 5-a-side version of football for men and women over the age of 35. Masters Football encourages football lovers to continue enjoying the game regardless of their fitness levels or other factors.

WALKING FOOTBALL

Thanks to funding from Awards for All, we can deliver low-cost walking football across the Fylde Coast, a slower version of the beautiful game, helping people rekindle their love of playing football. This activity incorporates physical activity with socialisation as each session is followed by a wellbeing hub, allowing participants to chat and make new friends over a brew.



SPORTING MEMORIES

Supported by the Masonic Charitable Foundation, Sporting Memories brings together people who share a passion for sport, particularly football. The group provides a friendly, social environment where fans can share their memories, stories, and memorabilia.

We also have our Dementia Sporting Memories session, offering people living with memory loss, and their companions, the chance to enjoy light physical activity alongside engaging discussions about sporting history and memorabilia.

COST OF LIVING SUPPORT

BREAKFAST CLUB

Fun, educational and physical activities for 2 to 4 year olds. Allowing parents to socialise, grab breakfast and participate in activities with their little ones.

COMMUNITY CLUB

Our Community Club, supported by Blackpool Council, offers residents access to support, advice, food, and information from local services. We also host a monthly 'Community Shop' providing essential items at low or no cost.

THE BIG FOOD TRUCK

Provided in partnership with Blackpool Food Bank, The Big Food Project arrives at the stadium every Tuesday, providing food parcels to help with the cost of living. With support from Northwest Discount Pet Foods, we are also able to offer Pet Food.



FAMILY CLUBS

Thanks to support from Blackpool FC and Blackpool Council. We provide free family clubs to offer support with the cost of living. The perfect place to socialise and take part in activities with your family, whilst accessing advice and a free warm meal.

VETERANS ACTIVITIES

All of our Armed Forces activities are supported through funding from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust and the Veterans Foundation.

BREAKFAST CLUB

A monthly meet up, supported by @TheGrange, where the armed forces community come together over a brew and a hot sandwich.

NAAFI BREAK

Navy, Army, and Air Force Institutes (NAAFI) Break, encourages Fylde Coast veterans to meet up weekly. Participants can enjoy a sausage or bacon sandwich and a cup of tea or coffee.

VETS ON STEPS

Our 1:1 project that supports local veterans on their doorsteps to prevent them from feeling isolated and lonely. We encourage them to join our groups to increase their social interaction.



VETS WALK & TALK

We are proud to support our local veterans with weekly walks, participants enjoy gentle routes around Stanley Park, followed by a community hub where they can continue their conversation with a brew.

FORCES FOOTBALL

This programme allows veterans and ex-forces personnel to meet up for a friendly kick about. Participants have the opportunity to represent Blackpool FC in the Lancashire FA Social League and against other professional clubs.

GARDENING CLUB

We maintain our memorial space at the Fylde Coast Arboretum, dedicated to Blackpool FC players who lost their lives during WW1. Our participants also develop their skills and knowledge through horticultural qualifications at Myerscough College.

CANCER AWARENESS

CANCER AWARENESS

Thanks to support from Spring North and Cancer Alliance we spent six months of this year out in the community sharing information about the early signs and symptoms of cancer and the important information about screening services.

CANCER PREHAB

Funded by the Cancer Alliance in partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support, we offer Cancer Pre-Habilitation (Prehab) sessions in a supportive and community-focused environment.

These sessions are designed to support individuals diagnosed with cancer, helping them to prepare physically, mentally, and emotionally for treatment and beyond.

Prehab, is an evidence-based programme to support individuals with cancer to build resilience, improve wellbeing, and enhance treatment outcomes.



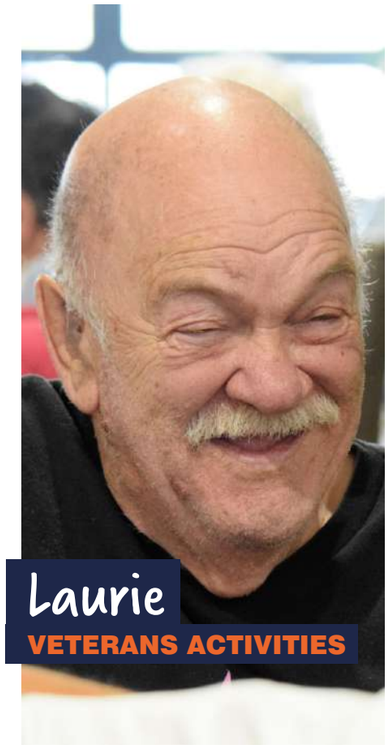
MEET LESLEY

FIT BLACKPOOL PARTICIPANT AND CANCER PREHAB VOLUNTEER

"For a long time I wanted to support people dealing with cancer because I have my own experience.

