



SEASON 2014/15



CHARTER FOR ACADEMY PLAYERS AND PARENTS

***YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
PLAYERS' AND PARENTS' GUIDE***

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The Football League Youth Development would like to thank the following clubs for providing the photographs included in this guide:
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CONTENTS

CHARTER

1 The Academy System – Our Vision and Mission, Your Opportunity, The Performance Pathway, Understanding Academy Classification	5
2 Participation – Academy Registration, Time/Distance Regulations, Academy Induction, End of Season Procedures, Compensation, Requesting Release	7
3 Academy Performance Plan – Coaching Programme, Games Programme, Festivals, Tours and Tournaments, Education Programme	12
4 Player Development and Progression	16
5 Player Welfare – Social Media and Communication, Images and Film Footage	18
6 Independent Advice – The PFA Independent Registration Advisory Service	19
7 Feedback – Feedback and Open Communication, Complaints Process	20
8 Key Contacts	21

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The FA Respect Programme	22
FA Education and Welfare	24
LFE Apprenticeships	24
Trials, Trialists, U16 Assessment Trials, LFE Assessment Trials	27

FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT RULES 2014/15

Football League Youth Development Rules 2014/15	29
Confirmation of Receipt	73

WELCOME

JOINING THE ACADEMY SYSTEM IS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR ANY YOUNG PLAYER. ON BEHALF OF EVERYONE AT THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE, WE WISH YOU GOOD LUCK AS YOU BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY.

You should expect the quality of coaching, the standard of education and the all-round experience to be outstanding. We expect all Academy Players to show commitment to and respect for their fellow players of all ages, for their coaches and their Club, and for both the rules and the spirit of the game.

The Football League operates the Academy system on behalf of its Clubs, and also works closely with, the Premier League, The Football Association (FA) and the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA).

There are many things you will need to know as an Academy Player or as a parent of a player. This Charter is designed to provide you with an introduction to the Academy system and information on how it works.





1 THE ACADEMY SYSTEM

OUR VISION - WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

We want to produce more and better home-grown players.

We want our players to be technically excellent and tactically astute independent decision-makers on and off the field, equipped for a successful career as professional footballers. We want to develop the world's leading youth coaches, provide inspirational facilities and world-class support services.

OUR MISSION - WHAT WE DO

The aim of the Academy system is to help young players maximise their potential in football, education and life. It puts well-being and personal development at the heart of everything we do. Our aim is to develop well-rounded individuals as well as high quality players. Clubs provide expert services, support and advice to Academy Players and their parents, and every young player should enjoy and value their Academy experience.

YOUR OPPORTUNITY - WHAT IS THERE FOR YOU

Participating in the Academy system is an achievement to be proud of, however it is important to maintain a balance between the demands of life outside of football, including your education. Ensure that you maintain interests beyond the football pitch and manage expectations of a professional football career because only a few Academy Players will go on to become professional footballers.

THE PERFORMANCE PATHWAY

We call the development journey of an Academy Player the Performance Pathway. Players can join and leave at different ages or points and can progress into the professional game or another career. Your Club coaches, backed by a wide range of other specialist services, support Academy Players through each phase of the Pathway.

THE PERFORMANCE PATHWAY HAS 3 PHASES

FOUNDATION PHASE	Under 9 (U9) to Under 11 (U11)
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PHASE	Under 12 (U12) to Under 16 (U16)
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PHASE	Under 17 (U17) to Under 21 (U21)

UNDERSTANDING ACADEMY CLASSIFICATION

Each Academy is independently audited every three years and categorised from 1 to 4. The Football League works closely with its Clubs in between audits to ensure that standards are maintained and improved where required. The different categories of Academies reflect the type of programme provided.

The environment at an Academy will differ according to the categorisation, but all categories of Academy will have a track record of producing successful professional players. Your Club will be able to provide you with their categorisation status.

ACADEMY CLASSIFICATION	DEFINITION	PERFORMANCE PATHWAY
CATEGORY 1	This is the highest classification awarded to an Academy. It is an elite environment where Academy Players are provided with additional access to coaching and the potential of full time education from U12. Category 1 Academies can recruit nationally from U12 provided the Academy Player is guaranteed access to a full time education programme.	U9 to U21
CATEGORY 2	This is an elite development environment where Academy Players are typically recruited locally but gain access to additional coaching opportunities and education support.	U9 to U21
CATEGORY 3	This is a development environment where Academy Players are provided with professional coaching and development opportunities.	U9 to U21
CATEGORY 4	Academies focus on their coaching and educational support for Academy Players in the Professional Development Phase (U17 to U21) only.	U17 to U21

2 PARTICIPATION

JOINING THE ACADEMY SYSTEM

The first point of contact with your Club may have been through a scout or agent.

WHAT IS A SCOUT?

A scout represents a Club and is responsible for identifying talented young players. Scouts must be registered with the Club who is responsible for ensuring high standards of behaviour. You should always confirm a scout's identity with the Club.

WHAT IS AN AGENT?

An agent acts on behalf of a player or a Club and may represent a player or a Club in contractual negotiations.

Agents may not approach a player before 1st January in the year they become 16 or finish full-time education - whichever is later. Agents may provide advisory services, but are not essential for a

future in professional football. The PFA also provide independent advisory services and you should consider early contact.

You are advised to take independent legal advice before entering into a contract with an agent.

Football agents are regulated by The FA who are contactable as follows:-

Agent Hotline: 0844 980 8213

Anonymous Whistleblower: 0844 980 8218

E-mail Queries: agents.admin@thefa.com

If you are concerned about an approach from a scout or agent, contact your Club's Designated Safeguarding Officer immediately.

ACADEMY REGISTRATION

Registration is when you commit to a Club's Academy, and the Club commits to you. All parties must complete a registration form. You remain attached to the Club for a period of time that depends on your age, and you join an age group determined by the age you will be on 31st August. The initial duration of your registration will be determined by the time of year when the Club approaches you to register.

DURATION OF REGISTRATION

U9, U10 and U11

Registration period of up to 1 year

U12, U14 and U16

Registration period of up to 1 year

U13 and U15

Registration period of up to 2 years

Once the registration is established it will continue thereafter for successive periods of a year (or 2 years) unless either the club and/or the player terminate in accordance with the youth development rules.

The Football League and your Club see registration as a crucial time when independent advice is important for Academy Players and their parents (see section 6).

SCHOLARSHIP OFFERS

A Scholarship is a 2-year agreement between the Club and the Academy Player which provides a full-time football development and education programme. This is also sometimes referred to as an apprenticeship.

An offer of a Scholarship may be officially recorded at any time on or after 1st January in the year in which you reach the age of 14. For those Academy Players in the Under 16 age group, it shall be offered on or before 1st March in your Under 16 season. Following receipt of this offer, you must respond within 28 days, otherwise it is considered that you have not accepted the offer. Serious consideration should be given to this long term commitment to a Club.

Information about the PFA Independence Advisory Service available to you regarding registration and contractual offers can be found in section 6.

REGISTRATION PROCESS

Once you have signed a registration form, The Football League will process your registration. If you choose to cancel the agreement, you must contact The Football League within 7 days. You may be coached by, and play for, the Club during this initial 7-day period as you are officially registered with the Club.

APPROACHES AND CONTACTS

You are not permitted to contact any other Premier League or Football League Clubs during the initial 7-day period, **nor** throughout your agreed registration period. Likewise, other Premier League or Football League Clubs, scouts and agents must **not** make an approach to you or any person connected with you.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Your registration means you accept personal responsibility for maintaining standards of behaviour set out by your Club, Academy and The Football League.

TIME/DISTANCE REGULATIONS

Between Under 9 and Under 16

You can only be registered with a Club if you live within a limited travel time of the Club's location. From Under 17 to Under 21 there are no travel time restrictions.





	1 Hour U9 to U11	1.5 Hours U12 to U16	National Recruitment U12 to U16*	National Recruitment U17 to U21
Category 1 Academy	1 Hour	1 ½ Hours	Full time	No restriction
Category 2 Academy	1 Hour	1 ½ Hours	Not applicable	No restriction
Category 3 Academy	1 Hour	1 ½ Hours	Not applicable	No restriction
Category 4 Academy	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	No restriction

*This exception is where an Academy Player joins a Category 1 Academy and is offered full-time training.

ACADEMY INDUCTION

YOUR ACADEMY WILL TELL YOU ABOUT THE PROVISION OF COACHING, EDUCATION AND SUPPORT AS WELL AS WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FOLLOWING REGISTRATION. YOU WILL FIND OUT ABOUT YOUR PERSONAL COACHING AND GAMES PROGRAMMES, AND HOW YOUR EDUCATION PROGRAMME AND SCHOOL LIAISON WILL BE MANAGED.

Induction is an important chance to get to know key people at the Academy, and for them to get to know you. Make the most of the opportunity to ask questions and to note names and contact details.

END OF SEASON PROCEDURES

Towards the end of each registration period, your Club will write to you with its plan for your registration for the next season(s). If your Club intends to renew your registration, you must decide whether you want to accept or refuse their offer.

RENEWING YOUR REGISTRATION

If you are happy to remain registered at the Club you do not need to take any action. Your Club will notify The Football League, and your registration will be retained for a further period (as determined by your age).

ENSURE YOU OBTAIN KEY CLUB STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

Academy Manager	Head of Sports Science and Medicine (if applicable)
Head of Academy Coaching	Head of Education
Academy Coach	Academy Designated Safeguarding Officer
Club Doctor	Club Designated Safeguarding Officer
Physiotherapist	Football League Regional Manager

DECLINING EXTENDED REGISTRATION

If you choose to decline the offer of an extended registration period and seek to be released, you must inform both your Club and The Football League in writing by the first Saturday in June. Following receipt of confirmation from The Football League, you will then be able to seek registration at another Club, subject to the Rules relating to travel distance.

If you refuse an offer of retention and a new Club wishes to sign you, they may have to pay compensation to your previous Club(s). If you are offered a professional contract and achieve a number of first team appearances, your previous Club may also be entitled to claim extra payments.

Your club may offer you a professional contract to commence from the age of 17 at any time from 1st January following the commencement of your under 16 year.

COMPENSATION

Compensation is money paid by your new Club to your previous one to cover training and development costs if you decline an offer of extended registration. If compensation is due, and any amounts are not agreed between clubs, your new club may be required to calculate compensation based upon an annual fixed fee which relates to the age group of the Academy Player and the category of Academy the player was registered with. The current fees are as shown in the table on the right.

COMPENSATION FORMULA

Age group of the Academy Player	Category of the training Club's Academy at the relevant time	Applicable annual fixed fee
U9 to U11	All categories	£3,000
U12 to U16	Category 1	£40,000
U12 to U16	Category 2	£25,000
U12 to U16	Category 3	£12,500

Compensation for Academy Players who have been offered a scholarship by their club and for players in the Under 17 age group and older may be determined in accordance under the Regulations of the Professional Football Compensation Committee.

Academy Players and their parents are not liable for paying these fees.

CONTINGENCY FEES

In addition, should you subsequently achieve a number of first team appearances, then your previous Club(s) may be entitled to additional fees known as contingency payments from your current Club. The fees are set according to divisional status.

Further information is set out in the Youth Development Rules.

REQUESTING RELEASE

During your registration period you may only be released if all parties are in agreement (the Club, Academy Player and parents). You should initially raise any concern you have, which may have led to your desire to leave, with the Academy Manager.

As an alternative, any party may ask the Football Disciplinary Commission (FDC) to provide a binding decision on a termination request by making a written application providing full reasons for the request.

You should be aware that compensation may be due to the Training Club should you wish to register with a new club.

More information about feedback and communication, including the complaints process, can be found in section 7.

LEAVING THE ACADEMY

Release of an Academy Player from registration can be a difficult time. Academy Players and parents should remember that involvement in the programme is a tremendous achievement in itself. No Academy can guarantee that a player will become a professional. If your Club does not wish to extend your registration, it is expected to provide support by, for example, helping identify opportunities for you to continue your football career elsewhere. League Football Education (LFE) also provides careers advice for players released at the end of their Scholarships.

For further details on opportunities to attend U16 Exit Trials and U18 Assessment Trials can be found on page 27.

3 ACADEMY PERFORMANCE PLAN

EACH ACADEMY HAS A PERFORMANCE PLAN WHICH FOLLOWS THE CLUB'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES, VALUES, PLAYING STYLE AND TACTICAL APPROACH. THIS ENCOMPASSES A GAMES PROGRAMME, EDUCATION PROGRAMMES, SPORTS SCIENCE AND MEDICINE SERVICES SUPPORT AS WELL AS COACHING ON THE PITCH. YOUR ACADEMY HAS A DESIGNATED TEAM OF SPECIALIST MEDICAL AND SPORTS SCIENCE STAFF TO PROVIDE A HIGH LEVEL OF MEDICAL CARE DURING TRAINING SESSIONS AND GAMES. YOUR ACADEMY MANAGER WILL INTRODUCE YOU TO THESE SPECIALIST STAFF AT YOUR INDUCTION.

COACHING PROGRAMME

The age group you are in will, to an extent, determine the coaching contact time you will receive. The number of coaching sessions available to you should increase as you progress along the Performance Pathway. The Club will advise you which coaching programmes will be available to you; these vary in terms of the number of hours of coaching received each week and when in the day those sessions take place (see Education Programme on page 14). Close integration with your education and welfare programmes will be paramount in building an effective coaching programme for you. The Club will continually monitor your progression via regular performance reviews (see page 16).

Once you join the Academy, your progress will be recorded on a performance clock. This is your record of personal progress and achievement available to you through your coaches.

N.B. These coaching contact times are a guide and your coach will adjust your weekly programme according to your specific needs and the individual programme that you are on.

Category	Foundation Phase U9 to U11	Youth Development Phase U12 to U16	Professional development Phase U17 to U21
1	4 coaching hours per week rising to 8 hours for older Academy Players	10 coaching hours per week rising to 12 hours for older Academy Players	14 coaching hours per week reducing to 12 hours for Academy Players who have commitments to the professional squad during the Professional Development Phase.
2	3 coaching hours per week rising to 5 hours for older Academy Players	6 coaching hours per week rising to 12 hours for older Academy Players	14 coaching hours per week reducing to 12 hours for Academy Players who have commitments to the professional squad during the Professional Development Phase.
3	3 coaching hours per week	4 coaching hours per week rising to 6 hours for older Academy Players	12 coaching hours per week
4	Not applicable	Not applicable	14 coaching hours per week reducing to 12 hours for Academy Players who have commitments to the professional squad during the Professional Development Phase Games Programme.

GAMES PROGRAMME

FOUNDATION PHASE: U9 TO U11

Foundation Phase games are played locally, usually on Sundays, and may include regular festivals that involve 3 or more Clubs.

The focus in this phase is fun and developing mastery of the ball.

Games take place on age-appropriate pitches. Matches are small-sided games for each age group.

Subject to fitness, you will participate in at least 50% of match playing time reasonably spread out in any one season.

Category 1 and 2 Academies participate in a regional indoor season during January and February.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PHASE: U12 TO U16

Youth Development Phase games are usually played at weekends and may include regular festivals throughout the season.

Games are usually arranged on a regional basis, but Category 1 and 2 Academies may be involved in national and international competitions.

Subject to fitness, in the U12 to U14 age groups you will participate in at least 50% of match playing time reasonably spread out in any one season.

Subject to fitness, in the U15 and U16 age groups you will play in at least 20 'authorised games' per season and participate in at least 50% of the game time.

The focus in this phase is on building technical skills, game understanding and tactical awareness. Academy Players may be introduced to tournament football from U12 to U16.

Category 1 and 2 Academies compete in a regional indoor season during January and February.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PHASE: U17 TO U21

The Professional Development Phase aims to prepare you for professional life in the Club's first team. Depending on age and Academy Category, you will join a bespoke U18 League or a Professional Development League.

U18 League games take place on Saturdays.

The Barclays U21 Premier League consists of Category 1 Academies, each playing a proportion of

matches at the Club's main stadium. A Professional Development League is also provided for the Category 2 Clubs with a proportion of matches being played in the main stadium.

A development League which provides playing opportunities for players at some Category 3 and 4 Academies is also in operation

THE FOUNDATION PHASE (U9 TO U11) GAME FORMATS

Age	Format	Pitch size (yards)	Goal size (feet)	Ball size
U9	5 v 5 or 7 v 7	30 x 20 to 40 x 30 or 50 x 30 to 60 x 40	12 x 6	3 or 4
U10	7 v 7	50 x 30 to 60 x 40	12 x 6 to 16 x 7	4
U11	9 v 9	70 x 40 to 80 x 50	16 x 7	4
U9 to U11	Futsal (5 v 5)	25 x 15 to 33 x 18m	3 x 2m	3 to 4

THE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PHASE (U12 TO U16) GAME FORMATS

Age	Format	Pitch size (yards)	Goal size (feet)	Ball size
U12 & U13	11 v 11	90 x 60	21 x 7	4
U14 & U15	11 v 11	90 x 60 to 100 x 60	24 x 8	5
U16	11 v 11	100 x 60 to 110 x 70	24 x 8	5
U12 to U16	Futsal (5 v 5)	33 x 18 to 42 x 25m	3 x 2m	4

FESTIVALS, TOURS AND TOURNAMENTS

You may have the chance to be involved in additional festivals, tours and tournaments, both domestically and abroad, some of which may be residential. These opportunities are designed to enhance your playing experience and help your technical and personal development. Your Club will provide you with specific details about these events as they are scheduled in the calendar.

EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Your education is vitally important. Your education programme will help you achieve a productive and fulfilling career, both on and off the field. The head of education at your club oversees the programme and will:

- Liaise with your school to make sure your football commitments do not damage your academic progress
- Make sure you follow a formal education programme that lets you achieve your academic potential and
- Offer advice on all aspects of the education programme.

FOUNDATION PHASE: U9 to U11

In the Foundation Phase, your Academy keeps in regular contact with your school to ensure your Academy attendance is not having a detrimental impact on your educational progress.

Your Academy will report to your parents at least twice per year, outlining your progress in all areas of football development.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PHASE: U12 to U16

The Youth Development Phase offers 3 possible types of programme:

1 Part time

You attend school full time, and in the main you attend the Academy in the evenings, at weekends and during holidays.

Your Academy will keep in regular contact with your school and reports to your parents at least twice a year.

2 Hybrid

You are released from school to attend the Academy for part of your weekly timetable, depending on your age and your Club's programme.

Agreement must be reached between your school, parents and Club describing the arrangements and the likely effect on your studies.

Academies must work with your school to track your academic progress, and they must provide extra help to ensure there is no detrimental effect on your academic achievement.

Academies report to your parents at least twice a year, outlining your progress in all areas of football development.

3 Full-time

If you are offered a full-time place at your Academy, you receive both your football and education programmes through the Club. Your academic needs will be met by a local school.

Your Club will make a detailed assessment of your educational needs and work closely with your previous and new schools to ensure your curriculum meets both government requirements and your academic abilities.

If you are offered a place on a full-time programme, your Club will also offer an extended registration that lasts up to the end of your secondary school education.

A full educational review will take place every 12 weeks and a copy will be sent to your parents.

A full-time place may involve living away from home in accommodation arranged for you by the Club for instance at a boarding school, Club boarding home or with a host family.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PHASE: U17 to U21

In the first two years of this phase, Academy Players must take an education component as part of their Scholarship.

Many Academy Players take the Advanced Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence; full details of this will be provided by both your Club and League Football Education (LFE).

A full educational review will take place every 12 weeks.

Although not compulsory, there may be education opportunities available to you after you turn 18 to continue your education. This may include higher level programmes, such as degree-level study.

Academy Players are expected to complete their education programme even if they sign a professional contract before the apprenticeship has run its course.

Your club may offer you a professional contract to commence from the age of 17 at any time from 1 January following the commencement of your under 16 year.



4 **PLAYER DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESSION**

MAKING ALL ACADEMY PLAYERS INDEPENDENT DECISION MAKERS IS ONE OF THE CORE AIMS OF THE ACADEMY SYSTEM. ATHLETIC DEVELOPMENT, PERFORMANCE LIFESTYLE AND PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAMMES WILL BE DELIVERED TO ENHANCE THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND UNDERSTANDING YOU WILL NEED TO BECOME A PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLER BOTH ON AND OFF THE FIELD.

PERFORMANCE CLOCK

You are entitled to regular feedback on your progress and development at the Club. Your Academy will use a 'performance clock' to record, measure and monitor all aspects of your progress. It is your record of achievement, and you can help to develop it. If you move to another Club, you take your performance clock with you as your own personal record.

PERFORMANCE REVIEWS

Every Academy Player's performance is reviewed regularly. A performance review assesses your development against targets set at previous performance reviews. It identifies your need for individual coaching, all-round athletic development, educational support, and it sets new performance targets. Each review is recorded on your performance clock.

Performance reviews are conducted by a multidisciplinary team of experts employed by your Academy which may include your Head coach, the Head of Education, the Club's sports scientist plus any other relevant Academy staff. You will be provided with details of each review and your coach will discuss future targets with you.

Your Academy will also hold parents' evenings at least twice each season to discuss your recent performance reviews in detail with your parents.

PERFORMANCE REVIEW FREQUENCY

Foundation Phase	Every 12 weeks
Youth Development Phase	Every 6 weeks
Professional Development Phase (U17 & U18)	Every 6 weeks
Professional Development Phase (U19 – U21)	Frequency to be determined by your club



5 *PLAYER WELFARE*



THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE IS COMMITTED TO WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITS CLUBS AND THE WIDER FOOTBALL FAMILY TO SAFEGUARD THE WELFARE AND WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

As a young person you have many rights which protect you and enable you to play, learn and develop in a safe, caring and encouraging environment, but with these rights also come responsibilities, such as treating one another with dignity, respect, sensitivity and fairness. Behaviour towards peers or Club staff that contradicts these responsibilities, such as bullying, offensive banter or inappropriate language is not acceptable and will be taken seriously.

