

## Programme Specification

A Programme Specification provides a concise summary of the main features of a programme and its intended learning outcomes. It is intended to be used by prospective students, current students, academic staff and potential employers.

<b>Programme Title:</b>	
<b>BSc (Hons) Football Development and Performance</b>	
<b>Programme (AOS) Code(s):</b>	<b>BP1FDP1 (3-year) BP1FDP4 (with foundation year) BP2FDP1 (with sandwich year)</b>
<b>UCAS Code:</b>	<b>FDP1 B94 (3-year) FDP4 B94 (with foundation year) FDP2 B94 (with sandwich year)</b>
<b>Name of Final Award:</b>	<b>Bachelor of Science with Honours, BSc (Hons)</b>
<b>Level of Qualification:</b>	<b>Level 6</b>
<b>Regime of Delivery:</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
<b>Mode(s) of Delivery:</b>	<b>Full-time</b>
<b>Typical Length of Study (Years):</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Professional Body Recognition / Accreditation (including specific requirements where applicable):</b>	<b>n/a</b>

### Brief Description of the Programme

The BSc (Hons) Football Development and Performance award is for individuals with a keen interest in the development of football players, from grass-roots to performance, or in community development through football, and who wish to qualify and develop as football coaches. The programme takes a mixed theoretical and applied approach to understanding and engaging with the football, sport development and coaching industries, which will allow students to develop strong, transferrable academic and professional skills and practise delivering football to the community in a number of projects, placements and volunteering opportunities. The course also aims to stimulate students to employ a critical and politically informed lens to create culturally-aware, inclusive and reflective football development strategists and coaches. Students will also be introduced to elements of the sport sciences, allowing them to develop knowledge and techniques for performance enhancement.

Students should choose this award if they are seeking to study an exciting course, developed with input from football professionals, at a university that has been a pioneer in football-related studies and has a strong reputation for delivering vocational sport courses. The programme focuses on the contextual and operational challenges facing the football industry with an aim to developing students that might engage with individuals, communities and organisations to promote participation opportunities, develop athletes, improve performances, and contribute to the betterment of people's lives through football. Students will be given the opportunity to gain recognised coaching awards, which are included in the course fees, and will be helped to establish and maintain networks, organise and run sport events and initiatives, and create, implement and evaluate important sport policy concerning such things as health, social inclusion and crime and

anti-social behaviour. Students will learn both within the university and 'in the field', utilising our partnerships with schools, football clubs, and football organisations, for on-site practice and learning. The course includes a compulsory placement at Level 5, and students are also offered a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to take time out of their degree to coach and work in the US at soccer schools from Hawaii to Florida and every state in between.

## Programme Aims

1	Produce culturally-aware graduates who have the critical knowledge of football development and coaching and are inclusive and responsive to the diverse needs of the community
2	Open doors for students with football industry partners and provide practical coaching opportunities in a range of settings
3	Equip students with the knowledge and tools to assess, monitor, and improve footballer performances
4	Prepare students for employment or for postgraduate study by equipping them with an appropriate range of professional and academic skills and capabilities
5	Foster a spirit of enquiry and equip students with the skills necessary for ethical, applied research

## Programme Learning Outcomes

The Bucks Graduate Attributes focus on the development of innovative leaders in professional and creative capacities, who are equipped to operate in the 21st Century labour market and make a positive impact as global citizens. The attributes are developed through the programme.

ID	Learning Outcome
<b>Graduate Attribute: Knowledge and its application (K)</b>	
K1	Identify the key organisations and structures responsible for football and other sport and explain their functions and relationships with one another
K2	Apply theory to explain situational factors impacting on football
K3	Assess the skills and attributes needed of a football coach
K4	Appraise the physical, psychological, and other performance factors that impact on football players and implement strategies for progression
K5	Evaluate core management concepts and skills and their application in different football settings
K6	Critically reflect upon essential processes for knowledge generation and apply these in the football world
<b>Graduate Attribute: Creativity (C)</b>	
C1	Develop programmes for effective football coaching
C2	Design and deliver tailored sporting events
C3	Present information in appropriate and appealing formats to different audiences
C4	Develop innovative strategies for effective data collection and evaluation in football
<b>Graduate Attribute: Social and ethical awareness and responsibility (S)</b>	
S1	Critique social policy and its impact on football and football participation

