



Sports Science & Medical Performance Support Auditor

Reporting to: General Manager, Professional Game Academy Audit Company

Direct reports: Psychology Auditor's

Key relationships: Academy staff across Premier League and EFL clubs
Relevant Premier League, EFL and FA staff

Location: Home Based with frequent travel required

Overview:

As part of the Elite Player Performance Plan, the overarching professional-game strategy for the development of youth footballers in England, the Academies of professional football clubs are categorised into four categories (1-4), based on a combination of spend, infrastructure, staffing, and qualitative assessments of their provisions across a range of multidisciplinary areas.

To effectively categorise Academies and to support the continual raising of standards in elite player development, an independent standards organisation has been developed, mandated by the professional game, to monitor safety, compliance and the quality of work being delivered.

The independent standards organisation oversees an interdisciplinary assessment of Academies across; Leadership & Management, Coaching, Performance Support, Duty of Care, Education, Safeguarding, and Productivity. Performance Support comprises of Medical, Physical Development and nutrition.

As part of the above, the Performance Support Auditor will be responsible for the auditing of organisation and practice in the Performance Support departments of Premier League and EFL Academies. This is a full-time position.

The Role:

- Review and Evaluation of Performance Support programmes:
 - Using the Academy Audit Company assessment framework, assess the quality of Performance Support provisions in Academies
 - Accurately and fairly report findings, identifying areas of quality, risk and development.
 - Manage the end to end auditing/quality assurance process, ensuring the operation runs as smoothly as possible for club and auditing team
 - Ensure a consistent assessment is given no matter the auditor or club
- General Responsibilities:
 - Using the Academy Audit Company assessment framework, assess the quality of Leadership and Management, and Pathway provisions in Academies
 - Deliver annual club visits to ensure adherence with Safe to Operate guidelines and the Youth Development Rules
 - Support the development of a suitable Academy standards framework and auditing practices
 - Meet tight deadlines
 - Ensure the auditing team maintains an up to date knowledge of Performance Support practice

Requirements for the role:

Requirements	Criteria
Skills and Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviewing skills and observational analysis • A consultative approach with a range of approaches to gain understanding, connect and build trust • Analytical ability to identify areas for improvement, perform root-cause analysis and convert findings into required actions • Ability to see both the big picture and enabling detail • Clear and concise written and verbal communication skills • Ability to present written information in a structured and balanced way appropriate to the needs of the reader • Clear and straightforward communication, can defend a point of view in a composed and confident way • Strong time management and organisational skills • High level emotional intelligence and interpersonal skills
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience working in Performance Support and development programs with young athletes (desirable: Academy / Professional footballers) • Previous experience in reviewing, assessing and developing recommendations for Performance Support programs at a strategic level • Prior leadership and management experience
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSc in Sport Science, Sports Medicine, or related subject • The British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences (BASES) accreditation, Chartered Physiotherapy status or equivalent professional accreditation/ qualification • High practical and theoretical understanding of Performance Support demands in elite level sport (desirable: player development, football) • Understanding and appreciation of context and cultural difference between clubs of different sizes and philosophies • Understanding and expertise in Quantitative and Qualitative assessment
Personal Attributes & Other Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High personal integrity and professional conduct • Motivated by being part of a successful game-wide Academy system • Sets and works to high standards • Enjoys working hard to build relationships in challenging environments • Comfortable following systems and process, applies a structured approach to projects and planning. • A hunger for continued learning and continuous professional development • IT literate • Full driving licence as frequent travel will be required • Safeguarding and Protecting Children • DBS Clearance (to be completed during recruitment process)

Nice-to-haves for the role:

- PhD in Sport Science, Sports Medicine or related subject
- UEFA football coaching qualification
- Project management experience and / or Prior experience of auditing/quality assurance

The Premier League, EFL, the FA are equal opportunities employers and welcome applications from all sections of the community. All appointments will be made based on merit.

To apply please email hr@premierleague.com with your CV and cover letter. The closing date for applications is Thursday 25th April 2019