The staff at your Club have been subject to recruitment procedures, including background checks, and they are trained to be able to provide immediate support should you have concerns regarding your own welfare or the welfare of others. Your Club has a Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) who has responsibility for providing leadership and development in safeguarding children and young people. In addition, your Academy may have its own Designated Safeguarding Officer who works closely with your Club DSO.

For further information or advice, please contact your Club DSO or the Football League: ahussey@football-league.co.uk

SOCIAL MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION

You should be aware that your Club will have a policy for the use of social media sites, such as Twitter and Facebook. This policy will outline what is and what is not acceptable. Academy Players should be aware that they are registered with a professional Club and are always representing that Club; therefore, inappropriate comments about

other Academy Players, Clubs or anyone associated with the football authorities will be taken seriously.

There are risks and dangers associated with the widespread instant access of information on social media sites, and Academy Players and their parents should be aware of these.

IMAGES AND FOOTAGE

Still images and recorded footage are used in many ways, for Club performance analysis, for development purposes, in matchday programmes as well as other publications and literature. Each Academy has a policy on images, and, on occasion,

only authorised Club or Football League officials may take images or footage of Academy Players. Your Club will have to obtain written parental consent prior to taking and using images and footage of you if you are under the age of 18.



6 INDEPENDENT ADVICE

WE PRIDE OURSELVES ON THE QUALITY OF THE ACADEMY SYSTEM AND WE ARE COMMITTED TO ENSURING THAT ACADEMY PLAYERS, TRIALISTS AND PARENTS GAIN THE RIGHT ADVICE AND SUPPORT.

An important aspect of this is the independent advice provided by the The Professional Footballers' Association (PFA). You are advised to make contact at the earliest opportunity.

T: 0161 236 0575 E: youthadvisory@thepfa.co.uk

THE PFA INDEPENDENT REGISTRATION ADVISORY SERVICE

The PFA Independent Registration Advisory Service can offer advice to Academy Players, Trialists and their parents relating to:

- Premier League and Football League Youth Development Rules
- Registration and contractual offers
- Football Association and FIFA Rules and Regulations

The PFA was formed in 1907 and is the world's longest established professional sportspeople's union.

The aims of the PFA are to protect, improve and negotiate the conditions, rights and status of all professional players by collective bargaining agreements.

The PFA is a key figure in all aspects of the professional game that affects its members and has enhanced its reputation by upholding the principle of caring for the interests of the game as a whole, in addition to the interests of its members.

The experience and expertise the PFA has gained since its formation ensures it is able to provide you with the best independent advice and assistance.





7 FEEDBACK

FEEDBACK AND OPEN COMMUNICATION

We want to minimise the risk of misunderstanding at every stage. Close and regular communication between Clubs, Academy Players and parents helps to ensure an enjoyable and productive experience for everyone. Feedback helps Clubs to identify areas for improvement that will enhance the learning environment and the playing experience. Comments, suggestions and the raising of concerns help us to manage risks and encourage better performance.

We work hard to ensure that things go well; you should always raise any concern you have with your Club in the first instance. If you wish to make a formal complaint, follow the process detailed in the complaints procedure table.

COMPLAINTS

COMMUNICATION

Informally raise the issue with someone at the Club, such as your Coach, Designated Safeguarding Officer or Academy Manager; this may help you reach a satisfactory resolution quickly

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

If the issue is not resolved, follow your Academy's complaints procedure to make it formal.

ESCALATION

If having completed your Academy's complaints procedure including the appeals process, you remain dissatisfied, contact the Youth Department at The Football League. Guidance can also be sought from the PFA Independent Registration Advisory Service.

RESPONSE

The Football League will respond within 7 days and will provide an outcome within 28 days, where possible. If these timescales are not achievable, you will be kept informed.

8 KEY CONTACTS

ACADEMY MANAGER

Name:

Contact:

HEAD OF ACADEMY COACHING

Name:

Contact:

ACADEMY COACH

Name:

Contact:

CLUB DOCTOR

Name:

Contact:

PHYSIOTHERAPIST

Name:

Contact:

HEAD OF SPORTS SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

Name:

Contact:

HEAD OF EDUCATION

Name:

Contact:

ACADEMY DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Name:

Contact:

CLUB DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Name:

Contact:

FOOTBALL LEAGUE REGIONAL OFFICER

Name:

Contact:

OTHER USEFUL CONTACT

Name:

Contact:

OTHER USEFUL CONTACT

Name:

Contact:

Not such a
beautiful game

David Smith, player, Stokenchurch U14s

– Doesn't want to play anymore because it just makes his dad angry

Respect
TheFA.com/respect



THE FA RESPECT PROGRAMME

IN 2008, THE RESPECT PROGRAMME WAS INTRODUCED AS A RESPONSE TO BEHAVIOURAL PROBLEMS IN FOOTBALL. IT REQUIRES THE FA, THE LEAGUES, THE CLUBS, PLAYERS AND SPECTATORS TO WORK TOGETHER TO ENSURE THAT A SUPPORTIVE AND POSITIVE MATCH DAY ENVIRONMENT EXISTS AT ALL LEVELS OF YOUTH FOOTBALL.

Key to the development of young players is that they enjoy the experience of playing and training, that they are able to respond to the guidance of their club coaches and that they learn to take independent decisions on the pitch. The Respect programme supports these outcomes.



THIS POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT CAN BE ACHIEVED IF PLAYERS AND SPECTATORS ABIDE BY THE FA'S RESPECT CODE OF CONDUCT:

YOUNG PLAYERS RESPECT CODE OF CONDUCT

WHEN PLAYING FOOTBALL, I WILL:

- Always play to the best of my ability and for the benefit of my team.
- Play fairly – I won't cheat, dive, complain or waste time.
- Respect my team-mates, the other team, the referee or my coach/manager.
- Play by the rules, as directed by the referee.
- Be gracious in victory and defeat – I will shake hands with the other team and referee at the end of the game.
- Listen and respond to what my coach/team manager tells me.
- Understand that a coach has to do what is best for the team and not one individual player.
- Talk to someone I trust or the club welfare officer if I'm unhappy about anything at my club.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, the League or The FA:

I MAY:

- Be required to apologise to my team-mates, the other team, referee or team manager.
- Receive a formal warning from the coach.
- Be dropped or substituted or suspended from training.
- Be required to leave the club.
- My club may make my parent or carer aware of any infringements of the Code of Conduct.

SPECTATORS RESPECT CODE OF CONDUCT

WE ALL BEAR A COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY TO SET A GOOD EXAMPLE AND HELP PROVIDE A POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH CHILDREN CAN LEARN AND ENJOY THE GAME. PLAY YOUR PART AND OBSERVE THE FA'S RESPECT CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SPECTATORS AT ALL TIMES.

I WILL:

- Remember that children play for fun.
- Applaud effort and good play as well as success.
- Respect the Referee's decisions even when you don't agree with them.
- Appreciate good play from whatever team it comes from.
- Remain behind the touchline and within the designated spectators' area (where provided).
- Let the coach do their job and not confuse the players by telling them what to do.
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition, referee and match officials.
- Support positively. When players make a mistake offer them encouragement not criticism.

- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting, or abusive language or behaviour.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, or the FA:

I MAY BE:

- Issued with a verbal warning from a club coach.
- Required to meet with a club official.
- Obligated to leave the match venue by the club.
- Requested by the club not to attend future games.
- Required to leave the club along with any dependents.

FA EDUCATION & WELFARE STATEMENT

The opportunity for any player to register at an Academy is a great achievement in itself. Well done! Players of all ages must always be aware that some will become successful and others will not. However, sooner or later they will all need to rely on their educational achievements, even if you stay playing until well into your 30's.

Within an Academy, a player can look forward to the support of staff with an expertise in educational matters. It is important, however, that the individual player realises the need for him to make every effort to fulfil his potential and recognises the need to concentrate on his academic development as well as his football. Be all you can be in both.

Every club has people who can be asked for help on both education and welfare matters and every player should be aware of the identity of these staff members and should have no hesitation in asking for their help if required.

Good luck with your career

Dan Ashworth

FA Director of Elite Development



APPRENTICESHIPS

Football League clubs sign young players from sixteen years of age on a two-year scholarship agreement, a condition of which is that they have to undertake an education programme. The vast majority of players undertake The Advanced Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence (AASE), which is managed by League Football Education (LFE) on behalf of The Football League and the Professional Footballers Association.

AASE offers each Apprentice the chance to fulfil his dream of becoming a professional footballer by providing an opportunity to develop footballing skills whilst gaining relevant academic qualifications, which are viewed as essential by today's employers. The AASE programme was designed for those participating in sport at an elite level and is now embraced by a number of professional and Olympic sports as well as professional football.

LFE work closely with Academy staff at Football League clubs to support Apprentices in all the education elements of the programme. This includes a Level 3 NVQ, a Level 2 Coaching Certificate delivered by the PFA and an education course that will be set at an appropriate level to meet individual needs and abilities. LFE has also developed extensive exit and progression support arrangements for Apprentices that ultimately follow a different career path.

LFE deliver a programme of excellence for the benefit of individual Apprentices and aim to provide every Apprentice with the best opportunity to fulfil his own potential. The excellent work carried out by LFE was endorsed by Ofsted during an inspection in April 2012 when LFE was awarded 'Outstanding' in all 23 areas of inspection.

Further information on LFE and the Apprenticeship programme can be obtained at www.lfe.org.uk

LFE can also be contacted by e-mail at info@lfe.org.uk or by telephone on **0870 4589250**.

Alan Sykes

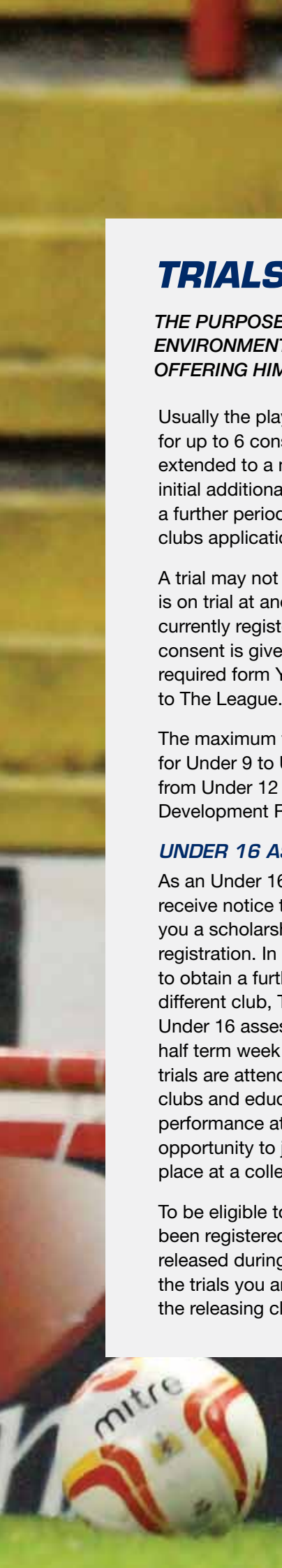
Chief Executive

League Football Education (LFE)









TRIALS

THE PURPOSE OF A TRIAL IS FOR THE PLAYER TO EXPERIENCE THE ACADEMY ENVIRONMENT AND FOR THE CLUB TO VIEW THE PLAYER AHEAD OF POTENTIALLY OFFERING HIM A PERIOD OF REGISTRATION.

Usually the player's trial period at a Club lasts for up to 6 consecutive weeks, but this can be extended to a maximum of 18 weeks (for an initial additional period of 6 weeks, and then a further period of 6 weeks thereafter) upon a clubs application to The League.

A trial may not be offered to any player who is on trial at another academy or who is currently registered at another club (unless consent is given). Before a trial commences the required form YD8 must be completed and sent to The League.

The maximum travel time for trials is 1 hour for Under 9 to Under 11 players. For players from Under 12 upwards please refer to Youth Development Rule 223.

UNDER 16 ASSESSMENT TRIALS

As an Under 16 Academy player you may receive notice that the Club will not be offering you a scholarship or extended schoolboy registration. In order to provide an opportunity to obtain a further period of registration at a different club, The Football League stages Under 16 assessment trials, usually during the half term week in February. The assessment trials are attended by scouts from various clubs and education establishments and your performance at these events may provide an opportunity to join a new club or be offered a place at a college or university.

To be eligible to attend the trials you must have been registered at an Academy and have been released during the current season. To attend the trials you are required to be nominated by the releasing club.

After all the trials have taken place, if any interest from the scouts has been registered with The Football League, you will be notified of each clubs' interest after the final event is held.

LFE ASSESSMENT TRIALS

At the end of your period of Apprenticeships or first professional contract, if you are not offered a further period of registration with your club, you may be able to attend the LFE Assessment Trials. Run by League Football Education in association with The Football League and The Professional Footballers Association, the Assessment Trials provide an opportunity for players to be viewed by scouts from professional and non-league clubs. Held on a regional basis across four venues in April and May each year, the trials also attract representatives from European clubs and further and higher education institutions from both the UK and the USA.

To be eligible to attend the trials players should have completed or be about to complete the Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence (AASE) programme or be coming to the end of a first year professional contract (i.e. in the Under 19 year). After the trials have taken place, LFE will notify players if any interest from scouts has been registered in them, usually within two weeks of the final trial date having taken place.

For more information on the Assessment Trials please visit www.lfe.org.uk/progression/trials



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT RULES



Contents

GENERAL

Definitions.....	31
General.....	35

STRATEGY, LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ACADEMY

Football Philosophy	36
Academy Performance Plan	36
Performance Management Application	37
Technical Board	37

EFFECTIVE MEASUREMENT

Academies: Evaluation and Audit.....	37
Transitional Arrangements.....	38

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT, PLAYER DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESSION

Performance Clock.....	39
Multi-disciplinary Reviews	39

STAFF

General.....	39
Academy Management Team	40
Academy Manager	40
Academy Secretary	41
Head of Academy Coaching	41
Coaches.....	41
Goalkeeping Coaches	42
Senior Professional Development Coach	42
Coaches: Qualifications and Professional Development	42
Coach Developer.....	42
Head of Academy Sports Science and Medicine	43
Lead Sports Scientist	43
Lead Strength and Conditioning Coach	44
Senior Academy Physiotherapist	44
Physiotherapists and Sports Therapists	44
Academy Doctor	44
Performance Analysts.....	45
Head of Education.....	45
Head of Recruitment	45

COACHING

Coaching Programme.....	46
Coaching Hours	46
Development Centres	47

GAMES PROGRAMME	
General.....	47
Performance Analysis	47
Foundation Phase Games Programme	48
Youth Development Phase Games Programme	49
Professional Development Phase Games Programme	50
Professional Development League	51
Games Programme: Postponement etc. of Matches	52
EDUCATION AND WELFARE	
General.....	52
Induction Events.....	53
Reports on Educational Progression	53
Delivery of the Education Programme	53
Welfare, Social Development and Lifestyle Management.....	54
Player Exit/Release Strategy	55
SPORTS SCIENCE AND MEDICINE	
Sports Science and Medicine Programme	55
TALENT IDENTIFICATION AND RECRUITMENT	
Scouts: Qualifications	56
Scouts: Attendance at Matches.....	56
Scouts: Disciplinary Action.....	56
Registrations and Provision of Information by The League	57
Time/Distance Rules.....	57
Trials.....	57
Pre Registration Agreements	58
Registrations	59
End of Season Procedure.....	60
Termination of Registration.....	60
Scholarships.....	61
Approaches by and to Clubs and Inducements	62
FACILITIES	
Facilities.....	63
FINANCE	
Finance	65
COMPENSATION	
Compensation.....	65
APPENDIX A – SAFEGUARDING	
Part 1 – The Football League Child Protection Statement	69
Part 2 – Specific Requirements.....	70
APPENDIX B – CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SCOUTS	71

GENERAL

Note: throughout this document binding Football League Rules are shaded in light blue. Guidance and other notes are also included for the assistance of Clubs. Such guidance and notes do not, however, form part of the Rules.

Definitions

Rule 1 sets out definitions used in the Youth Development Rules. All other capitalised terms used in this section of the Rules are defined in Regulation 1 of the Football League Regulations

- 1** In this Section of the Rules the following terms shall have the following meanings:
-
- 1.1** “**Academy**” means an establishment for the coaching and education of Academy Players operated by a Club in accordance with the requirements of this Section of the Rules and licensed by the PGB pursuant to Rule 10.
-
- 1.2** “**Academy Doctor**” means the Official referred to in Rule 95.
-
- 1.3** “**Academy Financial Information**” means a budget for the following season, together with a comparison of the budgeted and actual figures for the previous season, all of which information shall be set out in the format to be prescribed by The League.
-
- 1.4** “**Academy Management Team**” has the meaning set out in Rule 49.
-
- 1.5** “**Academy Manager**” means the person responsible for the strategic leadership and operation of a Club’s Academy, whose role and responsibilities are more particularly defined at Rules 51 to 57.
-
- 1.6** “**Academy Performance Plan**” means a document which sets out:
- a)** the goals, strategy and measurable short-term and long-term performance targets for all aspects of the work of the Club’s Academy, such strategy and performance targets to be consistent with the Club’s Football Philosophy; and
 - b)** without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (a), how the Academy will deliver and integrate its Coaching, Education, Games and Sports Science and Medicine Programmes.
-
- 1.7** “**Academy Player**” means a male player (other than an Amateur Player or a Trialist) who is in an age group between Under 9 to Under 21 and who is registered for and who is coached by or plays football for or at a Club which operates an Academy pursuant to these Rules, save for any player who:
- a)** in the reasonable opinion of the Club which holds his registration has developed technical, tactical, physical and psychological skills of such a level that he would not benefit from participating or continuing to participate in its Academy’s Coaching Programme and Games Programme; and
 - b)** has entered into a written contract of employment with, or is registered as a Non-Contract Player for, that Club; and
 - c)** is aged at least 18.
-
- 1.8** “**Academy Secretary**” means the Official referred to in Rule 58.
-
- 1.9** “**Academy Staff**” means those Officials of a Club employed or otherwise engaged to work in the Club’s Academy.
-
- 1.10** “**Artificial Surface**” means a playing surface which in the reasonable opinion of The League meets the requirements of the FIFA Quality Concept for Football Turf or the International Artificial Turf Standard.
-
- 1.11** “**Audit Tool**” means the online application maintained by The League and approved by the PGB for the purpose of undertaking (in particular by the ISO) the evaluation and audit of Academies by the assessment of:
- a)** the extent to which a Club meets the minimum mandatory criteria for Academies set out in these Rules;
 - b)** the extent to which it implements recommended best practice criteria which exceed the minimum mandatory criteria and which are set out in the Audit Tool; and
 - c)** its Productivity Profile.
-
- 1.12** “**Authorised Games**” means:
- a)** international matches arranged by a national association including preparation and trials therefor; or
 - b)** matches in which the Academy Player plays for the Club holding his registration:
 - i)** in its first teams; or
 - ii)** which are comprised in a Games Programme; or
 - iii)** which are comprised in Festivals or Tournaments, participation in which is limited to Academy teams or which are sanctioned by the Football Association or by a foreign national association; or
 - c)** friendly matches organised by the Club holding the Academy Player’s registration and played at an Academy, participation in which is limited to Academy Players registered at an Academy or Trialists but excluding matches between two teams consisting of one Club’s Academy Players; or
 - d)** friendly matches against any opposition played outside the season dates set out in the Games Programme Schedule in which the Academy Player plays for the Club holding his registration; or

- e) matches organised by the English Schools Football Association or Independent Schools Football Association or an association affiliated to either of such Associations in which the Academy Player plays with the prior agreement of his Parents (in the case of an Academy Player under the age of 18 years) all participation in such matches to be notified by the Academy Player to the Club holding his registration; or
- f) trial matches for other Clubs or Premier League clubs in which the Academy Player plays with the prior written permission of the Club holding his registration; or
- g) any other match authorised by the Board.

1.13 “**Basic First Aid for Sport Qualification**” means the qualification of that name issued by or on behalf of the Football Association.

1.14 “**Category**” means one of the 4 categories into which each Academy shall be assigned in accordance with the criteria and procedures set out in this section of the Rules, and “Category 1”, “Category 2”, “Category 3” and “Category 4” shall be construed accordingly.

1.15 “**Charter for Academy Players and Parents**” means the information to be provided by The League to the Parent of each Academy Player upon each occasion of his registration for a Club and which will contain:

- a) information about the consequences of the Academy Player becoming registered with a Club;
- b) a summary of the Club’s obligations to the Academy Player, and the Academy Player’s obligations to the Club.

1.16 “**Chief Executive**” means the Official referred to in Regulation 16.15.1(c) (in the case of Championship Clubs) and the equivalent Official (for League One and Two Clubs).

1.17 “**Club Board**” means those Directors of the Club whose particulars are registered under section 162 of the Act.

1.18 “**Coach Developer**” means the Official referred to in Rule 74.

1.19 “**Coaching Programme**” means a Club’s coaching curriculum which must be set out in writing and include:

- a) the technical, tactical, physical and psychological skills that the Club wishes its Academy Players to develop;
- b) the appropriate means of coaching Academy Players in order that they develop those skills (having due regard to their age); and
- c) specific coaching curricula for each of the Foundation Phase, Youth Development Phase and Professional Development Phase.

1.20 “**Continued Professional Development**” means ongoing training for Academy Staff, relevant to their discipline, of such quality, content and frequency as is necessary to ensure that each member of Academy Staff has the necessary knowledge and expertise in order to fulfil his role.

1.21 “**Core Coaching Time**” means between 8.30am and 5.30pm on Mondays to Fridays, save that in the Foundation Phase it also includes between 9am and 5pm on Saturdays.

1.21A “**Designated Safeguarding Officer**” means the Official responsible for the Club’s arrangements for the safeguarding of Children and to whom any concerns, allegation or suspicion of Child abuse must be reported.

1.22 “**Development Centre**” means an establishment operated by a Club in England or Wales for the coaching of Children which is not an Academy and includes any such establishment by whatever name or title it is known.

1.23 “**Education Programme**” has the meaning set out in Rule 168.

1.24 “**Elite Player Performance Plan**” means the document of that name dated May 2011.

