

What is the new EFL Education & Community Football Alliance? A football competition with teams representing EFL Club CCOs in regional leagues progressing to National Play-Offs and Finals.

What are the benefits to our students? Students will have the opportunity to participate in a football competition governed professionally by EFL, sanctioned by The FA with due consideration of requirements laid down by FIFA and UEFA.

What are the benefits to the CCO? Playing in an exclusive, high quality, well organised league and against other EFL teams is a great incentive for students which will aid recruitment.

Who is it for? Any players registered on a post 16 education pathway with their CCO. This may be within the CCO or in partnership with a local college or sixth-form. Players must be under the age of 19 as of the 31st August 2018. Any CCOs that have passed the Capability Process will be eligible to enter teams.

Do learners have to be registered on BTEC Level 3 Sport to take part in the competition?

No. The competition is open to all students on a Post 16 Education programme under the age of 19.

Is it just for elite players? No. The competition is aimed at providing playing opportunities for young people with a passion for football, regardless of ability. The competition aims to inspire young people to achieve their education goals and develop life skills through football – an ethos our CCOs will be familiar with through many different programmes.

Is there a development pathway? The competition is intended to provide an opportunity for young people to play football at a level suitable for them whilst studying. Inevitably players can be signposted from routes such as academy football, and a player may develop from this competition into the professional game. However, these are by-products of the programme rather than it aims.

What are the requirements to enter a team? The Constitution and Rules clearly lay out the conditions of entry. As this is year one of the competition, we are considering these rules as being in 'draft' form and the Management Committee will review during the 2018/19 season.

How Much Does it Cost? Cost for entry to the EFL Education & Community Football Alliance is £400 per team per season.

How is the competition organised? Fixtures are to be played on a home and away basis in regional leagues of approximately 10-12 teams. There will then be a National Play-Off process to determine overall winners at the end of the regular season. The exact format will be determined once the number of teams is known.

How do we register? Please complete the Application Form to enter teams in the EFL Education & Community Alliance for the 2018/19 season. The deadline for this process is 15th June 2018. The teams must also be registered with your County FA. For any questions please email aneary@efl.com