"Now it makes me feel good to see people smiling when they're going through a hard time."





Laurie
VETERANS ACTIVITIES

After spending 25 years in the US, Laurie faced significant challenges adjusting back to life in the UK. Mobility issues and social isolation made it difficult for him to settle.

Laurie joined NAAFI Break, our weekly social group for veterans, this supportive environment allowed him to rebuild confidence and connect with like-minded individuals. Since engaging with BFCCT's veterans provision he has taken part in monthly trips to Chester Zoo and Bury Market, volunteered at charity bucket collections, and joined the Veterans Breakfast Club. Laurie has also received practical support from our staff including arranging his Veterans Badge, mounting his medals, and linking him with the Veterans Hearing Foundation and Blind Veterans UK.

These opportunities have helped Laurie regain independence, confidence, and a sense of community.

Laurie said,"Returning to the UK after 25 years was overwhelming, but the support I received, especially from the Community Trust, military veterans, and my family, helped me feel like I belonged again."

Ian, our Armed Forces Engagement Officer, added,"Laurie's engagement with our armed forces provision has been exceptional. Don't suffer in silence, I said, make new friends, make a fresh start. With the help from BFCCT, he has done exactly that."



Dave
ACTIVE MINDS

Dave, an ex-HM Forces veteran and amputee living with PTSD, spent years keeping to himself. Trusting others, socialising, and taking part in sport were all challenges, and before joining our Active Minds group, he described himself as a "hermit" with "poor social skills."

At his first Active Minds session, with his son and a friend, he immediately felt welcomed. The friendliness and openness of the group helped him feel at ease, talk about his disability, and start getting back into physical activity and team-based activities.

As he continued attending, Dave regained his confidence and social skills. He improved his fitness, took on leadership roles, and completed Mental Health First Aid and Mental Health Advocacy courses.

One of his proudest moments was captaining his team at Bloomfield Road, leading them to victory and earning man of the match, a true reflection of his personal growth.

Dave said, "Without Active Minds and BFCCT, I wouldn't be sitting here sharing this. I wouldn't have the confidence to do this. Active Minds has given me a safe outlet to talk, a supportive network of friends, and the courage to share my story."





FAMILIES MOVING TOGETHER

During the winter, our Family Club families took part in a walking challenge designed to get everyone moving more and enjoying time outdoors together.

While the main aim of Family Clubs is to support local families with the cost of living by providing a hot meal two nights a week, we've always placed equal importance on promoting healthier lifestyles and inspiring a love of learning. Alongside evenings filled with family games, mini discos, circuits, homework support, and adult learning opportunities, we introduced the walking challenge as an extra way to boost physical activity.

Each Tuesday and Wednesday evening, families joined us for a meal before heading pitch side at Bloomfield Road to walk as many laps as they could. It was fantastic to see families walking together, parents and children challenging each other, and some even pushing themselves further by running. Several parents told us they wanted to return the next day to do more, with one group of five adults completing 72 laps in just an hour.

Over the course of the challenge, 61 participants aged between 18 months and 66 years took part, collectively completing 622 laps, around 450,000 steps in just three hours. More than the numbers, the real success was seeing families spending quality time together, being active, and making movement a natural part of their weekly routine.

The walks also created opportunities for deeper conversations with parents, giving us valuable time to understand their challenges and explore further ways we can offer support.

One participant, Gemma, reflected, "Taking part in this challenge has encouraged me to continue walking more. I have now set myself a target to complete 10,000 steps a day."

Thank you to Blackpool FC and Blackpool Council for their continued support in helping us provide opportunities like this for our families.

AGES RANGED FROM 1 TO 66 YEARS OLD

MORE THAN 450,000 TOTAL STEPS

MEET BRET

SUPPORTED BY OUR CHAMPIONS MENTORS

"I got the chance to speak at a big conference, I wouldn't ever see someone like myself being sat in one of those rooms, never mind speak.

"I've become a better version of myself..."



OUR IMPACT IN THE MEDIA

Our overall reach was
1,267,142

4,738,142
Overall views



108
features in match-day programmes

10,306
Total link clicks

We posted over
3,000
times this season



10 interviews
featured on TV & radio

2,546
Total new followers

60,020
Total interactions

We wrote & published



news articles

HEAD OF OPERATIONS

Jack Shields



In its second year, Aspire Sports Hub has continued to grow and strengthen its impact. We delivered a wide range of our own sessions, providing a solid community base for participants, while working with external partners to facilitate basketball, netball, and grassroots football, turning previously underused facilities into a thriving community hub.