1.25 “**Emergency Action Plan**” means a plan detailing the medical facilities and personnel who shall be available at each Club’s home matches in the Games Programmes, and the contingency plan for how any medical emergencies at such matches shall be dealt with.

1.25A “**Extended Schoolboy**” means an Academy Player in his Under 17 year or older who:

- a) is not registered as a Scholar;
- b) is in Full Time Education; and
- c) is or seeks to be registered as an Academy Player, for such period as he remains in Full Time Education.

1.26 “**FA Advanced Youth Award**” means the advanced qualification for Academy coaches to be developed and awarded by the Football Association.

1.27 “**FA Youth Award**” means the non-age specific qualification for Academy coaches awarded by the Football Association.

1.28 “**Festival**” means an event, which may be spread over more than one day, at which teams from three or more Clubs (or clubs) play a series of matches in an environment in which the matches are competitive but the results are not given any particular significance.

1.29 “**Football Philosophy**” means the guiding principles, values, playing style and tactical approach of a Club’s teams, and in particular of its first team.

- 1.29A “Former Football League Club”** means a Club relegated to the Football Conference at the end of a Season and which continues to operate its Academy in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 63.3.
- 1.30 “Foundation Phase”** means the Under 9 to Under 11 age groups inclusive.
- 1.31 “Foundation Phase Games Programme”** means the games programmes organised by The League and the Premier League for teams in each of the Under 9 to Under 11 age groups as set out in Rules 128 to 132.
- 1.32 “Full Time”** means, when applied to a role specified under these Rules, one where the working hours are at least 35 hours per week (subject to such additional hours as the Club may require). A Full Time role may be fulfilled by more than one Official (e.g. on a job-share basis) provided that the minimum hours stated above are undertaken.
- 1.33 “Full Time Education”** means the education provided for registered pupils at primary or secondary schools or full-time equivalent students at colleges of further education.
- 1.34 “Full Time Training Model”** means:
- a) In the Professional Development Phase a programme of coaching and education whereby the Academy Player’s academic education shall be scheduled to enable four hours of coaching per day (which may be split into two sessions of two hours each) to take place within the Core Coaching Time; and;
 - b) In the Youth Development Phase, a programme which complies with the following:
 - i) The Academy Player shall receive within the Core Coaching Time a minimum of twenty hours of education.
 - ii) The Academy Player shall receive a significant amount of coaching within the Core Coaching Time. The exact amount of such coaching to take place within the Core Coaching Time is to be determined by the Club for each individual Academy Player. The Club shall demonstrate the amount of coaching is significantly more than the amount of coaching in the Core Coaching Time which the Club gives to its Academy Players engaged on the Hybrid Training Model. Full details must be set out in the Academy Player’s individual coaching plan referred to in Rule 110.
 - iii) No single coaching session shall endure for more than 90 minutes, and if there are two or more coaching sessions on a single day, there shall be a period of rest between each session sufficient to ensure that the Academy Player is fully rested, and of at least 90 minutes’ duration, unless the Academy Player’s individual coaching plan recognises that he may have shorter rest periods.
 - iv) The Club’s delivery of the Full Time Training Model must comply with these Rules.
- 1.35 “Futsal”** means the variant of association football that is played in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game as published from time to time by FIFA (with any such variation thereto as The League may from time to time determine), the current such Laws being available at:
http://www.fifa.com/mm/document/affederation/generic/51/44/50/spielregelnfutsal_2010_11_e.pdf
- 1.36 “Games Programme”** means the Foundation Phase Games Programme, the Youth Development Phase Games Programme, or the Professional Development Phase Games Programme.
- 1.37 “Games Programme Schedule”** means the period during which matches in the Games Programmes shall take place. The League or Premier League (as applicable) will by no later than 31 January in each year publish the Games Programme Schedule for the following Season.
- 1.38 “Head of Academy Coaching”** means the Official referred to in Rule 60.
- 1.39 “Head of Education”** means the Official referred to in Rule 100.
- 1.40 “Head of Recruitment”** means the Official referred to in Rule 101.
- 1.41 “Hybrid Training Model”** means a programme of coaching and education whereby:
- a) the Academy Player’s coaching shall primarily take place outside of the Core Coaching Time; but
 - b) at least four hours per week of the specified hours of coaching shall take place within the Core Coaching Time, provided that Academy Players in the Foundation Phase may only be released from school to be coached at a Club for a maximum of half a day a week and Academy Players in the Youth Development Phase for a maximum of two days a week, in both cases unless otherwise agreed by the League.
- 1.42 “Intermediate First Aid for Sport Qualification”** means the qualification of that name issued by or on behalf of the Football Association.
- 1.43 “ISO”** means the independent standards organisation to be appointed from time to time by the PGB for the purposes of undertaking the ISO Audits.
- 1.44 “ISO Audit”** has the meaning set out in Rule 6.
- 1.45 “Lifestyle Management Skills”** means the personal and social skills which it is considered desirable for Academy Players to develop.

- 1.46** “**Multi-disciplinary Review**” means a review of all aspects of a Academy Player’s football, athletic and educational performance and development and which shall include:
- a) reports from all relevant Academy Staff (including from the coaching, education and sports science and medicine disciplines);
 - b) for Academy Players on the Full Time and Hybrid Training Models, reports and educational data from the Academy Players’ school (and, where the League requests, for Players on the Part Time Training Model);
 - c) self-assessment by the Academy Player; and
 - d) short, medium and long-term targets for the Academy Player’s football, athletic and educational performance and development.
-
- 1.46A** “**Parent**” means a person who has parental responsibility for a child.
-
- 1.47** “**Part Time**” means, when applied to a role specified under these Rules, one where the working hours are less than 35 hours per week. A Part Time role may be fulfilled by two or more Officials (e.g. on a job-share basis).
-
- 1.48** “**Part Time Training Model**” means a programme of coaching and education whereby the Academy Player’s coaching shall primarily take place outside of the Core Coaching Time but with up to four (4) hours per week of the specified hours of coaching taking place within the Core Coaching Time.
-
- 1.49** “**Performance Analysis**” means the analysis of the physiological, technical and tactical performance of each individual Player and, in a game, of the team as a whole. Performance Analysis shall be undertaken by means of such video and/or IT technology as The League shall from time to time determine.
-
- 1.50** “**Performance Analysts**” means the Officials referred to in Rules 96 and 97.
-
- 1.51** “**Performance Clock**” means the application utilised for recording, measuring, monitoring and evidencing all aspects of an Academy Player’s progression, development and education in accordance with the format and procedures to be set by The League.
-
- 1.52** “**Performance Management Application**” means the online support service to be developed and maintained by The Premier League and utilised by each Club for the purposes of assisting the management of the Academy and recording and analysing data. Such data shall include (without limitation):
- a) each Academy Player’s Performance Clock;
 - b) key data on Academy Staff such as records of qualification and Continued Professional Development;
 - c) such information as The Premier League and/or The League may from time to time require for the purposes of national or Category-wide benchmarking; and
 - d) data received from the Football Association in respect of an Academy Player who plays for, or is coached by the Football Association with a view to playing for an England representative side.
-
- 1.53** “**PGB**” means the Professional Game Board of the Football Association.
-
- 1.54** “**Productivity Methodology**” means the methodology developed by The League for analysing the registration and playing history of each Player and, as a consequence thereof, for producing each Club’s Productivity Profile.
-
- 1.55** “**Productivity Profile**” means an analysis, produced by The League using the Productivity Methodology, of each Club’s track record in developing Academy Players, that is to say:
- a) the extent to which Academy Players coached by or at its Academy have progressed to become established professional Players; and accordingly
 - b) the extent to which the Club is successful in contributing to the development of established professional Players.
-
- 1.56** “**Professional Development Leagues**” means the leagues of that name managed, organised and controlled by the Premier League (in the case of Clubs operating Category 1 and Category 2 Academies) or by The League (in the case of Clubs operating Category 3 and Category 4 Academies) and “Professional Development League 1”, “Professional Development League 2” and “Professional Development League 3” shall be construed accordingly.
-
- 1.57** “**Professional Development Phase**” means the Under 17 to Under 21 age groups inclusive.
-
- 1.58** “**Professional Development Phase Games Programme**” means the games programmes organised by The League and Premier League for teams in the Professional Development Phase as set out in Rules 146 to 151.
-
- 1.59** “**Qualified Teacher Status**” means the accreditation which an individual must obtain in order to teach in state-maintained schools in England and Wales.
-
- 1.60** “**Scholarship Agreement**” means an agreement made between a Club and an Academy Player in the Form YD11.
-
- 1.61** “**Scout**” means any person employed or engaged by a Club (whether on a Full Time or Part Time basis and whether or not he is remunerated in any way for his services) whose duties include identifying to his Club players whose registration as Academy Players the Club may wish to secure.

1.62	"Scout Identification Card" means a formal means of identification to be issued by each Club to each of its registered Scouts which shall include: a) the name of the Club which employs the Scout; and b) a photograph of the Scout.								
1.63	"Senior Academy Physiotherapist" means the Official referred to in Rule 91.								
1.64	"Senior Professional Development Coach" means the Official referred to in Rule 68.								
1.65	"Sports Science and Medicine Programme" means an integrated, interdisciplinary programme for the provision of sports science and medical, services and analysis as more particularly described in Rules 194 to 204.								
1.66	"Sports Therapist" means a person who holds at least an undergraduate degree in sports therapy.								
1.67	"Technical Board" has the meaning set out in Rules 24 to 26.								
1.68	"Tournament" means a grouping of competitive matches between three or more clubs whose results are given significance (e.g. there may be a winner of the Tournament) and which are typically played together at one venue and over a short period of time (e.g. one day or a few days).								
1.69	"Training Camp" means an event for the Academy Players of one Club and which lasts for one or more days and at which a variety of coaching and other on-pitch and off-pitch activities takes place.								
1.70	"Training Model" means the Full Time Training Model, the Hybrid Training Model or the Part Time Training Model.								
1.71	"Trialist" means a player playing in age groups Under 9 to Under 21 who is attending an Academy on trial under the provisions of Rule 224.								
1.72	"Youth Development Phase" means the Under 12 to Under 16 age groups inclusive.								
1.73	"Youth Development Phase Games Programme" means the games programmes organised by The League and Premier League for teams in each of the Under 12 to Under 16 age groups, full details of which are set out in Rules 133 to 145.								
2	For the purposes of this section of these Rules: <table> <tr> <td>2.1</td><td>Academy Players shall be placed in one of 13 age groups commencing with age group Under 9 and ending with age group Under 21; and</td></tr> <tr> <td>2.2</td><td>the age group into which each Academy Player shall be placed shall be determined by his age on 31 August in the year in question, save in the case of players in the Under 21 age group, who must be under the age of 21 as at 1 January in the year in which the Season concerned commences (i.e. for Season 2013/14 born on or after 1 January 1992).</td></tr> </table>	2.1	Academy Players shall be placed in one of 13 age groups commencing with age group Under 9 and ending with age group Under 21; and	2.2	the age group into which each Academy Player shall be placed shall be determined by his age on 31 August in the year in question, save in the case of players in the Under 21 age group, who must be under the age of 21 as at 1 January in the year in which the Season concerned commences (i.e. for Season 2013/14 born on or after 1 January 1992).				
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2.2	the age group into which each Academy Player shall be placed shall be determined by his age on 31 August in the year in question, save in the case of players in the Under 21 age group, who must be under the age of 21 as at 1 January in the year in which the Season concerned commences (i.e. for Season 2013/14 born on or after 1 January 1992).								
General									
3	If a Club engages in the training and development of young players then it must: <table> <tr> <td>3.1</td><td>obtain a licence to operate an Academy; and</td></tr> <tr> <td>3.2</td><td>operate its Academy in accordance with this section of the Rules.</td></tr> </table>	3.1	obtain a licence to operate an Academy; and	3.2	operate its Academy in accordance with this section of the Rules.				
3.1	obtain a licence to operate an Academy; and								
3.2	operate its Academy in accordance with this section of the Rules.								
4	The maximum term of a licence to operate an Academy shall be three years, unless revoked earlier in accordance with these Rules.								
5	There shall be four Categories of Academy.								
6	In respect of each Club which applies for an Academy Licence, the ISO shall undertake an analysis (" the ISO Audit ") of the matters set out in Rule 1.11(a) to (c).								
7	The ISO Audit shall utilise the Audit Tool by assessing and recording thereon a score in respect of the matters set out in Rule 1.11(a) to (c).								
8	The Category of a Club's Academy shall, in the case of a Club which is subject to an ISO Audit, be determined by the percentage that the Club scores on the Audit Tool as determined by its ISO Audit as follows: <table> <tr> <td>8.1</td><td>for Category 1, the Club must achieve a score of at least 75% on the Audit Tool;</td></tr> <tr> <td>8.2</td><td>for Category 2, the Club must achieve a score of between 65% and 74% on the Audit Tool;</td></tr> <tr> <td>8.3</td><td>for Category 3, the Club must achieve a score of between 50% and 64% on the Audit Tool; and</td></tr> <tr> <td>8.4</td><td>for Category 4, the Club must achieve a score of between 35% and 49% on the Audit Tool;</td></tr> </table> provided that in each case it also complies with the minimum mandatory criteria applicable to the relevant Category.	8.1	for Category 1, the Club must achieve a score of at least 75% on the Audit Tool;	8.2	for Category 2, the Club must achieve a score of between 65% and 74% on the Audit Tool;	8.3	for Category 3, the Club must achieve a score of between 50% and 64% on the Audit Tool; and	8.4	for Category 4, the Club must achieve a score of between 35% and 49% on the Audit Tool;
8.1	for Category 1, the Club must achieve a score of at least 75% on the Audit Tool;								
8.2	for Category 2, the Club must achieve a score of between 65% and 74% on the Audit Tool;								
8.3	for Category 3, the Club must achieve a score of between 50% and 64% on the Audit Tool; and								
8.4	for Category 4, the Club must achieve a score of between 35% and 49% on the Audit Tool;								
9	Prior to an ISO Audit being presented to the PGB, the ISO shall: <table> <tr> <td>9.1</td><td>give a copy of it to the Club;</td></tr> <tr> <td>9.2</td><td>thereafter hold a meeting with Officials of the Club and representatives of The League to discuss it; and</td></tr> <tr> <td>9.3</td><td>consider any representations made by the Club or The League about the Club's ISO Audit and make all appropriate amendments to the ISO Audit consequent upon those representations.</td></tr> </table>	9.1	give a copy of it to the Club;	9.2	thereafter hold a meeting with Officials of the Club and representatives of The League to discuss it; and	9.3	consider any representations made by the Club or The League about the Club's ISO Audit and make all appropriate amendments to the ISO Audit consequent upon those representations.		
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9.2	thereafter hold a meeting with Officials of the Club and representatives of The League to discuss it; and								
9.3	consider any representations made by the Club or The League about the Club's ISO Audit and make all appropriate amendments to the ISO Audit consequent upon those representations.								

- 10** The PGB, having given due consideration to a Club's ISO Audit and to the advice of The League and the ISO, shall (where appropriate) issue all licences to operate Academies and shall determine the Category of each Academy in respect of which it grants a licence by reference to the most recent ISO Audit of the Club. For the avoidance of doubt, a Club shall only have the right to make representations to the PGB in connection with its application for an Academy licence if it believes that the ISO Audit (or League Assessment) contains manifest error.
- 11** The PGB shall not grant a Club a licence to operate an Academy unless the Club achieves a score on its ISO Audit of at least 35%.
- 12** Any appeal by a Club against:
- 12.1** the decision of the PGB not to issue to it a licence to operate an Academy; or
 - 12.2** the PGB's determination of the Category of its Academy
- shall be dealt with in accordance with Rule K (Arbitration) of the Rules of the Football Association.
- 13** A Club may not re-apply for a licence to operate an Academy within three years of the determination by the PGB of an application made by it unless:
- 13.1** its previous application was either declined by the PGB or was granted but for a lower Category of Academy than that for which the Club now wishes to apply; and
 - 13.2** there has been a material change in any of the circumstances recorded on its last ISO Audit; and
 - 13.3** the Club bears any costs of The League, ISO and PGB reasonably incurred by any of those bodies in assessing and determining the Club's further application.
- 14** Upon a Club making a further application pursuant to Rule 13, the ISO shall conduct a further ISO Audit of the Club.
- 15** Any Club or Official making a false statement (whether made verbally or in writing) or falsifying a document in connection with:
- 15.1** an application for an Academy licence;
 - 15.2** The League's annual evaluation undertaken pursuant to Rule 28;
 - 15.3** an ISO Audit;
 - 15.4** a League Assessment; or
 - 15.5** any other provision of these Rules
- shall be in breach of these Rules and shall be liable to be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Section 8 of The League's Regulations.
- 16** If, in breach of Rule 3.2, a Club fails to comply with any Rule in this section, then the PGB may:
- 16.1** revoke the Club's Academy licence; or
 - 16.2** suspend the Club's Academy licence for such time as it shall determine during which the Club shall have the opportunity to ensure it becomes compliant with the relevant Rule; or
 - 16.3** determine that the Club's Academy shall have a lower Category than its current Category;
 - 16.4** withdraw or suspend the Club's entitlement to any central funding provided for the purposes of youth development; and
 - 16.5** in any of the above cases require the ISO to undertake an ISO Audit of the Club's Academy as soon as reasonably practicable.
- 17** Without prejudice to Rules 16, 216 and 217, any breach of Rules 3.2, 15, 23.2, 31, 35 to 41, 46, 47, 48.1, 108 to 112, 115.2, 119 to 121, 123, 124, 131, 132, 143 to 145, 151 to 153, 160, 161, 165, 166, 169 to 177, 181, 182, 183 to 185F, 192, 197, 198, 200, 203 to 206, 209, 210, 212, 213, 215, 231, 233, 234, 236 to 238, 244, 250, 253, 254, 263, 265, 268 to 270, 280, 281, 283, 284, 286 or 288 shall be liable to be dealt with under the provisions of Section 8 of the Regulations of The League.

STRATEGY, LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ACADEMY

Football Philosophy

- 18** Each Club which operates an Academy shall document and make available to The League and to the ISO its Football Philosophy which shall be:
- 18.1** drawn up with the involvement of such Officials as the Club deems appropriate who may include the Academy Manager, the Manager, the Technical Director if the Club has appointed one and the Technical Board; and
 - 18.2** annually reviewed and approved by the Club Board.

Academy Performance Plan

- 19** Each Club which operates an Academy shall prepare and make available to The League and to the ISO its Academy Performance Plan.
- 20** The Academy Performance Plan shall be drawn up under the guidance of the Academy Manager in consultation with such Officials as the Club may consider appropriate (including, by way of example only, the Manager, the Chief Executive, the Academy Management Team and the Technical Director if the Club has appointed one) and shall be reviewed annually by the Academy Manager.

- 21 The Club Board shall:
- 21.1 annually review and approve the Academy Performance Plan;
 - 21.2 ensure that the Academy Performance Plan is communicated to all relevant Officials; and
 - 21.3 measure the performance of the Academy each year against the strategy and specific performance targets set out in the Academy Performance Plan and ensure that appropriate action is taken if the performance targets have not been met.

Performance Management Application

- 22 Each Club which operates an Academy shall:
- 22.1 utilise the Performance Management Application from the date of its implementation by The League and record on it the data listed in Rule 1.52;
 - 22.2 ensure that the data held on the Performance Management Application which is within the Club's control is held securely and is only released to, or accessed by, those persons who require access to it pursuant to any of these Rules; and
 - 22.3 provide The League with such information as it may from time to time require for the purposes of analysing and benchmarking on a national or Category-wide basis any aspect of the performance of Academy Players or Clubs.
- 23 Each Club which operates an Academy shall ensure that the Performance Management Application is available for access by the following individuals:
- 23.1 relevant Academy Staff; and
 - 23.2 Parents of its Academy Players aged 17 and younger, and the Academy Players themselves, in relation to information contained on the Performance Management Application which relates to that Academy Player (but excluding information which in the Club's reasonable opinion ought not to be so disclosed).

Technical Board

- 24 Each Club which operates an Academy shall establish a Technical Board.
- 25 The membership of the Technical Board shall consist of such Officials as the Club Board deems necessary in order for the Technical Board to properly perform the functions with which it is tasked by these Rules, and accordingly may include:
- 25.1 the Chief Executive;
 - 25.2 the Manager;
 - 25.3 the Academy Manager;
 - 25.4 such Officials as can give input from the following functional areas:
 - 25.4.1 recruitment;
 - 25.4.2 coaching; and
 - 25.4.3 Professional Development Phase coaching; and
 - 25.5 any other Official that the Club deems appropriate.
- 26 The Technical Board shall provide technical advice and support in the development of the Club's Football Philosophy and in the development, implementation and monitoring of the Academy Performance Plan.

EFFECTIVE MEASUREMENT

Academies: Evaluation and Audit

- 27 Each Club which operates an Academy shall conduct an annual self-assessment of its Academy which shall:
- 27.1 be led by its Academy Manager;
 - 27.2 assess the extent to which the Club meets and/or exceeds the criteria pertaining to the relevant Category of Academy set out in this section of the Rules and in the Audit Tool;
 - 27.3 utilise the Audit Tool; and
 - 27.4 be made available to The League, the ISO and, if required, the PGB.
- 28 The League shall conduct:
- 28.1 on-going monitoring of each Academy; and
 - 28.2 an annual evaluation of each Academy which shall:
 - 28.2.1 consider the Club's annual self-assessment referred to in Rule 27 and its most recent Academy Financial Information;
 - 28.2.2 assess the extent to which the Club meets and/or exceeds the criteria pertaining to the relevant Category of Academy set out in this section of the Rules and in the Audit Tool;
 - 28.2.3 utilise the Audit Tool; and
 - 28.2.4 be made available to the Club, the ISO and, if required, the PGB.