S2	Debate key issues that affect individuals' experiences of football
S3	Make a contribution to inclusivity, safeguarding matters, and/or the general wellbeing of groups or individuals through football
<b>Graduate Attribute: Leadership and self-development (L)</b>	
L1	Achieve recognised industry awards in coaching
L2	Demonstrate abilities in leadership and teamwork
L3	Demonstrate the skills and attributes of a football coach, analyst, and/or instructor
L4	Critically reflect on and apply personal, professional, and employability attributes for continuing development and success in the football and sport development job market

## Programme Structure

Programmes are structured in stages. The number of stages will vary depending on the mode (e.g. full-time, part-time), duration and location of study which will be detailed in the Programme Handbook.

Modules are set at a specific academic level and listed as either core (compulsory) or optional. The level indicates the relative academic difficulty which will increase through the programme. Passing modules will reward you with academic credit. The amount of credits will depend on the complexity of the module and the level of effort required, which is measured in 'notional learning hours'.

Our [Academic Advice webpages](#) provide more information on the structure of taught awards offered by the University.

### Foundation Level (Optional for students on degree programmes)

Code	Module Title	Credit	Core / Option	Compensable (Normally Yes)
FY026	Preparing for Success Knowledge and Creativity	N/A	C	Yes
FY027	Preparing for Success Self-development and Responsibility	N/A	C	Yes
FY028	Inquiry and Research Skills	N/A	C	Yes
FY012	Introduction to Sport Development and Performance	N/A	C	Yes

### Level Four

Code	Module Title	Credit	Core / Option	Compensable (Normally Yes)
SL411	Introduction to Coaching Theory and Practice	15	C	Yes
SL414	Applied Sport Field Study	15	C	Yes
SL415	Understanding Sport Development	15	C	Yes
SL457	Human Anatomy	15	C	Yes
SL458	Human Sciences for Physical Education	15	C	Yes
SL459	Games in Sport and Education	15	C	Yes

SL461	The Global Football Industry	15	C	Yes
SL462	Football and Society	15	C	Yes

### Level Five

Code	Module Title	Credit	Core / Option	Compensable (Normally Yes)
SL519	Coaching and Athlete Development	15	C	Yes
SL520	Research in Sport and Exercise	15	C	Yes
SL516	Sport Operations Management	15	C	Yes
SL531	Performance Analysis	15	C	Yes
SL533	Applied Strength and Conditioning	15	C	Yes
SL528	Sports Nutrition	15	C	Yes
SL596	Sport Development Application and Approaches	15	C	Yes
SL597	Working in Sport Development and Coaching	15	C	Yes

### Level Six

Code	Module Title	Credit	Core / Option	Compensable (Normally Yes)
SL618	Club Business: Football	15	C	Yes
SL620	Research Dissertation	30	C	No
SL625	Professional Development and Employability	15	C	Yes
SL652	Strategies in Youth Sport	15	C	Yes
SL654	Psychology of Youth Sport	15	C	Yes
SL615	Contemporary Coaching Issues	15	C	Yes
SL656	Performance Testing in Football	15	C	Yes

## Learning and Teaching Activities

Please see the [Academic Advice pages](#) for a description of learning and teaching activities that are recognised by the University. Detailed information on this specific programme is outlined below:

This programme is delivered with the Centre for Human Performance, Exercise and Wellbeing, providing first class facilities, including a Human Performance Lab, which allows students to regularly apply their learning in the performance elements of the course. The Centre also maintains a number of industry and community partners, including football clubs, trusts, and schools, whose representatives visit the university and who provide access for students to their own facilities allowing site-based learning and practice. Wherever possible, these partnerships are exploited to permit the effective integration of theory and practice to support authentic learning, utilising problem-based approaches, live case studies, client challenges and practical coaching sessions.

