FIND YOUR FUTURE

Women’s Football Development Centre
Studying at our Women’s Football Development Centre

As a student of our Football Development Centre you’ll receive:

• High quality first class training from UEFA B and UEFA A qualified coaches
• Strength and conditioning support delivered by FA trained staff
• Access to fully qualified physiotherapists
• Nike training kit
• Your own Athlete Development Tutor
• Personalised training programmes
• Training in our brand new multi-million pound sports facility
• Access to our brand new state-of-the-art gym
• Opportunities to develop your coaching and leadership skills
• Entry into local and national competitions including FA Youth Cup
• Use of SAFC’s Academy of Light
• Specialist goalkeeping sessions
What you’ll study

In addition to studying on the Football Development Centre’s main programme you will also have the option to complete an FA Level 1 course, First Aid course, Sports Leaders Award and a Referees Training course, as well as gain valuable work experience. There will also be the opportunity to join your squad and take part in a tour abroad.

Depending on your qualifications you will be able to choose to study with the Football Development Centre gaining a Sport (Performance and Excellence) BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma, BTEC Level 2 or three A-Levels.
UEFA B Coach

Previously Mark played for Newcastle United Academy and represented Morpeth Town and Shildon in the Northern League.

He has been coaching football for just under eight years and in that time built up a huge amount of experience working with some of the most talented youngsters in the region.

Mark’s role at Sunderland College coincides with his role as Coaching Director at the highly successful Fast Feet Football Academy where Mark has played a huge role in producing some of the region’s best footballing talent.
Sports Development Officer

James has been at Sunderland College since 2009, bringing experience in teaching and enrichment. He is now our Sport Development Officer.

Previously James played for Newcastle United, Hartlepool United and Darlington. He also spent time performing freestyle football skills most notably at Sunderland’s Stadium of Light, Manchester City’s Etihad Stadium, Newcastle Arena for Sky Sports and most proudly a performance for Pele.

James brings a wide range of experience and skills across a variety of sports. He is passionate about developing women’s football, and has been heavily involved in setting up the Women’s Football Development Centre here at the College.
Head of Sport and Tourism

As the Head of Sport and Tourism, Graham’s job is to make sure that Sunderland College’s Football Development Centre is given the resources it needs to flourish.

He has been teaching in sport and exercise since 2004 and is currently undertaking a PhD analysing elite sport performers. As well as publishing his research in peer reviewed journals, he acts as a reviewer for the International Journal of Performance Analysis in Sport and the European Journal of Sport Science.

Previously he worked as a personal trainer and strength and conditioning coach for individuals and teams in the region including Team Northumbria Netball, elite distance runners and even a canoe polo international athlete!
Michele Di Mascio

Curriculum Leader (Sport)

Michele has worked at Sunderland College in a teaching role since 2009 and is now Curriculum Leader for Sport, which includes running the Development Centres.

In the past Michele has written articles for the European Journal of Applied Physiology, Journal of Sports Science and the Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research and has presented at various conferences, including at the Danish FA. As well as managing the College’s sport department, he is currently undertaking a PhD in developing football-specific training and testing methods.

Michele has fantastic links within the sporting industry and works with a number of professional and amateur football teams in the UK.
“It’s really good here! The football is definitely the best thing about studying here and all my lecturers and coaches are really nice!

“If anyone was thinking about coming here I’d say do it, it’s really fun and there are loads of opportunities and trips away. Plus the new facilities are amazing!”

Emma Kirby
“The best thing about Sunderland College is the football. I get loads of training and sport is the one thing I really love so it’s been really good.

If someone loved sport and playing football I couldn’t recommend this course enough! I’ve improved loads since I started at Sunderland College and I can’t wait for the competitions!”

Amber McLoughlin
Football and Academic Education

It’s not just your footballing education that we care about at Sunderland College but your academic education too. We have a great reputation for our teaching and learning and our students have exceeded the national average for success rates and high grades for the last three years! You can choose from a range of courses as a Football Development Centre student to make sure it fits with your career aims.

Our Level 2 Diploma in Sport is a great entry level course which, if you successfully complete, you can use to access our level 3 courses.

Our Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sport Performance and Excellence will give you knowledge, training and experience of 18 subject areas within sport. Even better, we will relate as much as we can to your footballing education too! This course will allow you to access university courses if that is your aim.

Our A-Level choice is the biggest in Sunderland - you can choose from 36 different subjects all on one site! Our timetables ensure that your lessons won’t clash with football training or matches.
If you require the contents of this booklet in an alternative format eg Braille, large print or audio, please contact us.