- 29** The ISO shall conduct an ISO Audit of each Academy at least once every three years (subject to any requirement of these Rules which provides for ISO Audits to be undertaken more frequently), the results of which shall be made available to the Club, The League and the PGB.
- 30** A Club shall be entitled to publish the results of its ISO Audit.
- 31** Each Club which operates or applies to operate an Academy shall give The League and the ISO access to such facilities, personnel, documents and records as they reasonably require in order to undertake their responsibilities under these Rules.
- 32** Each Club which wishes to operate an Academy must submit to The League an application to do so which shall be accompanied by a self-assessment described in Rule 27.
- 33** Each year The League will provide each Club which operates an Academy with an up to date Productivity Profile, benchmarked (on an anonymised basis) against other Clubs (and, if appropriate, Premier League clubs).

Transitional Arrangements

- 33A** Each Club:
- 33A.1** which made an application to operate a Category Two, Three or Four Academy with effect from the start of Season 2012/13:
- a)** must have submitted to The League its completed Audit Tool no later than 30 April 2012;
 - b)** must have made its formal application by no later than 31 May 2012; and
 - c)** shall be the subject to the provisions of Rules 33B to 33D below;
- 33A.2** that makes an application to operate an Academy other than in accordance with Rule 33A.1, shall be subject to the provisions of Rule 33E.
- 33B** The League shall conduct a Provisional Licensing Procedure in respect of those Clubs making application to operate an Academy in accordance with Rule 33A.1. The Provisional Licensing Procedure involves:
- 33B.1** the Club complying with the requirements of Rule 33A.1 above;
- 33B.2** the Executive reviewing the Club's completed Audit Tool and thereafter assessing (by whatever means) the Club's compliance with the minimum mandatory criteria applicable to the relevant Category; and
- 33B.3** where the Executive is satisfied, acting reasonably, that the Club has met the minimum mandatory criteria applicable to the relevant Category, the Executive shall recommend to the PGB that the PGB award a provisional licence (**Provisional Licence**) for that Category; or
- 33B.4** where the Executive is not satisfied that the Club has met the minimum mandatory criteria applicable to the relevant Category, the Executive may recommend to the PGB that the PGB award a Provisional Licence for such lower Category as appropriate having regard to the criteria which are met by the Club as evidenced by the Audit Tool and the application, or no Provisional Licence at all.
- 33C** The PGB, having given due consideration to a Club's application for a Provisional Licence (together with completed Audit Tool) and the recommendation of the Executive in accordance with either Rule 33B.3 or 33B.4 (as appropriate), shall (where appropriate) issue all Provisional Licences and shall determine the Category of each Academy in respect of which it grants a Provisional Licence. A Club shall only have the right to make representations to the PGB in connection with its application for a Provisional Licence if Rule 33B.4 applies.
- 33D** A Provisional Licence shall last until the earlier of:
- 33D.1** the completion of an ISO Audit and the award (or rejection) of an Academy Licence by the PGB in accordance with the provisions of these Rules; or
- 33D.2** 31 May 2015,
- whichever is the earlier.
- 33E** A Club applying to operate an Academy under Rule 33A.2 may only do so such that the authorisation applies with effect from the commencement of a particular Season. The following provisions of this Rule shall apply:
- 33E.1** the applicant Club must:
- a)** submit to The League an application by no later than 31 May immediately prior to the commencement of the relevant Season;
 - b)** co-operate with the Executive's review of the Club's Audit Tool and assessment (by whatever means) of the Club's compliance with the minimum mandatory criteria applicable to the relevant Category;
- 33E.2** where the Executive is satisfied, acting reasonably, that the Club will meet the minimum mandatory criteria applicable to the relevant Category, the Executive shall recommend to the PGB that the PGB award a Provisional Licence for that Category;
- 33E.3** where the Executive is not satisfied that the Club will meet the minimum mandatory criteria applicable to the relevant Category, the Executive may recommend to the PGB that the PGB award a Provisional Licence for such lower Category as appropriate having regard to the criteria which are met by the Club as evidenced by the Audit Tool and the application, or no Provisional Licence at all;

- 33E.4** The PGB, having given due consideration to a Club's application for a Provisional Licence (together with completed Audit Tool) and the recommendation of the Executive in accordance with either Rule 33E.2 or 33E.3 (as appropriate), shall (where appropriate) issue all Provisional Licences and shall determine the Category of each Academy in respect of which it grants a Provisional Licence. A Club shall only have the right to make representations to the PGB in connection with its application for a Provisional Licence if Rule 33E.3 applies.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT, PLAYER DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESSION

Performance Clock

- 34** Each Club which operates an Academy shall maintain a Performance Clock for each of its Academy Players and ensure that it is made available to:
- 34.1** the Academy Player;
 - 34.2** his Parent (and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing the Club shall provide to the Academy Player and his Parent a copy of his Performance Clock if he ceases to be registered with the Club);
 - 34.3** The League; and
 - 34.4** the ISO.

Multi-disciplinary Reviews

- 35** Each Club which operates an Academy shall ensure that each of its Academy Players receives a Multi-disciplinary Review:
- 35.1** every 12 weeks (if he is in one of the Under 9 to Under 11 age groups);
 - 35.2** every 6 weeks (if he is in one of the Under 12 to Under 18 age groups); and
 - 35.3** with such frequency as the Club deems appropriate (if he is one of the Under 19 to Under 21 age groups).
- 36** Each Multi-disciplinary Review shall assess the performance and development of the Academy Player against his performance targets set at previous Multi-disciplinary Reviews.
- 37** Each Club which operates an Academy shall ensure that:
- 37.1** it discusses each Academy Player's Multi-disciplinary Review with him;
 - 37.2** it takes appropriate action (for example by way of setting mutually agreed performance targets and/or such individual coaching, athletic development or educational support as may be necessary) as a result of each Multi-disciplinary Review.
- 38** Each Multi-disciplinary Review shall be recorded on the Academy Player's Performance Clock.
- 39** Each Club which operates an Academy shall meet with the Parent of each Academy Player under the age of 18 at least twice a year and provide to and discuss with the Parent a detailed review of all aspects of the Academy Player's performance and development based on his most recent Multi-disciplinary Reviews.
- 40** A written record of the discussion referred to in Rule 39 shall be given to the Parent and noted on the Academy Player's Performance Clock.
- 41** Each Club which operates an Academy shall, between 1 May and 30 June in each year, provide to the Parent of each Academy Player under the age of 18 an annual written report on all aspects of the Academy Player's performance and development over the preceding Season.
- 42** Each Club shall permit a representative of The League to attend Multi-Disciplinary Reviews if so requested by The League.

STAFF

General

- 43** Each Club which operates an Academy shall establish a staffing structure for its Academy which shall:
- 43.1** subject to Rule 44 include the mandatory posts required by this section of the Rules for the Category applicable to its Academy; and
 - 43.2** have regard to the guidelines and best practice set out in the Elite Player Performance Plan.
- 44** Save for the Academy Manager and the coaches described in Rules 62 and 63, a Club need not employ those Academy Staff whose employment is mandatory for the Category of its Academy pursuant to these Rules provided that the Club is able to demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of The League, the ISO or the PGB (whichever body is appropriate), that its staffing structure includes the same expertise and achieves the same results as if all the mandatory posts required by this section of the Rules were filled.
- 45** The Club shall document its staffing structure in an organisational chart which shall:
- 45.1** show the reporting lines of each member of Academy Staff; and
 - 45.2** be made available to Academy Staff, The League and the ISO, and submit Form YD3 to The League on a quarterly basis.

- 46 The relationship between a Club and each member of its Academy Staff shall be appropriately documented by way of:
- 46.1 an employment contract; or
 - 46.2 a statement of terms of employment pursuant to Section 1 of the Employment Rights Act 1996; or
 - 46.3 in the case of a non-employee, a contract for services.
-
- 47 Each member of Academy Staff shall be given:
- 47.1 a written job description (which may be contained in the document referred to in Rule 46); and
 - 47.2 an annual performance appraisal.
-
- 48 Each Club which operates an Academy shall:
- 48.1 provide Continued Professional Development to members of Academy Staff where required to do so pursuant to these Rules; and
 - 48.2 take all reasonable steps to ensure that each member of Academy Staff who is required by these Rules to undertake Continued Professional Development does so.

Academy Management Team

- 49 Each Club which operates an Academy shall establish an Academy Management Team which shall:
- 49.1 be led by the Academy Manager;
 - 49.2 in addition to the Academy Manager consist of such other Officials as the Club Board deems necessary in order for the Academy Management Team to properly perform the functions with which it is tasked by these Rules and otherwise, and which may accordingly include the Head of Education, the Head of Sports Science and Medicine, the Head of Recruitment, the Head of Academy Coaching, the Academy Secretary and, in the case of a Category 1 Academy, the Coach Developer.
-
- 50 The Academy Management Team shall assist the Academy Manager in running the operations of the Academy in accordance with the Club's Academy Performance Plan.

Academy Manager

- 51 Each Club which operates an Academy shall employ a Full Time Academy Manager.
-
- 52 The Academy Manager's appointment shall be approved by the Club Board.
-
- 53 The Academy Manager shall report to the Chief Executive or to such other senior administrative Official of the Club as the Club Board shall approve.
-
- 54 The responsibilities of the Academy Manager shall include (unless otherwise approved by the Board):
- 54.1 guiding the development of the Club's Football Philosophy as set out in Rule 18;
 - 54.2 drawing up the Academy Performance Plan as set out in, and subject to the provisions of, Rule 20;
 - 54.3 implementing the Academy Performance Plan;
 - 54.4 advising the Club Board on:
 - 54.4.1 whether the Academy has met the performance targets set out in the Academy Performance Plan; and
 - 54.4.2 the action to be taken by the Club if the Academy has not met those performance targets;
 - 54.5 ensuring the effective use by all appropriate Academy Staff of the Performance Management Application, Performance Clocks, and the Audit Tool, including ensuring that all relevant data is recorded thereon;
 - 54.6 the design, implementation and management of the Academy's Coaching Programme;
 - 54.7 conducting an annual self-assessment of the Academy in accordance with the provisions of Rule 27;
 - 54.8 providing all necessary assistance to The League in connection with its on-going monitoring and annual evaluations of the Academy and to the ISO in connection with the ISO Audits;
 - 54.9 ensuring that all Academy Staff undertake the Continued Professional Development required of them by this section of the Rules;
 - 54.10 being the line manager of the Head of Education, Head of Coaching, and Head of Recruitment; and
 - 54.11 liaising with the Club's Manager as appropriate.
-
- 55 Subject to Rule 56, each Academy Manager must hold:
- 55.1 an up to date UEFA A Licence; and
 - 55.2 an Academy Manager's Licence; and
 - 55.3 an FA Youth Award; and
 - 55.4 an FA Advanced Youth Award.

- 56** A Club may appoint as Academy Manager a person who does not hold the qualifications set out in Rule 55 provided that the Head of Academy Coaching:
- 56.1** holds these qualifications;
 - 56.2** is tasked with overseeing the Coaching Programme; and
 - 56.3** is a member of the Academy Management Team and sits on the Technical Board.

- 57** The Academy Manager must undertake Continued Professional Development organised by the Club. In addition, where the Academy Manager holds the qualifications set out in Rule 55 he must attend such training provided by the FA as is necessary to maintain the validity of those qualifications and at least 5 hours of in-service training to be provided by The League every year and hold a current Basic First Aid for Sport Qualification or an equivalent or higher qualification approved by the Board.

As noted above, it is envisaged that it will take three years for delivery of the BFAS qualification to all Academy staff. Accordingly, the Board will deem the current first aid qualification held by an Academy Manager to be an equivalent to BFAS until such time as the Academy Manager acquires the BFAS qualification. However, all Academy Managers must hold the BFAS qualification by the conclusion of Season 2015/16.

Academy Secretary

- 58** Each Club which operates an Academy shall appoint an Academy Secretary who shall be employed Full Time (in the case of a Club which operates a Category 1 or Category 2 Academy), and at least Part Time (in the case of a Club which operates a Category 3 or Category 4 Academy).
- 59** The Academy Secretary shall:
- 59.1** provide administrative support to the Academy Manager and the Academy Management Team;
 - 59.2** act as the point of contact between the Academy and The League for all administrative matters, including the submission of required information; and
 - 59.3** be familiar with all relevant provisions of these Youth Development Rules, as amended from time to time.

Head of Academy Coaching

- 60** Each Club which operates an Academy shall employ a Head of Academy Coaching who shall:
- 60.1** report to the Academy Manager;
 - 60.2** subject to Rule 54.6, have responsibility for delivery of the Academy's Coaching Programme;
 - 60.3** hold at least an up to date UEFA A Licence, an FA Youth Award, and an FA Advanced Youth Award and, in the circumstances set out in Rule 56, an Academy Manager's Licence;
 - 60.4** hold a current Basic First Aid for Sport Qualification or an equivalent or higher qualification approved by the Board;
 - 60.5** have recent and relevant experience of coaching Academy Players in an Academy (or of a comparable environment);
 - 60.6** be employed Full Time (in the case of a Head of Academy Coaching employed in a Category 1 or Category 2 Academy) or at least Part Time (in the case of a Category 3 or Category 4 Academy);
 - 60.7** attend at least five hours of in-service training to be provided by The League each year;
 - 60.8** such training provided by the FA as is necessary to maintain the validity of the qualifications set out in Rule 60.3; and
 - 60.9** in conjunction with each of the Club's coaches, plan, deliver and monitor the delivery of individual development plans for each such coach.
- 61** In addition to the in-service training referred to in Rule 60.7, the Head of Academy Coaching must undertake Continued Professional Development organised by the Club.

Coaches

- 62** Each Club which operates an Academy shall employ as a minimum the number of Full Time coaches for each Development Phase in accordance with the Category of its Academy as set out in the following table:

	Foundation Phase	Youth Development Phase	Professional Development Phase
Category 1	2	2	2
Category 2	1	2	2
Category 3	1	1	2
Category 4	N/A	N/A	2

- 63** In addition to the coaches set out in Rule 62 each Club shall employ sufficient additional coaching staff (Full Time or Part Time) to ensure that the coach to Academy Players ratios set out in Rule 111 are maintained.

- 64 Each Club shall nominate one coach in each of the Development Phases who shall be the lead coach for that phase and be responsible for the managing and the delivery of coaching within it. The Lead Coaches in the Professional and Youth Development phases shall hold at least an up to date UEFA A Licence.

Goalkeeping Coaches

- 65 Each Club which operates an Academy shall employ, either on a Full Time or Part Time basis, such goalkeeping coaches as are necessary to ensure that each Academy Player who is a goalkeeper receives the required hours of coaching set out in Rule 108.
- 66 Each goalkeeping coach must:
- 66.1 attend at least five hours of in-service training to be provided by the Football Association each year;
 - 66.2 attend the first aid training for Academy coaches provided by the Football Association at least once every three years; and
 - 66.3 undertake Continued Professional Development organised by the Club.
- 67 Each goalkeeping coach must hold an up to date UEFA B Licence and an FA Goalkeeping Coaching B Licence.

Senior Professional Development Coach

- 68 Each Club which operates a Category 1 or Category 2 Academy shall (and a Club which operates a Category 3 or Category 4 Academy may) appoint a Senior Professional Development Coach who shall:
- 68.1 report to the Academy Manager;
 - 68.2 liaise with the Manager;
 - 68.3 hold a UEFA A Licence and the FA Advanced Youth Award with the age-specific specialist element relevant to the Professional Development Phase;
 - 68.4 oversee on a day-to-day basis the Coaching Programme for the Under 19 to Under 21 age groups;
 - 68.5 manage the transition of Academy Players to the Club's senior squad in accordance with the Club's procedure for the same described in Rule 69;
 - 68.6 contribute to the Multi-disciplinary Reviews of all Academy Players in the Professional Development Phase; and
 - 68.7 manage the Club's team which competes in the Professional Development League.
- 68A Each Club which operates a Category 3 or Category 4 Academy that does not appoint a Senior Professional Development Coach in accordance with Rule 68 above shall assign a member of the coaching staff responsible for the coaching of the Club's professional players to act as the Liaison Coach who shall:
- 68A.1 liaise with the Academy Manager;
 - 68A.2 liaise with the Manager; and
 - 68A.3 manage the transition of Academy Players to the Club's senior squad in accordance with the Club's procedure for the same described in Rule 69.
- 69 Each Club shall develop, implement and provide evidence of a procedure to enable the transition of Academy Players to its senior squad.

Coaches: Qualifications and Professional Development

- 70 Each coach (excluding goalkeeping coaches to whom Rule 67 applies) must hold:
- 70.1 an up to date UEFA B Licence (save where these Rules require a coach to hold an up to date UEFA A Licence);
 - 70.2 an FA Youth Award; and
 - 70.3 an up to date FA Advanced Youth Award with the age specific specialist element relevant to the Development Phase which he coaches.
- 71 The FA Youth Award and FA Advanced Youth Award shall be acquired at the latest within 18 months of the start of the coach's employment.
- 72 Each coach (including goalkeeping coaches) must attend at least five hours of in-service training to be provided by the Football Association each year and hold a current Basic First Aid for Sport Qualification or an equivalent or higher qualification approved by the Board.
- 73 In addition to the in-service training referred to in Rule 72, each coach must undertake Continued Professional Development organised by the Club.

Coach Developer

- 74 Each Club which operates a Category 1 Academy shall either:
- 74.1 employ a Full Time Coach Developer; or
 - 74.2 demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of The League, ISO or PGB (whichever body is appropriate) that it has a dedicated resource which is available at all times to the Academy coaching staff and which resource undertakes the same functions as the functions of the Coach Developer set out in Rule 75.

- 75** The Coach Developer shall:
- 75.1** be responsible for designing and delivering the Club's Continued Professional Development, which shall reflect the Club's Football Philosophy, for all Full Time and Part Time coaches;
 - 75.2** report to the Academy Manager; and
 - 75.3** hold at least an up to date UEFA A Licence, an FA Youth Award and an FA Advanced Youth Award.
-
- 76** Each Club which operates a Category 2 Academy shall either:
- 76.1** employ a Coach Developer on at least a Part Time basis; or
 - 76.2** demonstrate to the reasonable opinion of The League or ISO or the PGB (whichever body is appropriate) that it has a dedicated resource which is available to the Academy coaching staff and which resource undertakes the same functions as those of the Coach Developer.
-
- 77** Coach Developers must attend at least five hours of in-service training to be provided by the Football Association each year and the first aid training for coaches provided by the Football Association at least once every three years.
-
- 78** In addition to the in-service training referred to in Rule 77, the Coach Developer must undertake Continued Professional Development organised by the Club.
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Head of Academy Sports Science and Medicine

- 79** Each Club which operates a Category 1 and Category 2 Academy shall appoint a Full Time Head of Academy Sports Science and Medicine who shall report to either the Academy Manager or the Official who is responsible for Sports Science and Medicine for the entire Club (and whichever he reports to, he shall liaise closely with the other).
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- 80** Each Club which operates a Category 3 or Category 4 Academy shall demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of The League, the ISO or PGB (whichever body is appropriate) that its Sports Science and Medicine Programme for Academy Players is appropriately managed and delivered.
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- 81** The Head of Academy Sports Science and Medicine shall be responsible for managing and delivering the Sports Science and Medicine Programme for all Academy Players registered with the Club.
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- 82** The Head of Academy Sports Science and Medicine:
- 82.1** shall be either:
 - 82.1.1** a chartered physiotherapist and a member of the Health Professions Council; or
 - 82.1.2** a registered medical practitioner licensed to practise by the General Medical Council; or
 - 82.1.3** the holder of at least a master's degree in sports science (or other relevant discipline) from a recognised university; and
 - 82.2** shall have recent and relevant professional experience in a sports performance environment.
-
- 83** With effect from the start of Season 2014/15, the Head of Academy Sports Science Medicine shall hold either:
- 83.1** if he is a chartered physiotherapist or a registered medical practitioner, a current Football Association Advanced Resuscitation and Emergency Aid certificate or an equivalent or higher qualification approved by the Board; or
 - 83.2** if he is neither of the above, a current Intermediate First Aid for Sport Qualification or an equivalent or higher qualification approved by the Board.
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- 84** For the avoidance of doubt, if the Head of Academy Sports Science and Medicine is not a chartered physiotherapist or a registered practitioner (as set out in Rule 82.1.1 and 82.1.2 respectively) the primacy of decisions regarding clinical treatment of Academy Players shall rest with a physiotherapist or registered medical practitioner.
-
- 85** The Head of Academy Sports Science and Medicine must undertake Continued Professional Development organised by the Club or The League.
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Lead Sports Scientist

- 86** Each Club which operates a Category 1 or Category 2 Academy shall appoint a Full Time Lead Sports Scientist who shall:
- 86.1** hold at least a bachelor's degree in sports science (or another relevant discipline) from a recognised university;
 - 86.2** have recent and relevant professional experience in a sports performance environment;
 - 86.3** co-ordinate and lead the sports science services for the Academy; and
 - 86.4** hold a current Basic First Aid for Sport Qualification or an equivalent or higher qualification approved by the Board.
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- 87** Each Club which operates a Category 3 or Category 4 Academy shall demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of The League, the ISO or the PGB (whichever body is appropriate) that it delivers sufficient and appropriate sports science services to its Academy Players.
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- 88** The Lead Sports Scientist must undertake Continued Professional Development organised by the Club.
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Lead Strength and Conditioning Coach

- 89** Each Club which operates a Category 1 or 2 Academy shall employ a Lead Strength and Conditioning Coach who shall:
- 89.1** in the case of a Category 1 Academy, be employed Full Time, and in the case of a Category 2 Academy, be employed at least Part Time;
 - 89.2** be responsible for providing to the Club's Academy Players appropriate strength and conditioning training and monitoring as part of the Sports Science and Medicine Programme;
 - 89.3** hold at least a bachelor's degree in sports science (or another relevant discipline) from a recognised university;
 - 89.4** hold a current Basic First Aid for Sport Qualification or an equivalent or higher qualification approved by the Board;
 - 89.5** have attended the following workshops run by the UK Strength and Conditioning Association (or equivalent workshops run by any equivalent body):
 - 89.5.1** Foundation Workshop and Certification (Level 1);
 - 89.5.2** Weightlifting Workshop;
 - 89.5.3** Plyometric, Agility and Speed Workshop;
 - 89.5.4** Planning Effective Programmes Workshop; and
 - 89.5.5** report to the Lead Sports Scientist.
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- 90** The Lead Strength and Conditioning Coach must undertake Continued Professional Development organised by the Club.