A diverse range of learning and teaching approaches are used as appropriate to each module. Across the programme students benefit from regular contact through:

- Lectures
- Seminars
- Workshops
- Tutorials
- Practical sessions

In addition, student learning is supported by proactive use of the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) to include lecture, seminar, and workshop materials, as well as additional reading and resources, assignment guidance and assistance, and communication. Students will have regular contact with a personal tutor in both timetabled group sessions and one-to-one meetings, which are designed to monitor and support student achievement and provide pastoral care and advice. Students will also pursue industry-recognised qualifications and coaching awards, delivered through courses integrated into some modules or running alongside the main programme, fully organised and supported by the course team.

At the start of the course, students participate in an induction programme which includes introductions to key academic and support staff, the structure and delivery of the programme, training in the use of the VLE, introductions to learning resources and skills support, and a range of familiarization activities. Induction also enables students to meet the other members of their programme and to learn about extra-curricular opportunities.

Students will be expected to support their own learning through guided independent study outside of timetabled hours. This will include, but is not restricted to:

- Wider reading to enhance understanding of concepts, theories, and ideas introduced in lectures and seminars
- Preparation for lectures and/or seminars, which may include reading around the key concepts to be delivered in lectures, or the generation of materials to work with in seminars or workshops
- Practise skills essential to the programme of study, such as the use of particular software or equipment

Students are also encouraged to enhance their learning on their programme by engaging fully in voluntary or paid employment as coaches or in other roles in sport/football development, and opportunities to do so will be advertised to students throughout their degree via the VLE. This includes opportunities with some of our soccer school partners in the USA, who recruit qualified coaches in the summer months, and also offer extended placement opportunities, which students may take-up as part of a sandwich year. All of our US partners are founded on a principles of professionalism, safety, educational excellence, fun and superior community relations, and the opportunities they provide can be life-changing for aspiring football professionals, community coaches, and others besides. It should be noted that due to visa restrictions, students wanting to take a sandwich year and work in the USA would need to enroll in February, rather than September – this will be communicated in all course marketing material and at open days. The course team promote these opportunities and representatives from the US organisations are invited to present to students on one or two occasions per academic year. These are well-established organisations with strong reputations for providing full overseas placement packages for students, and they manage the placement. The course team will be available to sandwich year students via email or telephone during their year away from the university.

Additionally, a shorter, compulsory period of work experience is embedded in the Level 5 module 'Working in Sport Development (SL597). Tutors will support students in selecting suitable

experience with our network of schools, football providers, coaching providers, and other community partners. Before any period of work experience students and work experience providers will complete a learning agreement to ensure that roles and responsibilities are clearly understood. Students and work experience providers will have a named contact in case of concerns or problems. Most schools and many other clubs and football providers will require students to be DBS checked. This, and the cost, will be made clear to all applicants. Work experience will be managed with regard to the University Placement learning policy.

### Additional Course Costs

There are costs associated with all studies, additional to the tuition fee, which require consideration, when planning and budgeting for expenditure. Costs are indicative and for the total length of the course shown unless otherwise stated and will increase with inflation; depending on the programme they may include equipment, printing, project materials, study trips, placement activities, DBS and/or other security checks.

The costs of coaching qualifications acquired in modules, and the FA awards, are included within the course fees and students will not be asked to pay for these. Similarly, any trips embedded within modules will also be included in the course fees.

However, students will need to consider the following additional costs:

Many students will be required to be DBS-checked for work experience and/or coaching practice. While some schools and other organisations will pay for this, it cannot be guaranteed and the cost will then fall to the student.

Some of the US-based soccer schools promoted by the course team, while covering the costs of food and accommodation, and paying students a wage, do require students to pay some up-front costs, including flights and visa applications.

All students on the course will be expected to wear branded university sports kit when representing the university in a coaching and/or community role. Students will be expected to purchase this kit from the official university supplier at the beginning of their course, and to pay for any replacement kit thereafter.