Facility development has moved forward too, with new floodlights installed, two pitches resurfaced and more improvements on the way.

Away from the sports hub, a new minibus has made sessions more accessible and opened up opportunities for participants further afield. At the same time, enhanced IT support and stronger finance and HR processes are creating a better workplace for staff and an improved experience for everyone who takes part.

Through our partnership with BST (Blackpool Supporters' Trust), groups of our participants have been able to enjoy match days at Bloomfield Road. For some of them it's a first-time experience, for others it's something they might not otherwise prioritise or be able to afford.

Building on last season's Impact Review and the launch of our new strategy, we are already seeing positive momentum, extending our reach even further and deepening our impact across our community.

34 LOCAL GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL TEAMS USED OUR FACILITIES FOR WINTER TRAINING

INVESTED £18,000 INTO FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

14,000+
PARTICIPANT VISITS FROM EXTERNAL BOOKINGS AT ASPIRE SPORTS HUB

WE'VE HOSTED DANCE, MULTI-SPORTS, BASKETBALL, FOOTBALL, NETBALL, FITNESS CLASSES AND MORE ACROSS OUR FACILITIES



FA GIRLS' EMERGING TALENT CENTRE: FURTHER FUNDING

Blackpool FC Community Trust is immensely proud to share that our FA Girls' Emerging Talent Centre (ETC) has been granted further funding by The FA and the Premier League. This renewed support will allow us to continue offering elite-level coaching and development opportunities for female footballers across Blackpool, Fylde, and the wider Northwest region.

In 2022, we were honoured to be one of only 60 organisations nationwide to be selected to join the inaugural cohort of venues hosting the ETC programme. Since then, over the past three years, we have supported more than 200 female players on their football journeys. These players represent 63 different grassroots clubs across the Northwest, including 22 clubs competing in our two local leagues.

Our commitment to supporting the wide range of grassroots clubs involved in the programme is highlighted during our 'Grassroots Days'. On these special occasions, players switch their Tangerine ETC tops for their grassroots match shirts, a powerful reminder of the diversity of clubs we support and a chance for the girls to proudly represent the teams they come from.

In keeping with our commitment to supporting grassroots football, we regularly invite coaches to our ETC to observe sessions and games involving their players. With at least 70% of our ETC players over the last three years classed as local (FY or PR postcode), it's great to see so much home-grown talent developing within our programme and improving the standard of female football on the Fylde Coast.

Andy, Female Football Development Manager

"It has been a privilege to lead the FA Girls' Emerging Talent Centre programme since its inception in 2022. During this time we have tried our best to give players the best opportunities to develop and excel, as well as creating lifelong memories. Over the last three seasons we have been invited to play against various academies including Manchester United, Manchester City, Liverpool and Blackburn Rovers. In this time we have also been invited to the home of England football at St George's Park, and delivered Talent ID events on behalf of the England Lionesses. We are very proud of the role we have played in the journey of these young females, helping some of them move on to playing at the most elite levels of the game. It has also been a proud moment seeing several graduates of the ETC making their debut for the Blackpool FC Girls and Ladies First Team."



The FA

"The main purpose of the Girls' Emerging Talent Centres (ETCs) is Talent ID: To identify and develop future potential players by providing local, accessible high-quality training environments. The new Centres will offer increased playing time, varied football formats and allow players to play for both an Emerging Talent Centre and a grassroots club, school, or representative team, which we hope will enhance the variety of playing experiences.

Girls' Emerging Talent Centres across the nation will increase and diversify the talent pool and gives more girls than ever the chance to take their first steps on the pathway towards playing professional football and following in the footsteps of the inspirational Lionesses."

Through a structured training programme, a diverse and competitive games calendar, and dedicated professional development support including strength and conditioning coaching and on-site physiotherapy and rehabilitation, we have created an environment where players can thrive.

Our aim has always been to reduce barriers, such as cost, install pride in representing Blackpool, increase exposure to amazing footballing opportunities, which in turn will help each participant grow into the best version of themselves, both on and off the pitch. The high standards of management and coaching within the programme have contributed to the strong reputation of the Blackpool ETC programme. This has been consistently reflected in the outcomes presented to The FA during annual audits, where our centre has been recognised for operating at an exceptionally high level.

As we look ahead to the next three years, we are thrilled to increase our impact through the ETC programme even further. Girls from Under 9s to Under 16s will continue to represent Blackpool across a mixed games programme that includes formats from 3v3 to 11v11, alongside the ongoing integration of Futsal. This varied approach not only supports technical and tactical development but also ensures players are engaged and inspired through exposure to multiple challenges. This new phase will allow us to reach and empower even more talented girls, supporting their progress in grassroots football, helping them strive for academy places, and even pursue international recognition.