Senior Academy Physiotherapist

- 91** Each Club which operates an Academy shall appoint a Senior Academy Physiotherapist who shall:
- 91.1** be Full Time in the case of a Category 1, Category 2 or Category 3 Academy and at least Part Time in the case of a Category 4 Academy;
 - 91.2** be a chartered physiotherapist and a member of the Health Professions Council (save that a Club which operates a Category 3 or Category 4 Academy may continue to employ as its Senior Academy Physiotherapist any Person so employed at the time of these Rules coming into force who does not hold the qualifications specified in this Rule provided that he has successfully completed the Football Association's Diploma in the Treatment and Management of Injuries course or an equivalent or higher qualification. Any person appointed thereafter must hold the qualifications specified by this Rule);
 - 91.3** have recent and relevant professional experience in a sports performance environment;
 - 91.4** with effect from the start of Season 2014/15 if employed by a Club which operates a Category 1 or Category 2 Academy hold a current Football Association Advanced Resuscitation and Emergency Aid certificate, or if employed by a Club which operates a Category 3 or Category 4 Academy hold a current Intermediate First Aid for Sport Qualification or in either case an equivalent or higher qualification approved by the Board;
 - 91.5** co-ordinate and lead the physiotherapy service within the Academy;
 - 91.6** ensure that Rules 203.1 and 204 are complied with; and
 - 91.7** undertake Continued Professional Development organised by the Club.

Physiotherapists and Sports Therapists

- 92** In addition to the Senior Academy Physiotherapist referred to at Rule 91, each Club which operates a Category 1 or Category 2 Academy shall employ at least one Full Time physiotherapist who shall, unless employed prior to 1st January 2012, be a chartered physiotherapist and a registered member of the Health Professions Council. A Club may continue to employ as its Physiotherapist any Person employed at the 1st January 2012 who does not hold the qualifications specified in the first sentence of this Rule provided that they have successfully completed the Football Association's Diploma in the Treatment and Management of Injuries course or an equivalent or higher qualification. Any person appointed as a Physiotherapist after 1st January 2012 must hold the qualifications otherwise required by the opening sentence of this Rule).
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- 93** Any Sports Therapist employed by a Club (unless the proviso to Rule 91.2 applies) must be subject to the management and supervision of a chartered physiotherapist.
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- 94** Each physiotherapist and Sports Therapist employed pursuant to Rules 92 and 93 must undertake Continued Professional Development organised by the Club and with effect from the start of Season 2014/15 each such physiotherapist shall hold a current Intermediate First Aid for Sport Qualification or an equivalent or higher qualification approved by the Board.

Academy Doctor

- 95** Each Club which operates an Academy shall appoint an Academy Doctor who shall:
- 95.1** be a registered medical practitioner licensed to practise by the General Medical Council;
 - 95.2** be available to assess and, if appropriate, undertake the treatment of any playing injuries suffered by an Academy Player;

- 95.3 undertake Continued Professional Development;
- 95.4 be available for consultation at the Academy on at least one occasion per week (in addition to any attendance at matches); and
- 95.5 be responsible for the preparation of each Club's Emergency Action Plan.

Performance Analysts

- 96 Each Club which operates a Category 1 Academy shall employ a minimum of two Full Time Performance Analysts.
- 97 Each Club which operates a Category 2 Academy shall employ a minimum of two Performance Analysts, one on a Full Time basis, and the other at least Part Time.
- 98 The Performance Analysts shall undertake Performance Analysis of Academy Players registered with the Club.
- 99 The Performance Analysts must undertake Continued Professional Development organised by the Club.

Head of Education

- 100 Each Club which operates an Academy shall appoint a Head of Education who shall:
 - 100.1 report to the Academy Manager;
 - 100.2 have primary responsibility for:
 - 100.2.1 the organisation, management and delivery of the Club's Education Programme; and
 - 100.2.2 the educational progression of all Academy Players registered with the Club (subject to the duties of any educational establishment at which an Academy Player's education is taking place);
 - 100.3 ensure that the Academy's educational provision reflects the strategy and performance targets set out in the Club's Academy Performance Plan;
 - 100.4 hold Qualified Teacher Status and have relevant experience (in the case of Category 1 and 2 Academies) or, as a minimum, possess a teaching qualification or further education teaching qualification (in the case of Category 3 and Category 4 Academies);
 - 100.5 be Full Time (in the case of Category 1 and Category 2 Academies); and
 - 100.6 undertake Continued Professional Development organised by the Club.

Head of Recruitment

- 101 Each Club which operates an Academy shall employ a Head of Recruitment who shall:
 - 101.1 report to the Academy Manager;
 - 101.2 have responsibility for the organisation, management and delivery of the Club's policies and procedures for the recruitment of Academy Players;
 - 101.3 have responsibility for the recruitment and training of the Club's Scouts (including taking all reasonable steps to ensure that they comply with the requirements regarding qualifications, registration and Continued Professional Development set out at Rules 205 to 212);
 - 101.4 be in possession of such qualification as The League may require from time to time;
 - 101.5 undertake at least 5 hours of in-service training each year;
 - 101.6 undertake Continued Professional Development organised by the Club; and
 - 101.7 be Full Time in the case of Category 1 and Category 2 Academies, and at least Part Time in the case of Category 3 and 4 Academies.
- 102 The Head of Academy Sports Science and Medicine must ensure that the Club records and, if requested, makes available to the League, the following details of every intern working within the Academy:
 - 102.1 name, date of birth and contact details (phone number, address and email address);
 - 102.2 qualifications (both academic and sporting such as coaching qualifications);
 - 102.3 details of the intern's current course, including the institution at which he is enrolled, the name of the course, and the name and contact details of his tutor; and
 - 102.4 the contact details of a member of Academy Staff who is responsible for supervising the intern whilst he is at the Academy.

COACHING

Coaching Programme

- 103** Each Club which operates an Academy shall prepare (and make available to The League and to the ISO on request) a Coaching Programme which shall have regard to:
- 103.1** the Club's Football Philosophy;
 - 103.2** the Club's Academy Performance Plan;
 - 103.3** sections 6.6 – 6.8 of the Elite Player Performance Plan (save as regards the reference to minimum hours of coaching, as to which see Rule 108); and
 - 103.4** these Rules.
- 104** The Club's Coaching Programme shall be drawn up by the Academy Manager (or, in the circumstances set out in Rule 56, the Head of Academy Coaching) who shall consult with all appropriate Club Officials (which may include the Manager, the Chief Executive, coaching staff, the Academy Management Team and the Technical Director if the Club has appointed one).
- 105** The Club's Technical Board shall approve the Club's Coaching Programme.

Coaching Hours

- 106** The coaching of age groups Under 15 and older in Category 1 and Category 2 Academies shall take place over 46 weeks of each year, such weeks to be determined by reference to the Games Programme Schedule (including the two periods set out therein during which no matches in the Foundation Phase and Youth Development Phase Games Programmes shall take place). Clubs are not prevented from coaching during the remaining 6 weeks of the year.
- 107** All other coaching in Academies shall take place over 40 weeks of each year.
- 108** The minimum hours of coaching to be delivered by Academies each week to each Academy Player (subject to his fitness) and the permitted Training Model per Category and per Development Phase are, subject to Rule 108A, as follows:

		Foundation Phase	Youth Development Phase	Professional Development Phase
Category 1	Coaching hours per week	4 rising to 8 for older Academy Players	10 rising to 12 for older Academy Players	14 reducing to 12 for Academy Players who have commitments to the professional squad during the Professional Development Phase
	Permitted Training Model	Part Time, Hybrid	Part Time, Hybrid, Full Time	Full Time
Category 2	Coaching hours per week	3 rising to 5 for older Academy Players	6 rising to 12 for older Academy Players	14 reducing to 12 for Academy Players who have commitments to the professional squad during the Professional Development Phase
	Permitted Training Model	Part Time	Part Time, Hybrid	Full Time
Category 3	Coaching hours per week	3	4 rising to 6 for older Academy Players (See Guidance below)	12
	Permitted Training Model	Part Time	Part Time	Full Time
Category 4	Coaching hours per week	N/A	N/A	14 reducing to 12 for Academy Players who have commitments to the professional squad during the Professional Development Phase Games Programmes
	Permitted Training Model	N/A	N/A	Full Time

- 108A** Any variation from the permitted training model, or any variation of the Part Time Training Model involving the Academy Player being absent from school for any of the normal school day, will require approval by The League and will need to demonstrate that appropriate supporting provisions are in place, particularly in respect of the Academy Player's education.
- 109** The maximum time in which Academy Players in the Foundation Phase can be engaged in a single coaching session is 90 minutes and there will be appropriate rest periods between each such session.

- 110** Each Club shall ensure that:
- 110.1** each Academy Player has access to an individual coaching plan tailored to his specific needs;
 - 110.2** each Academy Player is made aware of his individual coaching plan (and any changes thereto) as soon as reasonably practicable in advance of his being coached in accordance with it; and
 - 110.3** all coaching is recorded on the Academy Player's Performance Clock.
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- 111** Each Club shall ensure that a coach to Academy Players and Trialists ratio of 1:10 is maintained for all coaching sessions (save that the ratio for Category 1 Academies using the Full Time Training Model shall be 1:8).
-
- 112** Each Club shall ensure that each Academy Player in age groups Under 9 and older participates at least once a year in a Festival (or other coaching event such as a Training Camp or a Tournament) which lasts for at least two days.
-
- 113** Each Club shall ensure that each of its coaches plans each coaching session by setting out the learning objectives which the session is designed to achieve and the coaching which will be given in order to achieve them.
-

Development Centres

- 114** Each Club which operates a Category 1, Category 2 or Category 3 Academy may operate one or more Development Centres, to be located within one hour's travelling time of the location of its principal venue for the provision of coaching and education to Academy Players.
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- 115** A Child being coached at a Club's Development Centre:
- 115.1** may not be registered for that Club;
 - 115.2** may not play in matches for that Club unless registered as a Trialist; and
 - 115.3** will be free to play for other teams.
-
- 116** Clubs which operate Development Centres shall keep an attendance record of all the Children who participate in coaching sessions thereat.
-
- 117** Each Development Centre operated by a Club may be inspected from time to time by The League and by the ISO.
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- 118** Without prejudice to the generality of Rule 117, the inspection referred to in that Rule may include:
- 118.1** inspection of the facilities provided; and
 - 118.2** assessment of whether the coaching provided at the Development Centre is in accordance with the Club's coaching syllabus.
-
- 119** No Club shall cause or permit a child whose registration is held by another Club (or club) or with whom another Club (or club) has entered into a pre-registration agreement which remains current to attend its Development Centre.
-
- 120** No Club shall cause or permit a team representing its Development Centre to play football against a team representing another Club (or a Premier League club).
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GAMES PROGRAMME

General

- 121** Save as permitted by the Board, Clubs shall not affiliate to any other youth leagues or enter any cup competitions except the Football Association Youth Challenge Cup.
-
- 122** An Academy Player whose registration is held by a Club which operates an Academy shall play football only in a Games Programme or in Authorised Games and in coaching and training games (participation in which is limited to registered Academy Players and Trialists) organised by and played at an Academy.
-
- 123** A Club which operates an Academy shall not require, cause or allow an Academy Player whose registration it holds to play football except as permitted by Rule 122.
-
- 124** Each Club which operates an Academy shall record in each Academy Player's Performance Clock:
- 124.1** each match in which he has played; and
 - 124.2** his playing time in each match.
-

Performance Analysis

- 125** Each Club operating a Category 1 or Category 2 Academy shall:
- 125.1** have such technical facilities as are necessary to undertake the Performance Analysis required of it by Rule 125.2;
 - 125.2** undertake Performance Analysis (including, in the case of a Club which operates a Category 1 Academy, by undertaking GPS evaluation in the Professional Development Phase and in the Youth Development Phase if the Full Time Training Model is utilised) of training activity and matches in the Youth Development Phase Games Programme, the Professional Development Phase Games Programme and the Professional Development League;

- 125.3** use the results of such Performance Analysis in its monitoring of the coaching and development of Academy Players in the Youth Development Phase and the Professional Development Phase; and
- 125.4** make available to The League such Performance Analysis data as it reasonably shall require to undertake the benchmarking of data for that Academy against national trends.

126 Each Club operating a Category 3 or Category 4 Academy shall comply with Rule 125 but only in respect of players in the Under 17 to Under 18 age groups.

127 Subject to a Club complying with Rule 125 or 126 (as appropriate depending on the Category of its Academy), and to a sufficient number of Clubs (and Premier League Clubs) likewise complying, The League will make available to it benchmarked data derived from comparing the Performance Analysis data it has submitted to The League with that submitted by other Clubs (on an anonymised basis).

Foundation Phase Games Programme

128 The Premier League will organise a games programme for teams in each of the Under 9 to Under 11 age groups of Clubs operating Category 1 and 2 Academies (and for the avoidance of doubt teams from both Categories shall participate together in this games programme).

129 The League will organise a games programme for teams in each of the Under 9 to Under 11 age groups of Clubs operating Category 3 Academies.

130 The games programmes referred to in Rules 128 and 129 shall consist of matches which:

130.1 shall be competitive but whose results (except in the case of Tournaments) shall not give any particular competitive significance between Academies (for example, no league table or the like shall be produced);

130.2 subject to Rule 130.3 shall be organised on a local basis so that as far as reasonably possible no team has to travel more than one hour to an away match (save that longer travel times may be necessary in order that each Club can participate meaningfully in the games programme);

130.3 may be played in Festivals organised on a local, regional or national basis and each Club which operates a Category 1 Academy shall organise and host a minimum of three Festivals per Season;

130.4 shall take place during the Games Programme Schedule;

130.5 may include matches against representative county schoolboy sides (being sides selected by the English Schools' Football Association);

130.6 shall be played outdoors, save in respect of:

130.6.1 Clubs operating Category 1 or 2 Academies where, during the second half of December and the whole of both January and February, they shall be played indoors;

130.6.2 Clubs operating Category 3 Academies where, during the second half of December and the whole of both January and February, they may be played indoors;

130.7 shall consist of matches played in accordance with the following formats (save that some matches played indoors may be played as Futsal games):

Age group	Team size	Pitch size (yards)	Goal size (feet)	Ball size
Under 9	4v4, 5v5 or 7v7	30x20 to 40x30 (4v4 and 5v5) 50x30 to 60x40 (7v7)	12x6	3 (or 4 at the Home Club's option)
Under 10	4v4, 5v5 and 7v7	30x20 to 40x30 (4v4 and 5v5) 50x30 to 60x40 (7v7)	12x6 (4v4 and 5v5) 12x6 to 16x7 (7v7)	4
Under 11	7v7 or 9v9	50x30 to 60x40 (7v7) 70x40 to 80x50 (9v9)	12x6 to 16x7 (7v7) 16x7 (9v9)	4

The participating Clubs shall endeavour to agree which of the above formats shall be utilised, but in default of agreement the home Club shall decide.

131 Each Club which operates a Category 1, Category 2 or Category 3 Academy:

131.1 must participate fully in the Foundation Phase Games Programme; and

131.2 may organise and participate in additional Authorised Games of the types listed in paragraphs c), d), f) and g) of that definition only (which shall be notified to the Premier League (if the Club operates a Category 1 or Category 2 Academy) no later than 72 hours before they are scheduled to take place).

132 Each Club shall ensure that each of its Academy Players in the Foundation Phase shall, subject to fitness or other unavailability due to family or welfare reasons, participate in at least half the playing time in any one Season of matches in the Foundation Phase Games Programme and any other matches organised by the Club pursuant to Rule 131.2, such playing time to be reasonably spread out over the Season.

Youth Development Phase Games Programme

133 The Premier League will organise a games programme for teams in each of the Under 12 to Under 14 age groups of Clubs operating Category 1 and 2 Academies (and for the avoidance of doubt teams from both Categories shall participate together in this games programme).

134 The League will organise a games programme for teams in each of the Under 12 to Under 14 age groups of Clubs operating Category 3 Academies.

134A The games programme for Category 1 Clubs referred to in Rule 133 shall include the Under 13 Premier League National Cup and the Under 14 Premier League National Cup, participation in which shall not be mandatory.

134B Each Club must inform the League by [30 April] in each year whether it wishes to compete in the Under 13 Premier League National Cup and the Under 14 Premier League National Cup the following Season.

135 The games programmes referred to in Rules 133 and 134 shall consist of matches which shall:

135.1 be competitive but whose results (save for matches in the Under 13 and Under 14 Premier League National Cups) shall not be given any particular competitive significance between Academies (for example, no league table or the like shall be produced);

135.2 (in the case of the games programme referred to in Rule 133) be organised on a regional basis so that as far as reasonably possible no team has to travel more than two hours to an away match save that longer travel times may be necessary;

135.2.1 in order that each Club can participate meaningfully in the games programme; and

135.2.2 for matches in the Under 13 and Under 14 Premier League National Cups;

135.3 (in the case of the games programme referred to in Rule 134) be organised on a local basis so that as far as reasonably possible no team has to travel more than one hour to an away match and/or regional basis so that as far as reasonably possible no team has to travel more than two hours to an away match (save that in both cases longer travel times may be necessary in order that each Club can participate meaningfully in the games programme);

135.4 shall include one or more Festivals or Tournaments for each Club organised on a regional, national or international basis (which may include matches organised pursuant to Rule 140), with the number of such Festivals and Tournaments increasing for the older age groups in the Youth Development Phase;

135.5 take place during the Games Programme Schedule;

135.6 shall be played outdoors, except for matches for age groups Under 12 to Under 14 during the second half of December and the whole of both January and February involving teams of Category 1 and Category 2 Academies, which shall be played indoors;

135.7 consist of matches played in accordance with the following formats (save that some matches played indoors may be played as Futsal games):

Age group	Team size	Pitch size (yards)	Goal size (feet)	Ball size
Under 12	11v11 (or 9v9 if both Clubs so agree)	90x60 (11v11) 70x40 to 80x50 (9v9)	21x7 (11v11) 16x7 (9v9)	4
Under 13	11v11	90x60	21x7	4
Under 14	11v11	90x60 to 100x60	21x7 to 24x8	5

136 The Premier League shall organise a games programme for teams consisting of Academy Players in the Under 15 and Under 16 age groups (both age groups playing together) of Clubs operating Category 1 Academies, and another for teams of Academy Players in these age groups of Clubs operating Category 2 Academies.

137 Save for any matches played abroad pursuant to Rule 140 the games programme for Category 1 Clubs referred to in Rule 136 shall be:

137.1 be constituted either on a national basis or, if a majority of those Clubs (and Premier League clubs) which operate Category 1 Academies so determine by no later than 31 March in the preceding Season, on a regional basis (as that term is defined in Rule 138); and

137.2 be competitive but whose results shall not be given any particular competitive significance between Academies (for example, no league table or the like shall be produced).

138 The games programme for Category 2 Clubs referred to in Rule 136 shall be organised on a regional basis, that is to say so that as far as reasonably possible no team has to travel more than two hours to an away match (save that longer travel times may be necessary in order that each Club can participate meaningfully in the games programme).

139 Matches in the games programmes for Category 1 and Category 2 Clubs referred to in Rule 136 shall, unless the Board otherwise permits, be played on Saturdays and arranged so that as far as possible a Club's fixtures in it mirror those of its teams in the Professional Development Phase Games Programme.

140 As part of the Youth Development Phase Games Programme, the Premier League shall organise matches (which may be organised as Tournaments) against teams from clubs in membership of a national association other than the Football Association or the Football Association of Wales. Such matches shall be organised regularly for Clubs operating Category 1 Academies and from time to time for Clubs operating Category 2 Academies.

141 The League shall organise a games programme for teams consisting of players in the Under 15 and Under 16 age groups of Clubs operating Category 3 Academies, to be played on a regional basis so that as far as reasonably possible no team has to travel more than two hours to an away match (save that longer travel times may be necessary in order that each Club can participate meaningfully in the games programme).

142 Matches played pursuant to Rules 136 to 141 shall, when played outdoors, be played in accordance with the following format:

Age group	Team size	Pitch size (yards)	Goal size (feet)	Ball size
Under 15 & Under 16	11v11	110x70	24x8	5

143 Each Club which operates a Category 1, Category 2 or Category 3 Academy:

143.1 must participate fully in the Youth Development Phase Games Programme (save that participation in the Under 13 and Under 14 League National Cups is voluntary); and

143.2 may organise and participate in additional Authorised Games of the types listed in paragraphs c), d), f) and g) of that definition only (which shall be notified to the Premier League (in the case of a Club operating a Category 1 or Category 2 Academy) no later than 72 hours before they are scheduled to take place).

144 Each Club shall ensure that each of its Academy Players in the Under 12 to Under 14 age groups shall, subject to fitness or other unavailability due to family or welfare reasons, participate in half the playing time of matches in the Youth Development Phase Games Programme and any other matches organised by his Club pursuant to Rule 143.2, the Academy Player's playing time to be reasonably spread over the Season.

145 Each Club shall ensure that each of its Academy Players in the Under 15 to Under 16 age groups shall, subject to fitness, participate in at least 20 matches per Season (being matches in the Youth Development Phase Games Programme or any other matches organised by his Club pursuant to Rule 143.2). Participation in a match shall for the purposes of this Rule mean playing at least 50% of the game time.

Professional Development Phase Games Programme

146 The Premier League will organise two games programmes, one for teams of Clubs operating Category 1 Academies and one for teams of Clubs operating Category 2 Academies.

147 The League will organise a games programme for teams of Clubs operating Category 3 or 4 Academies and following such consultation determine with those Clubs in its absolute discretion what games programme(s) should be developed for those Clubs, rules relating to the games programme, and (subject to Rule 148.3) how that games programme should be delivered.