### Contact Hours

1 unit of credit is the equivalent of 10 notional learning hours. Full time undergraduate students study 120 credits (1200 hours) and full-time postgraduate students study 180 credits (1800 hours) per year or 'stage' of the course.

Course Stage	Scheduled Activities (Hours)	Guided Independent Study (Hours)	Placement / Study Abroad (Hours)
Foundation Year	345	855	0
Level 4	301	899	0
Level 5	282	878	40
Level 6	278	922	0

## Assessment Methods

The [Assessment and Examination webpages](#) provide further information on how assignments are marked and moderated, including a description of assessment activities. These also include further information about how feedback on assessed work is provided to students, including our commitment to ensure this is provided to students within 15 working days (the ‘three-week turnaround’).

The following assessment activities are used on this programme:

- Coursework: Essay
- Coursework: Report
- Coursework: Portfolio
- Practical: Presentation
- Practical: Group presentation
- Practical: Practical assessment

## Classification

**Calculation of final award:**

**The final award is calculated as follows:**

- Level 5 – 33%
- Level 6 – 67%

For full details of assessment regulations for all taught programmes please refer to our [Results webpages](#). These include the criteria for degree classification.

## Admissions Requirements

Please see the [Application webpages](#) for more information on how to apply, including a statement on how we support students from a variety of backgrounds. Please also see our [general entry requirements](#) for taught programmes. Applicants who do not meet our published entry requirements are encouraged to contact our admissions team for further advice and guidance.

### Typical applicant profile and any programme-specific entry requirements

A keen interest in football is essential and the course would particularly suit those applicants with an interest in coaching and the progression of football players, or in assisting the community through the delivery of football. Therefore, an enthusiasm for getting out, engaging people, and working with diverse groups is also essential. Coaching qualifications and some coaching experience would be beneficial, but are not essential as opportunities for awards and experience are included in the programme.

Good communication skills are essential as students will be assessed in a number of ways including both written work and oral communication, and throughout the course will be expected to converse and work with external organisations. Entrants must be prepared to take responsibility for their learning, and be willing to work both individually and as part of a team and to participate fully in course activities. Basic ICT skills will be an advantage.

## Opportunities for students on successful completion of the programme

Career prospects for graduates include football coaching roles, community coaching positions, performance analysts, football development officers and managers, as well as development roles in sports other than football. Typically, graduates would expect to work within football clubs, local authorities (county and district councils), National Governing Bodies, including the FA and county FAs, and County Sport Partnerships. There may also be opportunities to work in education, in schools, colleges, and universities. For those who wish to extend their studies at the end of their degree, opportunities to study at Masters Level, and beyond, will be encouraged.

## Recognition of Prior Learning

Previous study, professional and / or vocational experiences may be recognised as the equivalent learning experience and permit exemption from studying certain modules. Please refer to our [Credit Accumulation webpages](#) for further guidance.

## Student Support

During the course of their studies, students will be supported in the following ways:

- At the start of their studies all students will receive a full **induction** to the programme which will include introduction to the staff responsible for delivering the course, and access to library and IT facilities
- The **Programme Handbook** will outline the exact nature of the course and how it is structured, including the availability of option modules
- Each student will be allocated a **Personal Tutor** who will support their academic development, be able to advise and guide them with their studies and, where necessary, give advice on study options
- Students will be able to access our full range of **support services**, including the Learning Development Unit for skills and study support, the Library, the Careers and Employability Team, Student Finance Team, Accommodation and Counselling Services



## Appendices

### Quality Assurance

<b>Awarding Body:</b>	Buckinghamshire New University
<b>Language of Study:</b>	English
<b>QAA Subject Benchmark Statement(s):</b>	QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for: Hospitality, Leisure, Sport and Tourism (2016)
<b>Assessment Regulations:</b>	<i>Academic Assessment Regulations</i> , accessible via the Academic Advice webpages ( <a href="https://bucks.ac.uk/students/academicadvice">https://bucks.ac.uk/students/academicadvice</a> )
<b>Does the Fitness to Practise procedure apply to this programme?</b>	No
<b>Date Published / Updated:</b>	September 2018, March 2021, August 2021

### Other awards available on programme (Exit Qualifications)

Please refer to the *Academic Qualifications Framework* for Exit Qualifications recognised by the University and credit and module requirements.

