






JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Academy Player Care Officer

Reporting to: Academy Manager

Key Relationship: Head of Safeguarding & Player Care

Purpose:

-  To lead, develop and deliver a comprehensive player care package in support of our U9-U18 players.
-  To work alongside Academy colleagues to achieve positive outcomes personally and within their academy journey.
-  Contribute to the long-term strategic direction of the Academy's Player Care Provision, in partnership with the wider club, working alongside appropriate staff.

Role and Responsibilities:

- To take ownership and lead the provision of Morecambe FC Academy's Player Care programme, including:
 - The creation and delivery of an effective life skills/personal development programme for Academy players
 - Supporting trialist and effectively monitor and onboard newly signed players and their families into the Academy programme
 - Working with colleagues to proactively identify players who require support
 - Providing mentoring and/or 1-2-1 support opportunities for players as required
 - Provide the appropriate levels of support and after care for players and alumni who have been released pre-16
 - To devise, lead and manage the Parent and Player voice initiatives
 - monitor initial destinations of players exiting the Academy at pre-16 and develop the graduation tracking database for Academy Players
- To attend and report to Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings on all aspects of player care and wellbeing.
- Contribute positively to the wider Academy culture and the audit processes it is subject to.
- To design and implement training for staff to raise awareness of Player Care within the Academy and enhance the provision.
- Facilitate feedback from players and parents to contribute to the development of the Academy
- Track and report outcomes to key stakeholders
- To contribute to the monthly Academy newsletter highlighting good practice and events within the programme
- Responsible for ensuring that all Academy staff and host families are recruited in accordance with the club's safer recruitment policy.

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- Build and maintain an effective relationship with host families and facilitate communication with player parents as well as designing, developing and implementing an education programme for our Host Families.
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Program and delivery
- Mental Health & Emotional Well-being program and delivery
- Raise Action plans where necessary for players to support emotional well-being

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Skills and Experience

Essential

- Previous experience of working with children/young people
- An understanding of the life cycle of Academy Players and the key milestones
- Previous experience of working with multi-disciplinary/agency teams
- Previous experience of developing sessions/activities/training for young people/staff
- Knowledge of safeguarding issues, policies, and best practice
- Awareness of the emotional and mental health issues that affect young people
- Able to relate to and build rapport quickly and easily with young people
- Able to understand and implement the policies and procedures of the Academy
- Confident, Resilient and Self Motivated
- Excellent Communications skills both verbal and written
- Excellent Presentation skills
- Excellent Administrative and IT skills
- The ability to instigate new initiatives to bring about positive change
- The ability to work in a fast paced, target driven environment
- The ability to prioritise and manage own workload
- Work using own initiative and as part of a team
- A minimum of 5 GSCE's (grades A – C) or equivalent
- Have a flexible approach to work and the ability to work some evening and weekends
- Have a relevant safeguarding qualification or a willingness to undertake on appointment

Desirable:

- A Player Care or related qualification, such as Talented Athlete Lifestyle Support (TALS) through TASS or equivalent.
- Previous experience of working within a football Academy, with good working knowledge of the EPPP framework and audit procedures would be desirable.
- Be familiar with safeguarding reporting software such as CPOMS.

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