148 The games programmes organised by the Premier League pursuant to Rules 146 and by The League pursuant to Rule 147 will be constituted on the following geographical bases:

148.1 Category 1: a regional league, with some matches played on a national basis and some international matches against teams representing clubs in membership of national associations other than the Football Association or the Football Association of Wales (and such matches may be played either in England or abroad);

148.2 Category 2:

148.2.1 in two leagues, each of which shall be constituted on a geographical basis (for example one league of northern based teams and one of southern based teams), the exact constitution of each league to be determined by the Board in its absolute discretion having regard to those Clubs (and Premier League clubs) which operate Category 2 Academies;

148.2.2 where practical, international matches against teams representing clubs in membership of a national association other than the Football Association or the Football Association of Wales (and such matches may be played either in England or abroad);

148.3 Categories 3 and 4: in two or more leagues, each of which shall be constituted on a geographical basis (for example one league of northern based teams and one of southern based teams), the exact number of leagues and their geographical constitution to be determined by The League in its absolute discretion and having regard to those Clubs (and Premier League clubs) which operate Category 3 and 4 Academies.

149 Matches in the Professional Development Phase Games Programme organised under Rule 146:

149.1 shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game (and for the avoidance of doubt shall be in the 11v11 format);

149.2 shall be for Players in the Under 18 age group (and younger) only, save that a Club may name in its team sheet a goalkeeper in the Under 19 age group;

149.3 shall only have five substitutes named on the team sheet (and for the avoidance of doubt only three substitutes may enter the field of play);

149.4 shall consist of competitive leagues and Tournaments; and

149.5 may include of an optional Futsal programme organised by The Premier League (for Clubs operating Category 1 and Category 2 Academies) in the months of December, January and February.

- 149A** Matches in the Professional Development Phase Games Programme organised under Rule 147:
- 149A.1** shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game (and for the avoidance of doubt shall be in the 11v11 format);
 - 149A.2** shall be for Players in the Under 18 age group (and younger) only, save that up to two Players in the Under 19 age group may be named on the team sheet for a match provided that they are:
 - 149A.2.1** a goalkeeper; or
 - 149A.2.2** registered as a Scholar and are only continuing as a Scholar beyond the age of 18 because of injury or other extenuating circumstances as approved by the Executive.
 - 149A.3** shall only have five substitutes named on the team sheet (and for the avoidance of doubt only three substitutes may enter the field of play);
 - 149A.4** shall consist of competitive leagues and/or Tournaments; and
 - 149A.5** may include of an optional Futsal programme organised by The Premier League in the months of December, January and February.
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- 150** Further provisions binding on Clubs competing in the leagues referred to in Rule 149.4 and 149A.4 shall be set out in the rules of those leagues.
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- 151** Each Club which operates an Academy:
- 151.1** must participate fully in the Professional Development Phase Games Programme; and
 - 151.2** may organise and participate in additional Authorised Games (which shall be notified to the Premier League (in the case of a Club operating a Category 1 or Category 2 Academy) no later than 72 hours before they are scheduled to take place).
- 151A** Each Academy Player who is eligible to participate in the Professional Development Phase Games Programme shall be given the opportunity to regularly participate in Authorised Games in each Season.

Professional Development League

- 152** Each Club which operates a Category 1 Academy shall compete in Professional Development League 1.
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- 153** Each Club which operates a Category 2 Academy shall compete in Professional Development League 2 unless it is able to demonstrate to The League that its starting 11s in its first team matches during the preceding Season in the Premier League, the League Competition (including play off matches), the Football League Cup, the Football Association Challenge Cup, the Football League Trophy, the UEFA Europa League and or UEFA Champions League included on average at least five Players in the Under 21 age group or younger.
-
- 154** Each Club which operates a Category 3 or Category 4 Academy may compete in the development league to be organised by The League.
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- 155** The Premier League will organise Professional Development League 1, which shall consist of a national league competition played on a competitive basis.
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- 156** The Premier League will organise Professional Development League 2, which shall consist of a league or leagues played on a competitive basis organised on a regional basis, the composition of such regional league(s) to be at the absolute discretion of the board of the Premier League who shall so far as reasonably possible determine the composition of each such league to ensure that each Club has to travel no more than three hours to each match (save that longer travel times may be necessary in order that each Club (or club) can participate meaningfully in Professional Development League 2).
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- 157** The League will, if required, organise (or procure the organisation of, for example through the Football Combination or Central League) Professional Development League 3, which shall consist of a league or leagues played on a competitive basis and organised on a regional basis, the composition of such regional league(s) and the minimum number of matches to be played by each Club to be at the absolute discretion of The League who shall so far as reasonably possible determine the composition of each such league to ensure that each Club (or club) has to travel no more than three hours to each match (save that longer travel times may be necessary in order that each Club (or club) can participate meaningfully in Professional Development League 3). For the avoidance of doubt teams of Clubs (or clubs) operating Category 3 and Category 4 Academies shall compete together in Professional Development League 3.
-
- 158** Eligibility in each of the Professional Development Leagues shall be limited to players in age group Under 21 or younger save that each Club may nominate on its team sheet for any match in a Professional Development League no more than:
- 158.1** one older goalkeeper; and
 - 158.2** the number of older outfield players determined pursuant to Rule 154.
-
- 159** The number of older outfield players referred to in Rule 158 shall be determined in respect of each Professional Development League by such number as a majority of the Clubs (and Premier League clubs) who compete in it so determine by no later than 31 March in the preceding Season (and in any case shall be no fewer than three and no greater than five).
-
- 160** At least three matches in the Professional Development League shall be played at the Club's ground registered pursuant to Regulation 13.6, and other matches may be played at an alternative ground subject to the approval of the Executive or the board of the Premier League (as appropriate). Such alternative grounds may include a pitch at the Club's Academy provided that it is (subject to the proviso in paragraph (b) of Rule 285.1 relating to Category 1 Academies) floodlit (night time games only), has a fenced off pitch and provides a spectator area.

- 161** Unless otherwise authorised by the Board, and subject to any transitional arrangements authorised by the Board in respect of Season 2012/13 pursuant to which some midweek matches may be scheduled, matches in the Professional Development Leagues shall be played on Saturdays, save that the home Club shall, subject to the rules of the Professional Development Leagues, have discretion to change the date and kick-off time of a match to Friday evening, or any time on Sunday or Monday.
- 162** Further provisions binding on Clubs competing in the Professional Development League shall be set out in the rules of those Leagues.
- 163** The Premier League will in addition organise international matches (which may take place by way of Tournaments) for teams competing in Professional Development Leagues 1 and 2.

Games Programme: Postponement etc. of Matches

- 164** A match in the games programme between Academy teams in age groups Under 9 to Under 16 inclusive shall not be cancelled, postponed or abandoned except with the written consent of the Board or on the instructions of the officiating referee (or if the officiating referee is a minor, the official of the county FA who has accompanied him to the match) who shall be empowered to instruct that such match be cancelled, postponed or abandoned only if he considers that the pitch is unfit for, or if adverse weather conditions preclude, the playing of the match in which event the Club at whose ground the match should have been played shall within seven days give to the Secretary notice in writing to that effect.
- 165** Except in the case of an Under 9 to Under 16 games programme match which, without either participating Club being at fault, is cancelled, postponed or abandoned under the provisions of Rule 164, any Club which causes the cancellation, postponement or abandonment of such a match will be in breach of these Rules.
- 166** The Board shall have power to specify the equipment and facilities to be provided by Clubs for the playing of matches between Academies.
- 167** In consultation with the Football Association, a minimum of four weekends each Season will be identified by The League upon which there will be no fixtures for Academy teams, such weekends being devoted to international development, selected players' courses and in-service training of coaches and staff.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE

General

- 168** Each Club which operates an Academy shall establish an Education Programme which shall set out the activities to be undertaken by the Club to ensure that the education of its Academy Players is supported effectively and which:
- 168.1** is appropriate to the Category of its Academy;
 - 168.2** complies with all applicable requirements set out in this section of the Rules;
 - 168.3** is approved by The League; and
 - 168.4** is evaluated by the Club within each Development Phase to ensure it is meeting its objectives as set out therein.
- 169** Each Club which operates an Academy shall ensure that each of its Academy Players receives a formal education programme which:
- 169.1** is appropriate to his age and Training Model;
 - 169.2** meets his specific academic needs;
 - 169.3** complies with all legal requirements;
 - 169.4** is structured to ensure that his academic development is not compromised as a result of his being coached by the Club's Academy;
 - 169.5** in the case of an Academy Player who is entered into a Scholarship Agreement with the Club, consists of either the advanced apprenticeship framework for sporting excellence (AASE) or any other programme of education approved in writing by The League in conjunction with the PFA; and
 - 169.6** shall continue notwithstanding that the Academy Player signs a professional contract and which shall comply with the requirements of the Education and Skills Act 2008 with regard to education and training.
- 170** Each Academy Player's educational progression under his Education programme shall be recorded on his Performance Clock.
- 170A** Each Club which operates an Academy shall nominate a member of staff who shall be responsible for:
- 170A.1** liaising with the school at which Academy Players are being educated; and
 - 170A.2** ensuring that any issues concerning Academy Player's education arising from that liaison are addressed to the satisfaction of the school.
 - 170A.3** ensuring that, for Academy Players on the Full Time, Hybrid and, where The League requests, Part Time Training Models, each Academy Players School reports and educational data are obtained from his school and recorded in his Performance Clock
- 171** Each Club shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that it protects the welfare of each of its Academy Players by offering support for his wellbeing and pastoral care generally.
- 172** The provisions of Appendix A of these Rules (concerning the Safeguarding of Children) apply to Academies and Development Centres.

- 173** Without prejudice to the generality of Rule 172 each Club shall appoint an Academy Safeguarding Officer who shall undertake the functions set out in Appendix A specifically with regard to the Academy.
- 174** Clubs and Academy Staff shall observe and comply with the requirements of the Code of Practice entitled "The Health and Safety of Academy Players on Residential Tours, Festivals, Tournaments and Visits" document as issued by The League from time to time.
- 175** Clubs shall ensure that their Academy Players are insured in accordance with advice circulated by The League from time to time.
- 176** Clubs shall establish, maintain and, when necessary, implement a complaints procedure for Academy Players and Parents, a copy of which shall be submitted to The League.
- 177** The Code of Conduct document as issued by The League from time to time shall be binding on Academy Players of compulsory school age attending Academies and their Parents and on Clubs and Officials and any breach thereof by such Academy Players or by Clubs or Officials shall be treated as a breach of these Rules.

Induction Events

- 178** Each Club shall arrange a pre-season induction event for Academy Players and their Parents and there shall be at least one such induction event per Development Phase.
- 179** The induction meeting referred to in Rule 178 shall provide such information to the Academy Players and their Parents as is necessary in order for them to understand the coaching and, if relevant, education that the Academy Player will receive from the Club.
- 180** Each Club which operates an Academy shall permit a representative of the League to attend such induction meetings on request.

Reports on Educational Progression

- 181** Each Club which operates an Academy shall provide progress reports to the Parent of each Academy Player to whom it provides a full time education programme.
- 182** The progress reports shall:
- 182.1** detail the educational progression of the Academy Player; and
 - 182.2** be provided as and when necessary, but as a minimum at least once every 12 weeks.

Delivery of the Education Programme

Part Time Training Model

- 183** Each Club which operates an Academy shall, in respect of each of its Academy Players being trained under the Part Time Training Model:
- 183.1** inform the Academy Player's school that he is being so trained;
 - 183.2** if the League so requests, obtain from the Academy Player's school his school reports and, where possible, educational attainment data;
 - 183.3** if the League so requests, use the information obtained to monitor the Academy Player's academic progression by reference to his school reports and, where possible, educational attainment data, and record it on his Performance Clock; and
 - 183.4** liaise with the school on a regular basis in order to discuss and address any issues concerning the Academy Player's education which have arisen or may arise as a consequence of his being trained at the Club's Academy
- 183A** Each Club which operates the Hybrid Training Model must appoint a sufficient number of appropriately qualified teaching staff to provide the education and support referred to in Rule 184.2

Hybrid Training Model

- 184** Each Club which operates an Academy shall, in respect of each of its Academy Players being trained under the Hybrid Training Model:
- 184.1** undertake all necessary liaison and co-operation with the Academy Player's school to ensure that the required element of coaching can take place within the Core Coaching Time;
 - 184.2** provide to the Academy Player such additional educational support as shall be necessary to compensate for teaching he has missed, and to ensure that his education is not prejudiced, as a result of being released from school to undertake coaching during the Core Coaching Time;
 - 184.3** obtain from the Academy Player's school his school reports and, where possible, educational attainment data;
 - 184.4** use the information obtained to monitor the Academy Player's academic progression and record it on his Performance Clock in a timely fashion and at least every 12 weeks (to coincide with dates of his Multi-disciplinary Reviews);
 - 184.5** enter into a written agreement with the Academy Player's school and Parent which sets out details of the delivery of the Hybrid Training Model to the Academy Player, including weekly timetables, the likely impact on the Academy Player's education, and the additional educational support to be provided by the Club pursuant to Rule 184.2;
 - 184.6** liaise with the school at least every six weeks in order to discuss and address any issues concerning the Academy Player's education which may arise or have arisen as a consequence of his being so trained.

Full Time Training Model

- 185** Each Club which operates an Academy shall, in respect of each of its Academy Players in the Youth Development Phase being trained under the Full Time Training Model, ensure that it provides the Academy Player with coaching and education in accordance with a programme which complies with Rules 185A to 185F and which is approved in advance by The League.
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- 185A** The education element of the Full Time Training Model must comply with these Rules and be structured in accordance with one of the four options set out below or in accordance with such other proposals as the League may approve.
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- 185B** Each Club which operates the Full Time Training Model must:
- 185B.1** enter into an agreement with any school at which its Academy Players are being educated setting out the obligations of the Club and the school in respect of the education of those Academy Players;
 - 185B.2** ensure that Academy Players in the Under 12, Under 13 and Under 14 age groups being educated at schools are fully integrated with other pupils of their age, which obligation shall include (without limitation) attending lessons with such other pupils according to the school's normal timetable (save where the Academy Players are being coached in the Core Coaching Time in accordance with these Rules);
 - 185B.3** ensure that there is in place a written agreement between the Club, each Academy Player engaged on the Full Time Training Model, his Parent and his school which sets out full details of his education and coaching programme;
 - 185B.4** ensure that the education programme of each such Academy Player provides him with a minimum of 20 hours' education during each week of the school term;
 - 185B.5** ensure that appropriate staff/student ratios are utilised for all educational activity in which the Academy Player is engaged;
 - 185B.6** ensure that each such Academy Player's education is tailored to his academic ability and attainment targets and meets national guidelines; and
 - 185B.7** ensure that each such Academy Player's school reports and educational attainment data are entered onto his Performance Clock in a timely fashion and at least every 12 weeks (to coincide with dates of his Multi-disciplinary Reviews).
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- 185C** Without prejudice to the generality of Rule 28, each Club which operates the Full Time Training Model must:
- 185C.1** not do so unless the League has pre-approved its proposed delivery of the Full Time Training Model; and
 - 185C.2** permit the League to monitor and assess each Club's delivery of the Full Time Training Model, including in respect of an individual Academy Player, in order to ensure that it complies with these Rules; and
 - 185C.3** forthwith implement any changes to its delivery of the Full Time Training Model that the League may require.
-
- 185D** If the League is not satisfied that a Club's delivery of the Full Time Training Model complies with these Rules:
- 185D.1** it may refuse to an application to register an Academy Player on it; and
 - 185D.2** the Board may exercise its powers set out in Rule 259A.
-
- 185E** If a Club wishes to engage an Academy Player on the Full Time Training Model (whether or not the Academy Player is already registered with the Club), it shall complete and submit to the Executive Form YD4A signed on behalf of the Club by an Authorised Signatory.
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- 185F** If the registration of an Academy Player on the Full Time Training Model is terminated by the Club or by the Board of its own volition, or if he changes to another Training Model, the Club shall, unless his Parent agrees otherwise, continue to provide to him until the end of the academic year in which he reaches the age of 16 education and accommodation in accordance with the arrangements made at the time of he was first engaged on the Full Time Training Model.
-
- 186** Each Club which operates an Academy shall notify the League, in such a manner as the League shall from time to time specify, of the Training Model on which each of its Academy Players is engaged and also, if an Academy Player changes to the Hybrid Training Model or Part Time Training Model, forthwith inform The League of the change and provide such evidence as the League may require to show that the Academy Player and his Parent consented to the change.

Welfare, Social Development and Lifestyle Management

- 187** Each Club which operates an Academy shall establish a programme to educate each of its Academy Players in Lifestyle Management Skills.
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- 188** The programme referred to in Rule 186 shall ensure that each Academy Player trained under the Full Time Training Model and/or in the Professional Development Phase has the opportunity to engage in activities outside the Academy which will encourage him to take an active part in the community and develop an understanding of good citizenship.
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- 189** Each Academy Player shall engage in the activities referred to in Rule 188 unless he has good cause not to do so and each Club shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that each of its Academy Players does so engage.
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- 190** Each Club which operates an Academy shall nominate a member of Academy Staff to manage and deliver the said programme.
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- 191** Each Club shall nominate an Official to be responsible for the welfare and supervision of Academy Players engaged on the Part Time Training Model or Hybrid Training Model, while they are present at the Club's facilities.

Player Exit/Release Strategy

- 192** Each Club which operates an Academy shall devise and implement a programme, to be managed by its Head of Education and Welfare or other appropriate Official to assist its Academy Players released from the Academy at completion of their Under 16, Under 17 or Under 18 year in circumstances where it appears they will not be joining another Club (or club).
- 193** Any such programme in respect of Academy Players being released at the completion of their Under 18 year shall be designed so that it dovetails with the support programme for such released Academy Players to be operated by The League.

SPORTS SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

Sports Science and Medicine Programme

- 194** Each Club which operates an Academy shall establish a Sports Science and Medicine Programme (in accordance with the criteria set out in these Rules which apply to the Category of its Academy) for the benefit of its Academy Players.
- 195** Each Club's Sport Science and Medicine Programme shall be managed by its Head of Academy Sports Science and Medicine (in the case of a Club which operates a Category 1 or Category 2 Academy) or by an appropriately qualified Official (in the case of the Club which operates a Category 3 or Category 4 Academy).
- 196** The Sports Science and Medicine Programme of each Club should detail the planned provision to each of its Academy Players of at least the following areas:
- 196.1** sports science (including physiology, biomechanics, physical testing and measurement);
 - 196.2** physiotherapy (including hydrotherapy and sports massage);
 - 196.3** medical services (including the prevention and treatment of injury and diet and nutrition);
 - 196.4** Performance Analysis; and
 - 196.5** psychology.
- 197** The progress and development of each Academy Player under the Sports Science and Medicine Programme (including without limitation the results of the tests set out in Rule 198, and full details of any injuries, the treatment thereof, and the length of any period of rehabilitation) shall be noted in his Multi-disciplinary Review and recorded in his Performance Clock.
- 198** Each Club which operates an Academy shall ensure that each of its Academy Players undergoes the following tests to measure physical and physiological fitness (as such tests are defined in the Audit Tool):
- 198.1** age-appropriate medical and physical screening;
 - 198.2** anthropometric assessments;
 - 198.3** physiological/fitness testing;
 - 198.4** movement and posture/functional screening;
 - 198.5** predictive testing of size and shape/maturation measurement (save that a Club operating a Category 4 Academy shall not be obliged to conduct such tests);
 - 198.6** psychological profiling (Category 1 Academies only); and
 - 198.7** monitoring of physical exertion (Category 1 Academies only);
- and shall submit to The League such information as it may from time to time require in order to establish a national database of athletic development.
- 199** Subject to a Club complying with Rule 198, The League will make available to it (on an anonymised basis) benchmarked data derived from the information provided to it by all Clubs.
- 200** Each Club which operates an Academy shall ensure that details of all injuries suffered by its Academy Players and of all rehabilitation are recorded and provided to The League and the FA in order that a national audit of injury and rehabilitation may be maintained.
- 201** Subject to a Club complying with Rule 200, The League will make available to it benchmarked data derived from the national audit of injury and rehabilitation.
- 202** Each Club which operates an Academy shall ensure that it has in place an Emergency Action Plan, and that all relevant Academy Staff are aware of its contents, and that it provides a copy of it in advance of all its home matches in the Games Programmes to its opponents.
- 203** Each Club which operates an Academy shall ensure that there is available at all games involving Academy teams appropriate first aid or primary care provision and, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, that:
- 203.1** a doctor who holds a current Football Association Advanced Resuscitation and Emergency Aid certificate or an equivalent or higher qualification approved by the Board or paramedic (in the case of a Club which operates a Category 1 or Category 2 Academy) or a physiotherapist who holds the Intermediate First Aid for Sport qualification or an equivalent or higher qualification approved by the Board (in the case of a Club which operates a Category 3 or Category 4 Academy) is present at each game in the Professional Development Phase Games Programme;

- 203.2** a doctor or physiotherapist who holds the Intermediate First Aid for Sport qualification or an equivalent or higher qualification approved by the Board is present at each venue at which matches in the Foundation Phase and Youth Development Phase take place; and
- 203.3** a defibrillator is maintained at each venue at which matches are played and at which coaching takes place and that at all times a member of staff qualified in its use is present during matches and coaching.
- 204** A physiotherapist qualified as set out in Rule 91.2 or Rule 92 or a coach who holds the Football Association's Diploma in the Treatment and Management of Injuries or an equivalent or higher qualification or a member of staff who holds a current emergency first aid qualification awarded by the FA, the British Red Cross, St John Ambulance (or by another entity provided it is approved by the Health and Safety Executive as an emergency first aid qualification) shall be present at all coaching taking place in Academies (without prejudice to the requirements of Rule 203).