Blackpool FC Community Trust will remain committed to creating a clear, supportive pathway for aspiring female footballers and are excited to see what the next three years hold.







FIRST TEAM PLAYERS
in the community



JAMES HUSBAND & ELKAN BAGGOTT

Attended our Show Racism the Red Card event where pupils explored equality and inclusion inspired by players' insights.



JORDAN GABRIEL & LEE EVANS

Inspired teamwork and confidence through Q&A sessions and interactive games at Premier League Kicks.



MATT PENNINGTON & ODELUGA OFFIAH

Boosted participants' confidence and resilience in managing life on and off the pitch at Active Minds.



OLIVER CASEY

Celebrated Tower Above participants' achievements, reinforcing positive behaviours and self-belief.



JORDAN RHODES & RICH O'DONNELL

Created joy and connection at Dementia Friendly Sporting Memories through games and personal stories.



ELKAN BAGGOTT

Our PFA Community Champion for his consistent commitment to Cost of Living projects.



JAMES HUSBAND

Motivated our Walking Football participants through engagement and love for the sport.



JORDAN RHODES & RICH O'DONNELL

Brought excitement and community spirit to Armfield Academy's Christmas celebration.



FIRST TEAM SQUAD

Helped us to deliver over 1,500 presents to ensure local children experienced joy at Christmas.



JORDAN GABRIEL

Encouraged teamwork, engagement, and confidence at the Esports Community League.



STEVE BRUCE

Presented our Premier League Community Captain with his award for his commitment to Premier League Kicks.



ALBIE MORGAN & SONNY CAREY

Paid our Armfield Academy Sports Camp a visit to play some dodgeball!



ANDY LYONS, MATT PENNINGTON, LEE EVANS & JORDAN GABRIEL

Promoted World Book Day by visiting primary schools and reading with children.



LEE EVANS

Visited Montgomery Camp to meet participants, answer questions and play some games.



JAKE BEESLEY, JAMES HUSBAND & RICH O'DONNELL

Motivated students at our college careers fair to explore opportunities and set goals.



ASHLEY FLETCHER & MATT PENNINGTON

Gave our participants a big surprise at our Football Camp and Ansdell Sports Camp.

Thank you for the support.

TANGERINE TEAM MATES

The draw for the 2024/25 Tangerine Team Mates campaign was confirmed in December, with grassroots clubs across the Fylde Coast paired up with members of the first-team squad.

Sponsored by Eleven Sports Media and delivered in conjunction with Blackpool FC, Tangerine Team Mates marked its fourth season and once again provided young footballers across the local area with the opportunity to meet and engage with members of Blackpool's first-team squad.

The confirmed draw for the season was as follows:

- **ST ANNES FC:** Rob Apter & Harry Tyrer
- **FY FUTSAL:** Hayden Coulson
- **FC RANGERS:** Dom Ballard
- **BLACKPOOL FC GIRLS:** Sonny Carey
- **LYTHAM ST ANNES YMCA:** Odeluga Offiah
- **FOXHALL FC:** Albie Morgan & Andy Lyons
- **WYRE JUNIORS FC:** Ryan Finnigan
- **BJFF:** Mackenzie Chapman & Ash Fletcher
- **LAYTON JUNIORS FC:** CJ Hamilton
- **THORNTON CLEVELEYS:** Ollie Norburn
- **POULTON FC:** Jack Moore
- **POULTON TOWN:** Kyle Joseph
- **STAINING JUNIORS FC:** Olly Casey
- **SPIRIT OF YOUTH FC:** Rich O'Donnell & Jordan Rhodes
- **CLIFTON RANGERS FC:** James Husband & Jake Beesley
- **FYLDE COAST SOCCER FC:** Josh Onomah
- **BLACKPOOL WREN ROVERS FC:** Zac Ashworth
- **WEST COAST SPORTS FC:** Matt Pennington
- **KIRKHAM JUNIORS FC:** Elliot Embleton
- **LYTHAM JUNIORS FC:** Lee Evans
- **SOUTH SHORE FC:** Dom Thompson
- **FRECKLETON:** Elkan Baggott
- **CN SPORTS FC:** Jordan Gabriel

As part of Tangerine Team Mates, each grassroots club involved became the "Team of the Day" for a designated league fixture at Bloomfield Road. This provided a unique opportunity for the young players to meet the squad, serve as flag bearers, and take part in a half-time lap of honour.





























CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN 2024

Over December, Blackpool FC and Blackpool FC Community Trust (BFCCT) joined forces to collect, wrap, and distribute gifts for local children at risk of waking up without a present on Christmas Day.

Working closely with Blackpool schools, the Community Trust identified around 1,550 children across Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 who might otherwise have gone without.

The campaign began with a major LEGO delivery, kindly supported by Merlin, arriving at Bloomfield Road. The Community Trust then hosted a wrapping afternoon, inviting Club staff, students, and volunteers to help wrap and pack gifts for distribution across the town.

Thanks to an incredible team effort, all gifts were wrapped within a few hours.

BFCCT staff were later joined by Blackpool FC first-team players, who helped deliver the presents directly to local schools. Alongside the deliveries, players took time to answer pupils' questions, pose for photos, and sign memorabilia, bringing festive joy to classrooms across our town.

In total, 35 schools benefited from the initiative, including mainstream schools, Special Educational Needs Schools, and Pupil Referral Units.

Since the campaign's launch in 2020, over 7,500 presents have been distributed to children across Blackpool, made possible through the generosity of Festive Fundraiser supporters.

In 2024 alone, an incredible £13,700 was raised and matched pound-for-pound by Blackpool FC owner Simon Sadler ensuring even more families could experience the magic of Christmas.

Together, these efforts made a lasting difference to families across the town and reinforced the shared commitment of Blackpool FC and BFCCT to supporting the local community.

TANGERINE TOGETHER DONATION SCHEME

Donate £1,000 to support your community













For local businesses and supporters wanting to give back, the Tangerine Together Donation Scheme (£1,000) is a powerful way to make a difference.

Your contribution helps us continue to deliver vital cost-of-living support programmes, including:

- **Family Clubs** for low-income families to enjoy weekly activities and a warm meal.
- **Weekly Food Parcel Collection Service**, in partnership with The BIG Food Project, provides affordable essentials to those in need.
- **Community Club**, session held before food parcel collection, offers a hot drink and support from local services such as United Utilities, Citizens' Advice, NatWest, and BetterStart.

Includes:

- Crowd facing match day LED advertising
- Selected event & match tickets
- TM Logo online & in BFCCT facility
- Appreciation on BFCCT socials

GET IN TOUCH:
PARTNERSHIPS@BFCCT.CO.UK

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES 2025/26

Blackpool FC Community Trust's 2025/26 partnership packages offer tiered opportunities for businesses to gain brand exposure while supporting community impact.

Options include high-profile Principal Sponsorship (£40,000+) with full-scale visibility and hospitality opportunities, project sponsorships (£10,000) with over 30 impactful sports, education, health, or inclusion options.

Our kit sponsorship (£10,000+) features branding on shirts, shorts, or training wear across multiple female teams, including our FA Girls' Emerging Talent Centre, Blackpool FC Girls' Grassroots, and Blackpool FC Ladies (excluding the front of the shirt). These programmes support the full pathway of female football development, from early grassroots to performance-level athletes. With growing participation and visibility in the women's game along with the excitement around the recent England Lionesses Euro win.

Blackpool FC Sports College delivers full-time education alongside professional coaching, enrichment and placement opportunities. Becoming the front-of-shirt sponsor (£20,000) means your brand would appear across student playing kits, digital channels, and printed media. This season, our A Team won their league title and earned the honour of representing the Trust at an event held at Wembley Stadium, which gave the sponsors' logo national visibility at one of football's most iconic locations.

As front-of-shirt sponsor for Blackpool FC Ladies (£20,000), your brand will be at the forefront of one of the fastest-growing areas of football. With increasing media attention, rising attendance, and national momentum behind the women's game, this is a powerful opportunity to align with positive change. As a sponsor, you'll be directly supporting the progression of female footballers locally and inspiring a new generation.

These packages include a selection from below:

Branding

- Business name attached to sponsored project
- Logo in match-day programme/s
- Logo on digital printed materials
- Nationwide kit-based brand exposure
- Logo on footer of BFC website

Hospitality & Events

- Invitations to additional BFCCT events
- Invitations to BFC Connect events
- Table of 10 guests at multiple home games
- Exclusive/Premium match sponsorship with up to 10 guests

Digital & Media

- Appreciation post on BFC socials
- Interview features
- Kit launch photo shoot
- Feature story on BFC & CT platforms
- Press release on BFC & CT platforms

Merchandise

- Football signed by Blackpool FC First Team
- Framed shirt with your branding

Stadium Advertising

- Exclusive crowd facing LED during 90 minutes
- Advertising board in the stadium







JOIN OUR COMMUNITY

For more information or to get involved, contact us:

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