<b>Name of Exit Qualification:</b>	Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE)
<b>Full name of Qualification and Award Title:</b>	CertHE Football Development and Performance
<b>Credits requirements:</b>	120 Credits
<b>Module requirements:</b>	ALL 120 Credits at Level 4
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	
Identify the key organisations and structures responsible for football and other sport and explain their functions and relationships with one another	
Apply theory to explain situational factors impacting on football	
Assess the skills and attributes needed of a football coach	
Appraise the physical, psychological, and other performance factors that impact on football players and implement strategies for progression	
Evaluate core management concepts and skills and their application in different football settings	
Describe essential processes for knowledge generation and apply these in the football world	
Develop programmes for effective football coaching	
Design and deliver tailored sporting events	
Present information in appropriate and appealing formats to different audiences	
Critique social policy and its impact on football and football participation	
Debate key issues that affect individuals' experiences of football	
Make a contribution to inclusivity, safeguarding matters, and/or the general wellbeing of groups or individuals through football	
Achieve recognised industry awards in coaching	

Demonstrate abilities in leadership and teamwork

Demonstrate the skills and attributes of a football coach, analyst, and/or instructor

<b>Name of Exit Qualification:</b>	<b>Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE)</b>
<b>Full name of Qualification and Award Title:</b>	<b>DipHE Football Development and Performance</b>
<b>Credits requirements:</b>	<b>240 Credits</b>
<b>Module requirements:</b>	<b>ALL 120 Credits at Level 4 ALL 120 Credits at Level 5</b>

### Learning Outcome

Identify the key organisations and structures responsible for football and other sport and explain their functions and relationships with one another

Apply theory to explain situational factors impacting on football

Assess the skills and attributes needed of a football coach

Appraise the physical, psychological, and other performance factors that impact on football players and implement strategies for progression

Evaluate core management concepts and skills and their application in different football settings

Describe essential processes for knowledge generation and apply these in the football world

Develop programmes for effective football coaching

Design and deliver tailored sporting events

Present information in appropriate and appealing formats to different audiences

Critique social policy and its impact on football and football participation

Debate key issues that affect individuals' experiences of football

Make a contribution to inclusivity, safeguarding matters, and/or the general wellbeing of groups or individuals through football

Achieve recognised industry awards in coaching

Demonstrate abilities in leadership and teamwork

Demonstrate the skills and attributes of a football coach, analyst, and/or instructor

<b>Name of Exit Qualification:</b>	<b>Ordinary Degree</b>
<b>Full name of Qualification and Award Title:</b>	<b>BSc Football Development and Performance</b>
<b>Credits requirements:</b>	<b>300 Credits</b>
<b>Module requirements:</b>	<b>ALL 120 Credits at Level 4 ALL 120 Credits at Level 5 PLUS the following Level 6 modules: SL615; SL618; SL625; SL652; SL656</b>

### Learning Outcome

Identify the key organisations and structures responsible for football and other sport and explain their functions and relationships with one another

- Apply theory to explain situational factors impacting on football
- Assess the skills and attributes needed of a football coach
- Appraise the physical, psychological, and other performance factors that impact on football players and implement strategies for progression
- Evaluate core management concepts and skills and their application in different football settings
- Describe essential processes for knowledge generation and apply these in the football world
- Develop programmes for effective football coaching
- Design and deliver tailored sporting events
- Present information in appropriate and appealing formats to different audiences
- Critique social policy and its impact on football and football participation
- Debate key issues that affect individuals' experiences of football
- Make a contribution to inclusivity, safeguarding matters, and/or the general wellbeing of groups or individuals through football
- Achieve recognised industry awards in coaching
- Demonstrate abilities in leadership and teamwork
- Demonstrate the skills and attributes of a football coach, analyst, and/or instructor
- Critically reflect on and apply personal, professional, and employability attributes for continuing development and success in the football and sport development job market