TALENT IDENTIFICATION AND RECRUITMENT

Scouts: Qualifications

- 205** Each Club which operates an Academy shall ensure that each of its Scouts:
- 205.1** is in possession of such qualification as The League may require from time to time;
 - 205.2** understands and complies in full with these Rules and the Code of Conduct for Scouts; and
 - 205.3** undertakes Continued Professional Development each year.
- 206** Each Club which operates an Academy upon employing or engaging a Scout shall within five days thereof apply to register him with The League in the manner prescribed by the Board and providing to The League evidence that the Scout holds the qualification required by Rule 205.1.
- 207** The League shall register a Scout and shall notify the applicant Club to that effect upon being satisfied that:
- 207.1** the Scout holds the qualification required by Rule 205.1;
 - 207.2** the Scout is not currently registered as the Scout of another Club.
- 208** At the start of each season each Club shall issue a Scout Identification Card to each of its registered Scouts.
- 209** Except during the period of five days referred to in Rule 206, no Club shall employ a Scout who is not registered with The League pursuant to Rule 207 unless it has made an application to register him which has yet to be determined.
- 210** Upon a Club which operates an Academy ceasing to employ or engage a registered Scout, it shall within five days thereof:
- 210.1** give notice to that effect to The League who shall thereupon remove his name from the register; and
 - 210.2** return his Scout Identification Card to The League.
- 211** Scouts shall conduct themselves in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Scouts set out in Appendix B.
- 212** Each Club which operates an Academy shall take all reasonable endeavours to ensure that its Scouts comply in all respects with Rule 211 and the Code of Conduct for Scouts.

Scouts: Attendance at Matches

- 213** Each Club which operates an Academy shall permit the Scouts of other Clubs to attend at matches played in the Games Programmes provided that:
- 213.1** the Club which has employed or engaged the Scout notifies both Clubs involved in the match of the Scout's proposed attendance by no later than 12 noon on the last Normal Working Day before the published date of the match; and
 - 213.2** the Scout is able to produce on demand to the home Club his Scout Identification Card.
- 214** Each Scout shall inform the home Club of his arrival at a match.
- 215** Each Club which operates an Academy shall prepare and produce a document setting out the process of how Scouts employed by that Club should approach players and the process thereafter. Such process should comply in full with the Rules and the Code of Conduct for Scouts and should build upon the training that the Scout received while obtaining the relevant scouting qualification referred to in Rule 205.1.

Scouts: Disciplinary Action

- 216** Any breach by a Scout of Rule 211 shall amount to a breach of these Rules and The League shall be entitled to take disciplinary action against the Scout and/or his Club for such breach in accordance with Section 8 of The League's Regulations. In addition to the sanctions available under Section 8, an additional sanction of the removal of a Scout's registration shall also be available at the conclusion of the disciplinary proceedings, should a breach be held to exist.

- 217** Any breach by a Club of Rule 209 or Rule 212 shall amount to a breach of these Rules and The League shall be entitled to take disciplinary action against the Club for such breach in accordance with Section 8 of The League's Regulations. In addition to the sanctions available under Section 8, an additional sanction of the removal of a Scout's registration shall also be available at the conclusion of the disciplinary proceedings, should a breach be held to exist.

Registrations and Provision of Information by The League

- 218** Upon receiving an application by a Club to register an Academy Player, The League shall immediately provide to the Academy Player's Parent a copy of these Rules and of the Parent's Charter.
- 219** The League will undertake the registration (which shall be backdated to the date of application) of the Academy Player if:
- 219.1** 7 days have elapsed from the date The League sent the Parent the documents referred to above; and
- 219.2** during that time, The League has not been contacted by the Academy Player or his Parent to inform The League that he no longer wishes to be registered as an Academy Player for that Club.
- 220** The Academy Player may be coached by and play for the Club during the period of 7 days referred to in Rule 219.1.
- 221** The provisions of Rules 280 to 283 shall apply during the period referred to in Rule 219.1.
- 222** If, contrary to Rule 221, the Academy Player directly or indirectly contacts another Club, and such contact results in the Academy Player becoming registered with that other Club without the consent of the Club referred to in Rule 218, the other Club shall be presumed to have breached Rule 280.

Time/Distance Rules

- 223** Subject to Rule 251, each Club which operates an Academy shall be permitted to register Academy Players who reside within the travel times measured from the location of the Club's principal venue for the provision of coaching and education set out in the following table.

	Permitted Recruitment time/distance		
	Foundation Phase	Youth Development Phase	Professional Development Phase
Category 1	1 hour	Seasons 2012/13 and 2013/2014: - Under 15-Under 16: no limit for Academy Players engaged in the Full Time Training Model; 1 ½ hours for all other Academy Players in the Youth Development Phase. Season 2014/15 onwards: - No limit for Academy Players engaged in the Full Time Training Model; 1 ½ hours for all other Academy Players in the Youth Development Phase.	No limit
Category 2	1 hour	1 ½	no limit
Category 3	1 hour	1 ½	no limit
Category 4	N/A	N/A	no limit

Any question or dispute concerning the travelling time requirements in this Rule shall be determined by the Board.

Trials

- 224** Subject to the conditions set out in Rules 225 and 231, a Trialist may attend an Academy for up to six consecutive weeks in any one Season without being registered provided that:
- 224.1** at least seven days' prior written notice to that effect shall be given to any junior club of which such Trialist is a member; and
- 224.2** before the trial commences his particulars shall be notified forthwith to The League by sending to the Secretary Form YD8 duly completed.
- 225** In the case of the Trialist in one of the age groups Under 9 to Under 16, a Club may apply to the Executive for permission to extend the period of six weeks referred to in Rule 224 for an initial additional period of six weeks, and then for a further period of six weeks thereafter.

- 226** An application to extend a trial period must be:
- 226.1** made by the Club at least two weeks before the Trialist's trial period is due to expire;
 - 226.2** accompanied by such information and assurances as the League may require; and
 - 226.3** consented to by the Trialist and his Parent.
-
- 227** An application to extend a trial period shall only be granted by the League if it is satisfied as to arrangements put in place by the Club for the welfare and education of the Trialist.
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- 228** A Trialist may not register with another Club (or club) during the initial 6 week trial period but may at any time terminate an extended trial period to which he is subject.
-
- 229** Rule 34 (Performance Clocks) and Rule 35 (Multi-Disciplinary Reviews) shall apply with regard to Trialists.
-
- 230** Each Club shall give the League all such access to information and persons as it may require in order to monitor the welfare and progression of Trialists and to determine whether to grant an application to extend a trial period.
-
- 231** The conditions referred to in Rule 224 are as follows:
- 231.1** a trial may be offered or given by a Club to anyone in age groups Under 9 to Under 11 inclusive who has his permanent residence within one hour's travelling time of the Club's Academy;
 - 231.2** a trial may be offered or given by a Club which is permitted to recruit nationally (because it operates a Category 1 Academy and is permitted to recruit nationally pursuant to Rule 223) to anyone in age groups Under 12 and Under 13;
 - 231.3** a trial may be offered or given by any Club to which Rule 231.2 does not apply to anyone in age groups Under 12 and Under 13 who has his permanent residence within one and a half hours' travelling time of the Club's Academy;
 - 231.4** a trial may be offered or given by a Club to anyone in age groups Under 14 to Under 16 inclusive;
 - 231.5** subject to Rule 231.6.2 a trial may be offered or given by one or more Clubs to an Academy Player in age group Under 16 who has been informed by the Club holding his registration that it will not offer to enter into a Scholarship Agreement with him; any such trial or series of trials may not in the aggregate exceed six weeks;
 - 231.6** a trial may not be offered or given to anyone:
 - 231.6.1** who is on trial at another Academy; or
 - 231.6.2** whose registration is held by another Club (or club) except with the written consent of such Club (or club) or in the case of an Academy Player who is exercising his entitlement under either Rule 255, Rule 256 or Rule 257 to seek registration as an Academy Player at the Academy of another Club (or club).

Any question or dispute concerning the travelling time requirements in this Rule shall be determined by the Board in its absolute discretion.
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- 232** If a Trialist attending an Academy is injured so that he cannot be coached or play football or if the period of his trial is interrupted by any other occurrence, application may be made to the Executive in writing to extend the period of his trial, giving full reasons therefor, and the Executive shall have power to extend such period in such terms as it may think fit.
-
- 233** If before the date upon which a Trialist's trial period is due to end his trial is terminated, notice to that effect shall be given to The League by sending to the Secretary Form YD8A duly completed.
-
- 234** Upon a Trialist commencing a trial, The League shall provide to him and his Parent a copy of these Rules and of the Charter for Academy Players and Parents.

Pre-Registration Agreements

- 235** Subject to the provisions of Art. 19 of the FIFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players, on or after 1st January in any Season a Club may enter into a pre-registration agreement with a player who does not reside within one and a half hours' travelling time of its Academy provided that such a player is then:
- 235.1** in his Under 16, Under 17 or Under 18 year; and
 - 235.2** in Full Time Education; and
 - 235.3** not registered with another Club or Premier League club.
-
- 236** A pre-registration agreement shall be in Form YD9 and shall include an undertaking by the Club to enter into a Scholarship Agreement with the player upon the Club having acquired the player's registration and
- 236.1** in the case of a player in his Under 16 year, on or after the last Friday in June in the academic year in which the Academy Player reaches the age of 16; or
 - 236.2** in the case of a player in his Under 17 or Under 18 year, upon his ceasing Full Time Education.
- Unless authorised in writing by the Board, a breach of such an undertaking will constitute a breach of these Rules.
-
- 237** Clubs shall submit to the Secretary copies of all pre-registration agreements within five days of their being entered into.
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- 238** A written coaching programme shall be annexed to each pre-registration agreement and the player shall not be coached by or at the Club's Academy or participate in its matches, tours, Festivals, Training Camps or Tournaments until the programme has been approved in writing by the Board and then only to the extent set out in the programme.

Registrations

239	Except for Trialists attending trials in accordance with Rule 224, and players attending Development Centres and players with whom a Club has entered into a pre-registration agreement in accordance with Rule 235, no player shall be coached by or at an Academy or participate in matches, tours, Festivals, Training Camps or Tournaments in which the Club operating that Academy is involved unless that Club holds his registration.										
240	Subject to Rule 241: <table> <tr> <td>240.1</td><td>players in age groups Under 9, Under 10, Under 11, Under 12, Under 14 and Under 16 shall be registered for one year;</td></tr> <tr> <td>240.2</td><td>those in age groups Under 13 and Under 15 shall be registered for two years; and</td></tr> <tr> <td>240.3</td><td>Extended Schoolboys shall be registered until such time as they cease Full Time Education.</td></tr> </table>	240.1	players in age groups Under 9, Under 10, Under 11, Under 12, Under 14 and Under 16 shall be registered for one year;	240.2	those in age groups Under 13 and Under 15 shall be registered for two years; and	240.3	Extended Schoolboys shall be registered until such time as they cease Full Time Education.				
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240.2	those in age groups Under 13 and Under 15 shall be registered for two years; and										
240.3	Extended Schoolboys shall be registered until such time as they cease Full Time Education.										
241	The: <table> <tr> <td>241.1</td><td>registration of an Academy Player shall endure until the last Friday in June in the academic year in which he reaches the age of 16 if: <table> <tr> <td>241.1.1</td><td>he is engaged in the Full Time Training Model; or</td></tr> <tr> <td>241.1.2</td><td>the Club has made an application to the Board to this end, having offered to engage the Academy Player on the Full Time Training Model and the Academy Player having rejected this offer for sound educational reasons. In such a case the Board shall enquire into the circumstances and satisfy itself as to the bona fides of the application, and if so satisfied shall have the power to determine that the Academy Player's registration should so endure;</td></tr> </table> </td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>and</td></tr> <tr> <td>241.2</td><td>registration of Youth Players entered into prior to the date of implementation of these rules (being with effect from 1st July 2012) shall endure for the original period of that registration.</td></tr> </table>	241.1	registration of an Academy Player shall endure until the last Friday in June in the academic year in which he reaches the age of 16 if: <table> <tr> <td>241.1.1</td><td>he is engaged in the Full Time Training Model; or</td></tr> <tr> <td>241.1.2</td><td>the Club has made an application to the Board to this end, having offered to engage the Academy Player on the Full Time Training Model and the Academy Player having rejected this offer for sound educational reasons. In such a case the Board shall enquire into the circumstances and satisfy itself as to the bona fides of the application, and if so satisfied shall have the power to determine that the Academy Player's registration should so endure;</td></tr> </table>	241.1.1	he is engaged in the Full Time Training Model; or	241.1.2	the Club has made an application to the Board to this end, having offered to engage the Academy Player on the Full Time Training Model and the Academy Player having rejected this offer for sound educational reasons. In such a case the Board shall enquire into the circumstances and satisfy itself as to the bona fides of the application, and if so satisfied shall have the power to determine that the Academy Player's registration should so endure;		and	241.2	registration of Youth Players entered into prior to the date of implementation of these rules (being with effect from 1st July 2012) shall endure for the original period of that registration.
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	and										
241.2	registration of Youth Players entered into prior to the date of implementation of these rules (being with effect from 1st July 2012) shall endure for the original period of that registration.										
242	The registration of Academy Players will be undertaken by The League.										
243	Registrations of Academy Players undertaken by the Premier League which are held by Clubs relegated into The League shall be treated as having been undertaken by The League provided all circumstances surrounding that registration comply with these Rules, failing which The League shall be at liberty to reject that registration unless otherwise determined by the Board.										
244	An application for the registration of an Academy Player at an Academy shall be made by completing and submitting to the Secretary Form YD4 signed on behalf of the Club by an Authorised Signatory together with a copy of the Code of Conduct referred to in Rule 177.										
245	A Club shall request each Academy Player (or if he is a minor his Parent) to complete The Ethnicity Monitoring Questionnaire at the same time that he completes Form YD4. If he does so the Club shall submit the completed Ethnicity Monitoring Questionnaire to the Secretary at the same time that it submits Form YD4.										
246	An application in Form YD4 shall be refused if it is made in respect of a player with whom a Club (or club), other than the applicant Club, has entered into a pre-registration agreement which remains current.										
247	Except in the case of a Scholar, a player shall not be registered as an Academy Player unless he is in Full Time Education.										
248	The Board may from time to time direct the minimum number of Academy Players to be registered by each Club in each age group, and each Club shall comply with any such direction.										
249	The maximum numbers of Academy Players registrable by a Club at any one time are as follows: <table> <tr> <td>Age groups Under 9 to Under 14 inclusive:</td><td>30 in each age group</td></tr> <tr> <td>Age groups Under 15 and Under 16 inclusive:.....</td><td>20 in each age group</td></tr> <tr> <td>Age groups Under 17 to Under 21 inclusive:</td><td>15 in each age group</td></tr> </table>	Age groups Under 9 to Under 14 inclusive:	30 in each age group	Age groups Under 15 and Under 16 inclusive:.....	20 in each age group	Age groups Under 17 to Under 21 inclusive:	15 in each age group				
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Age groups Under 17 to Under 21 inclusive:	15 in each age group										
250	No Club shall be permitted to register any Academy Player in the Under 9 age group before the third Saturday in May immediately preceding his Under 9 year.										
251	A player in age groups Under 14 to Under 16 inclusive who resides more than one and a half hours' travelling time from the nearest Academy may be registered as an Academy Player at the nearest Club which operates an Academy of the appropriate Category subject to the following conditions: <table> <tr> <td>251.1</td><td>an application for registration of an Academy Player under the provisions of this Rule shall be accompanied by a written coaching programme which shall include full particulars of any coaching the Academy Player will receive at or in the locality of his place of residence;</td></tr> <tr> <td>251.2</td><td>the coaching programme shall be designed so as to ensure that it does not cause the Academy Player to be absent from school;</td></tr> <tr> <td>251.3</td><td>in the case of an Academy Player registered under the provisions of this Rule at an Academy, the Head of Education shall make enquiries of the Academy Player's school at least four times each Season during the currency of his registration so as to satisfy himself that the Academy Player's best interests are being served by the coaching programme and that it is not adversely affecting his education; the result of each enquiry shall be reported in writing to the Academy Manager who in the event of an adverse report shall apply to the Board for the cancellation of the Academy Player's registration;</td></tr> </table>	251.1	an application for registration of an Academy Player under the provisions of this Rule shall be accompanied by a written coaching programme which shall include full particulars of any coaching the Academy Player will receive at or in the locality of his place of residence;	251.2	the coaching programme shall be designed so as to ensure that it does not cause the Academy Player to be absent from school;	251.3	in the case of an Academy Player registered under the provisions of this Rule at an Academy, the Head of Education shall make enquiries of the Academy Player's school at least four times each Season during the currency of his registration so as to satisfy himself that the Academy Player's best interests are being served by the coaching programme and that it is not adversely affecting his education; the result of each enquiry shall be reported in writing to the Academy Manager who in the event of an adverse report shall apply to the Board for the cancellation of the Academy Player's registration;				
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251.4 unless any other travelling arrangements have been submitted to and approved in writing by or on behalf of the Board, on the occasion of each visit by the Academy Player to the Academy at which he is registered he shall be accompanied on both the outward and the return journey by his Parent.

252 An application to register an Academy Player shall be refused if:

252.1 the Academy Player is in age groups Under 10, Under 11 or Under 12; and

252.2 the registration of that Academy Player was held by another Club or Premier League club ("**the former Club**") within the period of 12 months prior to the making of the application; and

252.3 the former Club had given notice to that Academy Player under the provisions of Rules 254.1 or 254.2 that it intended to retain his registration; and

252.4 the Club making the application had within the said period of 12 months registered two Academy Players in age groups Under 10, Under 11 or Under 12 whose registrations had been held by the former Club,

unless the Club making the application and the former Club agree otherwise.

253 On or before the third Saturday in May in every year each Club shall send to the Secretary a list in Form YD5 containing the names of each of the Academy Players whose registration it then holds (other than those who have entered into a Scholarship Agreement whose names are included in the list required by Regulation 66.1), indicating which it retains, which it intends to retain and which it intends to terminate with effect from the first Saturday in June.

End of Season Procedure

254 Except in the case of an Academy Player who has been offered and has accepted a Scholarship Agreement in accordance with Rule 262.

254.1 on or before the third Saturday in May in every year in which his registration is held, each Club shall give or send to each of its Academy Players in age groups Under 9 to Under 11 Form 30 notifying him whether it intends to retain or to terminate his registration with effect from the first Saturday in June;

254.2 on or before the third Saturday in May, each Club shall give or send to each of its Academy Players in age groups Under 12 and Under 14 Form 30 notifying him whether it intends to retain his registration for the next two seasons or to terminate it with effect from the first Saturday in June.

255 An Academy Player who receives notification under Rule 254.1 or Rule 254.2 of his Club's intention to terminate his registration shall be at liberty following receipt of such notification to seek registration as an Academy Player at the Academy of any other Club (or club).

256 An Academy Player who receives notification under Rule 254.1 or Rule 254.2 of his Club's intention to retain his registration shall likewise be at liberty after the first Saturday in June to seek registration as an Academy Player at the Academy of any other Club (or club) provided that:

256.1 by the first Saturday in June he has given written notice to his Club and the Secretary terminating his registration; and

256.2 he has received the Secretary's written acknowledgement of the same.

257 An Academy Player in age group Under 16 who has not received an offer to enter into a Scholarship Agreement by 1 March shall thereafter be at liberty to seek registration as an Academy Player at the Academy of any other Club (or club).

Termination of Registration

258 Subject to Rule 259, the registration of an Academy Player who has not entered into a Scholarship Agreement with a Club shall terminate upon the happening of the earliest of the following events:

258.1 the Academy Player completing his Full Time Education; or

258.2 the receipt by the Secretary at any time of a mutual cancellation notification in Form YD7 or YD10 duly completed and signed by the Academy Player and his Parent and on behalf of the Club holding his registration; or

258.3 the receipt by the Secretary of the Academy Player's notice duly given in accordance with the provisions of Rule 256.1; or

258.4 the first Saturday in June following the receipt by the Secretary of Form 30 upon which his Club has indicated its intention to terminate the Academy Player's registration; or

258.5 the expiry, surrender, suspension or revocation of the Academy licence of the Club holding the registration.

259 The Board shall have power at any time to cancel the registration of an Academy Player:

259.1 upon the written application of either:

259.1.1 the Academy Player or, if the Academy Player is a Child, his Parent on his behalf (and one of the grounds, but not the only ground, on which such an application may be made is that the categorisation of the Club's Academy has been lowered pursuant to Rule 16.3); or

259.1.2 the Club holding his registration; or

259.2 of its own volition in the circumstances set out in Rule 259A.

- 259A** If the Board is not satisfied that a Club is complying with any one or more of the Rules concerning the Full Time Training Model, or if it is of the view that the education of an Academy Player engaged on the Full Time Training Model is being prejudiced as a result of his engagement thereon (regardless of whether the Club is in compliance with these Rules) it may, either of its own volition or on the written application of an Academy Player who is affected thereby (or of his Parent on his behalf if he is a Child):
- 259A.1** cancel the registration of the Academy Player; or
- 259A.2** order that the Academy Player be deemed to be engaged on one of the other Training Models.
- 259B** The Board will not exercise its powers set out in Rule 259A without having first given the Club, the Academy Player and his Parent the opportunity to make representations to it.
- 260** The Board shall determine such an application in such manner as it shall think fit and, in particular, shall have power to appoint one or more suitably qualified persons to enquire into all the circumstances of the application (adopting such procedures as are considered appropriate) and to report to the Board, recommending whether the application should be granted or refused. If the application is granted, the Board may impose conditions (e.g. as to compensation) on the cancellation of the registration.
- 261** Upon an Academy Player's registration terminating by virtue of the provisions of Rule 258.2, the Secretary shall provide him with a copy of Form YD7 or YD10 as evidence thereof.

