



Job Title: Academy Sports Scientist
Reports to: Academy Lead Sports Scientist
Location: Bloomfield Road, Blackpool (with travel to the training venue)
Hours: 40 per week – to include weekends & match days
Salary: Competitive (Depending on Experience)

Who we are:

Blackpool Football Club is an English professional association football club based in the seaside town of Blackpool, Lancashire.

The club was founded in 1887 and has a very storied history, from being a founding member of the Lancashire League in 1889, rising to the Top-Flight of the Football League (the old First Division) in 1930, to winning the FA Cup in 1953 and being promoted to the Premier League in 2010 (becoming the first club to gain promotion from every division of the Football League via the play-off system.)

The team are competing in the Championship, the second tier of the English Football League, having gained promotion from League One in 2020–21.

The club have played their home games at Bloomfield Road since 1901.

About the role:

Blackpool FC Academy are seeking a Sports Scientist to join their existing team. The ideal candidate will work primarily with the Development Squad but will also assist with the developing of strong working practices across the whole Academy pathway as well as developing players from a physical aspect.

The main purpose of the role is to design and deliver highly detailed and specific individual programmes for Academy players with the purpose of developing them into Elite athletes.

You will be expected to undertake any specific training or Continued Professional Development to maintain your up-to-date knowledge and qualifications, and / or as organised by the club.



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Key Responsibilities and Duties:

- To assist with the assessing, designing, and delivering of programmes that will enhance players physical performance, according to their individual needs.
- Assist with the mentoring of players through their programmes ensuring they understand and appreciate the benefit of increasing their physical capabilities.
- To introduce all Academy players to the age specific aspect of Strength and Conditioning, both gym and pitch based.
- Deliver Strength and Conditioning sessions to the Development Squad players, ensuring training standards and safety are kept at all times.
- To provide regular progress reports for the players progression meetings and give understanding to the MDT team.
- Work in collaboration with the players to develop nutritional programmes that meet the demands of the modern game.
- Provide players nutritional and recovery recommendation.
- To work closely with Academy medical team to deliver rehabilitation plans to injured players.
- Provide information for progress reports and attend meetings with players/parents where needed.
- Discuss 6 weekly progress with the players and put together action plans, in accordance with the testing results.
- Work closely with Development Squad multi-disciplinary team to provide updates and progression of training plans.
- Develop benchmarking data for the future analysis of academy players.
- Deliver introductory sessions to all Academy groups, to ensure the initialisation of strengthening programmes are conducted.
- Provide data interpretation specifically on workload, GPS and strength programs.
- Provide a battery of physical and anthropometric testing, on a six-week cycle.
- On field duties to include athletic development sessions to improve the whole athletic performance of a player.
- Work closely with players on developing standardised recovery protocols.
- Work with the recruitment department to develop a range of tests that allow testing to take place whilst players are on trial.



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The above job description is not intended to be exhaustive; the duties and responsibilities may therefore vary over time according to the changing needs of the Club.



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Person Specification		
	Essential Requirements	Desirable Requirement
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSc Strength and Conditioning or Sports and Exercise Science. • Working towards UKSCA Accreditation. • FA Safeguarding Children Qualification. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSc in Sports and exercise science or related field. • NCSA certified Strength and Conditioning coach.
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous experience working in professional Academy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous experience of working in a similar role in professional sport. • Held the equivalent role within a professional Academy.
Knowledge & Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A knowledge and understanding of the physiological demands of professional football. • Awareness of the pressure and challenges of working in a high-performance environment. • Excellent communication skills with the ability to build relationships with players, parents and coaches both internally and externally. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considerable understanding of EPPP and sports science requirements.
Personal Qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong organisational skills. • Be a pro-active thinker, always looking for opportunities to improve and enhance the Academy operations. • Passionate about players and youth development and be willing to always put the player at the centre of your reasoning. • Possess the drive and enthusiasm to set high standards. • A flexible approach to work, including willingness to work unsociable hours. • Honest and trustworthy with a high level of confidentiality and exceptional personal integrity. 	



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- Ability to self-motivate and prioritise workloads.
- Solutions orientated all the time.

To apply for the position please submit an application form and a covering letter detailing how you meet the criteria for the role to or Blackpool Football Club, Bloomfield Road, Seaside Way, Blackpool, FY1 6JJ.

As part of your application, please also complete our Diversity Monitoring Form and return it to HR@Blackpoolfc.co.uk.

The form will be separated from your application on receipt. The information on this form will be used for monitoring purposes only and will play no part in the recruitment process.

We encourage early applicants as we reserve the right to close the application process at any time.

This job will be subject to satisfactory references and enhanced DBS procedures.

Closing date for applications is **Monday 21st November 2022.**



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Safeguarding: Blackpool Football Club Ltd and the EFL are committed to safeguarding the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to endorse this commitment. Posts advertised may require Enhanced Criminal Record Checks and may include checks against the Barred lists, as such it is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (1974). Therefore, all convictions, including spent convictions that have not been subject to filtering by the DBS should be declared.

Recruitment checks: You will also be required to provide details of referees for the previous five years working history or referees whilst in full time education.

Equality and Diversity: Employees must always carry out their duties with due regard to Blackpool Football Club's policies and procedures. The employee must ensure a positive commitment towards equality and diversity treating others fairly and not committing any form of direct or indirect discrimination, victimisation or harassment of any description and to promote positive working relationships between all internal and external stakeholders.

Inclusion and Anti-Discrimination Mission Statement: At Blackpool Football Club we aim to provide an enjoyable experience for all supporters and hold inclusion and anti-discrimination at the core of our values. We are committed to creating an environment which welcomes and respects people from all communities, promoting equality and diversity at Bloomfield Road and its associated premises. As a Club we recognise the nine protected characteristics (age, disability, gender re-assignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion and belief, sex and sexual orientation) under the Equality Act 2010 and will play an active role in supporting inclusion and putting an end to discrimination.

The employee must ensure a positive commitment towards equality and diversity by treating others fairly and not committing any form of direct or indirect discrimination, victimisation or harassment of any description and to promote positive working relationships between all internal and external stakeholders.

Blackpool Football Club is an equal opportunities employer.



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