Scholarships

- 262** On or after 1 January in the year in which he attains the age of 14 years and in any event on or before 1 March in his Under 16 year, a Club may offer to enter into a Scholarship Agreement with an Academy Player whose registration it holds.
- 263** Failure by a Club to honour any offer of a scholarship made pursuant to Rule 262 without reasonable cause shall render that Club liable to disciplinary action pursuant to Section 8 of The League's Regulations.
- 264** Save as set out in Rule 255A below, a Club may likewise offer to enter into a Scholarship Agreement with an Academy Player in age group Under 16 who is seeking registration under the provisions of Rule 257.
- 264A** A Club which operates a Category 4 Academy may only offer to enter into a Scholarship Agreement with:
- 264A.1** anyone who is not an Academy Player; or
- 264A.2** an Academy Player in age group Under 16 who is seeking registration under the provisions of Rule 257 but only on or after 1st January in his Under 16 year.
- 265** Any offer made under the provisions of Rules 262, 264 or 255A shall be in Form 33, a copy of which shall be sent to the Secretary by the Club making the offer within five days of it being made.
- 266** An Academy Player receiving an offer in Form 33 shall respond thereto within 28 days by completing and submitting to the Club making the offer Form 34, a copy of which shall be sent to the Secretary by the Club within five days of receipt. An Academy Player who does not accept the offer shall be at liberty after the first Saturday in June following his Under 16 Year to seek registration at any other Club (or club).
- 267** An Academy Player who fails to respond as required by Rule 266 shall be deemed to have not accepted the offer.
- 268** A Club may enter into a Scholarship Agreement with an Academy Player if:
- 268.1** it holds his registration; or
- 268.2** his registration is not held by another Club (or club); and
- 268.3** (except in the case of an Academy Player who has entered into a Scholarship Agreement with another Club (or club) which has been cancelled by mutual agreement) he is under the age of 18 years; and
- 268.4** the Scholarship Agreement commences no earlier than the last Friday in June in the academic year in which the Academy Player reaches the age of 16.
- 269** An Academy Player who enters into a Scholarship Agreement with a Club shall be:
- 269.1** entitled to receive such remuneration as shall be determined by the Board from time to time; and
- 269.2** required to complete his Education Programme (as defined in the Scholarship Agreement).
- 270** The registration of an Academy Player who enters into a Scholarship Agreement with a Club shall be effected by completion of and submission to the Secretary of Football Association Form G(4), signed on behalf of the Club by an Authorised Signatory, together with copies of the Academy Player's Scholarship Agreement and birth certificate.
- 271** If the parties to a Scholarship Agreement have agreed in writing that they will enter into a Standard Contract prior to or immediately upon the termination of the Scholarship Agreement, and provided that the written agreement between them specifies the length of the contract and full details of all the remuneration and benefits payable under it, the Club shall not be obliged to complete and sign a mutual cancellation notification upon the Academy Player's application for cancellation of his registration pursuant to clause 13.1 of the Scholarship Agreement. If the Club chooses not to cancel the Academy Player's registration, the Academy Player shall remain registered with the Club and the Scholarship Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

Appeal against Termination

- 272** An appeal by an Academy Player under the provisions of clause 10.3 or by a Club under the provisions of clause 12.3 of the Scholarship Agreement shall be commenced by notice in writing addressed to the other party to the agreement and to the Secretary.

Appeal against Disciplinary Decision

- 273** An appeal by an Academy Player under the provisions of paragraph 3.3.2 of the Schedule to the Scholarship Agreement shall be commenced by notice in writing addressed to the Club and to the Secretary.
- 274** Appeals pursuant to Rule 272 or Rule 273 shall be referred to the Football Disciplinary Commission under Section 8 of the Regulations.
- 275** The Football Disciplinary Commission may allow or dismiss any such appeal and make such other order as it thinks fit.

Order for Costs

- 276** The Football Disciplinary Commission shall have power to make an order for costs:
- 276.1** in determining appeals under Rule 272 or Rule 273; and
 - 276.2** if any such appeal, having been commenced, is withdrawn.
- 277** The Football Disciplinary Commission shall have power to determine the amount of any such costs which may include, without limitation, those incurred by the Company in the conduct of the appeal.
- 278** Costs ordered to be paid as aforesaid shall be recoverable:
- 278.1** in the case of a Club, under the provisions of Article 80; or
 - 278.2** in the case of an Academy Player, as a civil debt.

Further Appeal

- 279** Within 14 days of a decision of the Board given under the provisions of Rule 275 either party may by notice in writing appeal against such decision to the Football League Appeals Committee in accordance with Regulations 70.2 to 70.17 inclusive, whose decision shall be final.

Approaches by and to Clubs and Inducements

- 280** A Club shall not, either directly or indirectly, make any approach to or communicate with:
- 280.1** an Academy Player registered with another Club (or club); or
 - 280.2** a player with whom another Club (or club) has entered into a pre-registration agreement which remains current.
- 281** A public statement made by an Official of or Agent for a Club expressing interest in an Academy Player whose registration is held by another Club (or club) or a player with whom another Club (or club) has entered into a pre-registration agreement which remains current shall be deemed for the purpose of Rule 280 to be an indirect approach in breach of that Rule.
- 282** Except as permitted by Rules 255 and 256, an Academy Player whose registration is held by a Club shall not, either directly or indirectly, make any approach to another Club (or club).
- 283** Except that a Club may, not earlier than 1 January next following the commencement of his Under 16 year, offer an Academy Player a contract as a Contract Player upon his attaining the age of 17 years and subject to Rules 235 and 262:
- 283.1** no Club shall induce or attempt to induce a player to become registered as an Academy Player by that Club by offering him, or any person connected with him, either directly or indirectly, a benefit or payment of any description whether in cash or in kind;
 - 283.2** no Club shall likewise induce or attempt to induce an Academy Player to enter into a Scholarship Agreement and in particular no Club shall pay or offer to pay to an Academy Player upon his entering into a Scholarship Agreement remuneration in excess of the remuneration referred to in Rule 269.1;
 - 283.3** no Academy Player shall, either directly or indirectly, accept any such inducement.

FACILITIES

Facilities

284 Each Club which operates an Academy shall ensure that:

284.1 it provides as a minimum the facilities and accommodation set out in this section of the Rules; and

284.2 in respect of Category 1 Academies, such facilities and accommodation are available for the exclusive use of its Academy at all times when it requires access to them in order to comply with these Rules.

285 The facilities and accommodation to be provided by each Academy (as referred to in Rule 284.1) are set out in the following tables. Save where otherwise indicated, or with the permission of the Board, all such facilities and accommodation shall be provided at the Club's principal venue for the coaching and education of Academy Players.

285.1 Grass pitches

Category 1	a) A sufficient number of grass pitches of the appropriate sizes (as required by the Rules relating to Games Programmes and with goals sized as required by the Rules relating to Games Programmes) to enable the Club to play all its matches in the Games Programmes and fulfil its commitments under these Rules as regards coaching. Regulation 13.3 shall apply to Academy pitches. Without prejudice to the generality of that Regulation, each Club shall ensure that the quality of its pitches used for matches in the Games Programmes is not adversely affected by coaching taking place on them. Clubs may accordingly need to have a greater number of pitches than the bare minimum necessary to fulfil matches in the Games Programme. b) One floodlit grass pitch enclosed with perimeter fencing and with designated areas for spectator attendance (save that if a Club is unable to obtain planning permission for floodlighting then the requirement for floodlighting shall be waived); c) A designated area (on grass) for the coaching of goalkeepers.
Categories 2 & 3	a) A sufficient number of grass pitches of the appropriate sizes (as required by the Rules relating to Games Programmes and with goals sized as required by the Rules relating to Games Programmes) to enable the Club to play all its matches in the Games Programmes and fulfil its commitments under these Rules as regards coaching. Regulation 13.3 shall apply to Academy pitches. Without prejudice to the generality of that Regulation, each Club shall ensure that the quality of its pitches used for matches in the Games Programmes is not adversely affected by coaching taking place on them. Clubs may accordingly need to have a greater number of pitches than the bare minimum necessary to fulfil matches in the Games Programme. b) A designated area for the coaching of goalkeepers.
Categories 4	a) A sufficient number of grass pitches of the appropriate sizes (as required by the Rules relating to Games Programmes and with goals sized as required by the Rules relating to Games Programmes) to enable the Club to play all its matches in the Games Programmes and fulfil its commitments under these Rules as regards coaching. Regulation 13.3 shall apply to Academy pitches. Without prejudice to the generality of that Regulation, each Club shall ensure that the quality of its pitches used for matches in the Games Programmes is not adversely affected by coaching taking place on them. Clubs may accordingly need to have a greater number of pitches than the bare minimum necessary to fulfil matches in the Games Programme. b) A designated area (on grass) for the coaching of goalkeepers.

285.2 Artificial Surface pitch

Categories 1 & 2	One floodlit outdoor Artificial Surface pitch (save that if a Club is unable to obtain planning permission for floodlighting then the requirement for floodlighting shall be waived). It is recommended (but not mandatory) that this pitch complies with Regulation 13.1.
Categories 3 & 4	Access to one floodlight outdoor Artificial Surface pitch (which need not be at the principal venue).

285.3 Indoor area for training and the playing of matches

Note: ideally a Club's indoor facility should be located at its principal venue for the coaching of Academy Players but it is accepted that a number of Clubs have existing indoor facilities which are located elsewhere. Provided that the Rules relating to the maximum travel time from an Academy Player's residence to the coaching venue are complied with, this is acceptable. However, it is recommended that any new facility is located at the principal venue.

Categories 1 & 2	One indoor pitch measuring a minimum of 60 yards by 40 yards which shall be owned by the Club (or alternatively the Club must have a legally enforceable agreement with the owner of the facility for its use by the Club, expiring not earlier than the end of the current Season) and which shall be for the exclusive use of the Academy at all times. <i>(Note: an indoor pitch which complies with the size requirements set out in Regulation 13.1 is recommended).</i>						
Categories 3 & 4	Access to one indoor pitch measuring 60 yards by 40 yards during the months of November to April. Alternatively, the pitch may measure 30 yards by 20 yards but if so the Club shall only be permitted to coach the following maximum numbers of Academy Players at any one time: <table> <tr> <td>Age groups Under 9 to Under 14 inclusive:</td><td>18 in each age group</td></tr> <tr> <td>Age groups Under 15 and Under 16 inclusive:</td><td>15 in each age group</td></tr> <tr> <td>Age groups Under 17 to Under 21 inclusive:</td><td>12 in each age group</td></tr> </table>	Age groups Under 9 to Under 14 inclusive:	18 in each age group	Age groups Under 15 and Under 16 inclusive:	15 in each age group	Age groups Under 17 to Under 21 inclusive:	12 in each age group
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Age groups Under 15 and Under 16 inclusive:	15 in each age group						
Age groups Under 17 to Under 21 inclusive:	12 in each age group						

285.4 Changing rooms and washing facilities

Categories 1 to 4	a) suitably-sized changing rooms equal in number to the number of teams (including visiting teams) playing at the Academy at any one time so that each such team has exclusive use of a changing room; b) a sufficient number of washing and toilet facilities, of a suitable quality, for the exclusive use of all registered Academy Players; c) a sufficient number of separate washing and toilet facilities, of a suitable quality, for the use of visiting teams; d) a sufficient number of separate changing rooms and washing and toilet facilities, of a suitable quality, for the exclusive use of Match Officials; e) (in the case of Category 1 and Category 2 Academies only) a sufficient number of changing rooms and washing and toilet facilities, of a suitable quality, for the exclusive use of therapists and coaches employed at the Academy and other relevant Academy Staff; <i>Note: sufficient and suitable facilities must be provided at all venues. Thus, if a Category 3 or Category 4 Academy utilises an Artificial Surface pitch or an indoor pitch which is located away from its principal venue, it must ensure that there is substantial compliance with this Rule 285.4 with regard to changing room and washing facilities.</i> <i>A changing room may not be used as any of the other rooms (e.g. team meeting room) required by these Rules.</i> <i>For clarity, for the 2014/15 Season only, Category 3 Academies shall be able to, subject in each case to the prior written approval of the Executive, utilise a "rota" system to allow teams exclusive access to changing rooms and washing facilities for a suitable period during a match day whilst Category 1 and 2 Academies shall provide a discrete changing and washing area for each team playing at the academy at any one time.</i>
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285.5 Team meeting room

Categories 1 to 4	A dedicated room large enough to hold 20 people and equipped with individual desks (one per person), audio/visual projection equipment and a large screen, internet access and computers. <i>Note: in Category 3 and 4 Academies, this room:</i> a) <i>need not be located at the principal venue; but</i> b) <i>if it is so located (but not otherwise), may also be used as the guest lounge described in Rule 285.6.</i>
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285.6 Guest lounge

Categories 1 to 4	A guest lounge for the use of Parents at each training session and match that is open to Parents. The guest lounge shall be large enough to hold 50 people and have access to refreshments and toilet facilities. <i>Note: in Category 3 and 4 Academies, this room may also be used as the team meeting room described in Rule 285.5 provided that it is large enough.</i>
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285.7 Match analysis suite

Categories 1 & 2	A room large enough to hold 20 people and equipped with such appropriate video and IT technology as is necessary to undertake, and present the results of, Performance Analysis.
Category 3	A match analysis suite is recommended but not mandatory.

285.8 Medical facilities

Such medical facilities as the Club requires to deliver its Sports Science and Medicine Programme.

285.9 Administration office space

Categories 1 to 4	a) Such office space and access to IT, email and the internet as each member of Academy Staff requires in order to perform the responsibilities set out in his job description; b) A private meeting room. <i>Note: for Category 3 and Category 4 Academies, these can be provided at a place other than the principal venue (e.g. at the Club's stadium).</i>
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285.10 Academy Player accommodation

Categories 1 to 4	Sufficient and adequate accommodation for all registered Academy Players and Trialists under the age of 18 not residing with their Parents. Clubs shall comply with any guidelines about Academy Player accommodation published by The League from time to time and with all applicable legal requirements in relation to the provision of such accommodation. Such accommodation shall be located in as close proximity as is reasonably practicable to the Club's principal venue for the coaching and education of Academy Players and to the place at which Academy Players undertake their education (if this is not the principal venue). <i>Note: Clubs may provide such accommodation by lodging students with private households (subject to compliance with all applicable legal requirements including as to CRB checks) or by operating their own dedicated facilities (such as hostels).</i>
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285.11 Classrooms

Category 1	A minimum of three classrooms which shall each: • contain sufficient desks for 20 students; • contain 20 computers with access to the internet; • conform in all respects with any requirements for classrooms issued by the Department for Education
Category 2	A minimum of two classrooms which shall each: • contain sufficient desks for 20 students; • contain 20 computers with internet access. At least one of the classrooms must conform in all respects with any requirements for classrooms issued by the Department for Education.
Categories 3 & 4	Access for Academy Players and Trialists to a study area large enough to hold 20 people and which contains at least 20 computers with internet access. <i>Note: in Category 3 and 4 Academies, this may also be used as the team meeting room provided that the timetabling of lessons in the classrooms allows.</i>

FINANCE

Finance

- 286** Each Club which operates an Academy shall by 1 July in each year submit to The League its Academy Financial Information for its Academy for the following Season.
- 287** The Academy Financial Information required by Rule 286 shall be submitted in the format required by The League.
- 288** The League may, at its discretion, require (and the Club shall deliver), such further information and explanations as it deems fit in connection with the Academy Financial Information submitted by the Club pursuant to Rules 286 and 287.
- 289** The League shall have the power to obtain an independent audit of a Club's Academy Financial Information submitted pursuant to these Rules.
- 290** Each Club's Academy Financial Information shall be assessed by the Board in order to determine whether to award to the Club a grant from the Professional Youth Game Fund.

COMPENSATION

Compensation

- 291** The registration of an Academy Player at an Academy shall impose an obligation on the applicant Club or Premier League club ("**the Applicant Club**") to pay compensation for the training and development of that Academy Player to any Club, Premier League club or Former Football League Club which previously held his registration ("**the Training Club**") provided that:
- 291.1** the Training Club had indicated in Form 30 (or, in the case of a Premier League club, the equivalent Premier League form) its intention to retain the Academy Player's registration; or
- 291.2** the Training Club had offered to enter into a Scholarship Agreement pursuant to Rule 262 with the Academy Player; or
- 291.3** the Academy Player sought registration at the Applicant Club because he had moved residence outside the permitted travelling time from his last Training Club; or
- 291.4** the Training Club and Academy Player mutually agreed to terminate the Academy Player's registration pursuant to Rule 258.2 and agreed that the Training Club should retain the right to receive compensation should the Academy Player sign for another Club (or club); or
- 291.5** the Board has made a determination to that effect pursuant to Rule 260; and
- 291.6** in all the above cases, the Training Club held a valid licence to operate an Academy in accordance with these Rules (or to operate a Football Academy or Centre of Excellence in accordance with the Rules pertaining to youth development which these Rules replaced).
- 292** The amount of compensation referred to in Rule 291 shall be:
- 292.1** such sum as shall be due pursuant to this section of the Rules; or
- 292.2** as regards the compensation payable by the Applicant Club to the most recent Training Club, such sum as shall have been agreed between them.
- 293** Rules 295 to 305 govern the compensation due in respect of an Academy Player who is in, or is about to enter, any age group between Under 9 and Under 16 at the time when he is first registered with the Applicant Club save for an Academy Player to whom Rule 294.2 applies.

294 In default of agreement between the Applicant Club and the Academy Player's most recent Training Club, the Professional Football Compensation Committee shall determine the compensation payable to the latter in respect of an Academy Player:

294.1 who is in any age group between Under 17 and Under 21 when he is registered for the Applicant Club; or

294.2 to whom the Training Club made an offer of a Scholarship Agreement pursuant to Rule 262.

295 The compensation in respect of an Academy Player to whom Rule 293 applies shall consist of an initial fee payable to the most recent Training Club (and to be paid within seven days of the Academy Player being registered for the Applicant Club) and, if the Academy Player is in age group Under 12 or older, contingent compensation payable to all qualifying Training Clubs in accordance with these Rules.

296 The initial fee referred to in Rule 295 shall be calculated by:

296.1 multiplying the applicable annual fixed fee (or fees) calculated in accordance with Rule 297 by the applicable number of years; and

296.2 adding thereto any initial fee (capped at such sum as would have been payable when calculated in accordance with this section of the Rules) paid by the most recent Training Club when it acquired the registration of the Academy Player.

297 In Rule 296:

297.1 the "applicable annual fixed fee" means the fee set out in the table in Rule 298 referable to:

297.1.1 the age group of the Academy Player during any year that he was registered with the Training Club; and

297.1.2 the Category of the Training Club's Academy during that year; and

297.2 the "applicable number of years" means the number of years for which the Academy Player was registered for the Training Club (subject to Rule 304).

298 The applicable annual fixed fees by reference to the age group of the Academy Player and the Category of Academy are as follows:

Age group of the Academy Player	Category of the Academy of the Training Club at the relevant time	Applicable Annual Fixed Fee
Under 9 to Under 11	All Categories	£3,000
Under 12 to Under 16	Category 1	£40,000
Under 12 to Under 16	Category 2	£25,000
Under 12 to Under 16	Category 3	£12,500

299 The contingent compensation referred to in Rule 295 shall consist of:

299.1 appearance fees calculated by reference to the number of First Team Appearances (up to a maximum of 100) made by the Academy Player for the Applicant Club or any other Club or Premier League club for whom the Academy Player subsequently becomes registered (excluding appearances whilst that Player is on Standard Loan, Emergency Loan, Youth Loan or Temporary Transfer (as that term is defined in Premier League Rules)) and to the divisional status of the relevant Club as set out in the table in Rule 300;

299.2 if the Academy Player's registration is transferred prior to his twenty-third birthday to a club affiliated to a national association other than the Football Association (save for any Welsh club which is a member of The League, the Premier League or the Premier Division of the Football Conference), 20% of any Compensation Fee, Loan Fee and Contingent Sum that the Applicant Club receives which is in excess of:

299.2.1 any amounts of training compensation and/or solidarity payment paid or applicable to the Applicant Club and the Training Club pursuant to the FIFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players; and

299.2.2 the actual sum (if any) paid by the Applicant Club to the Training Club to acquire the Academy Player's registration.

299.3 5% of all Compensation Fees, Loan Fees and Contingent Sums paid in respect of:

299.3.1 all future transfers of the Academy Player's registration to Clubs (or clubs) in membership of The League, the Premier League or the Premier Division of the Football Conference; and

299.3.2 all future transfers on loan to a club affiliated to a national association other than the Football Association (save for any Welsh club which is a member of The League, the Premier League or the Premier Division of the Football Conference).

300 The appearance fees referred to in Rule 299.1 are as follows:

Number of First Team Appearances	Divisional Status of the Club			
	Premier League Club	Football League Championship Club	Football League 1 Club	Football League 2 Club
10	£150,000	£25,000	£10,000	£5,000
20	£150,000	£25,000	£10,000	£5,000
30	£150,000	£25,000	£10,000	£5,000
40	£150,000	£25,000	£10,000	£5,000
50	£150,000	£25,000	£10,000	£5,000
60	£150,000	£25,000	£10,000	£5,000
70	£100,000	£25,000	£10,000	£5,000
80	£100,000	£25,000	£10,000	£5,000
90	£100,000	£25,000	£10,000	£5,000
100	£100,000	£25,000	£10,000	£5,000

301 In Rule 299:

- 301.1** “First Team Appearance” means an appearance either in the starting eleven or as a playing substitute in a first team fixture in the Premier League, the Football League Championship and Football Leagues 1 and 2 (including play-offs), the Football League Cup, the Football Association Challenge Cup, the Football League Trophy, the UEFA Europa League or the UEFA Champions League;
- 301.2** in the event that the Academy Player’s registration at a Club (or Premier League club) is terminated (whether by effluxion of time, cancellation, transfer or otherwise) prior to his having made sufficient appearances to trigger one of the payments set out in Rule 300, that Club (or Premier League club) shall pay a pro rata amount to the relevant Training Club(s). The obligation to pay future sums pursuant to that Rule shall transfer to any new Club (or Premier League club) for whom the Academy Player subsequently becomes registered save where:
- 301.2.1** any Club or Premier League club entitled to receive any payment in accordance with Rule 300 waives its entitlement to that payment; or
- 301.2.2** the Player’s registration with a Club (or club) expires and he is able to register for another Club (or club) without an obligation (under these Rules or the Regulations) on that other Club (or club) to pay compensation and does register for another Club (or club).
- 301.3** “Compensation Fee”, “Transfer Fee”, “Loan Fee” and “Contingent Sum” shall be interpreted to exclude compensation payable pursuant to Rule 291.

302 Reference in Rules 299 and 301 to the transfer or termination of an Academy Player’s registration shall be interpreted to include transfers or terminations of his registration after he has ceased to be an Academy Player and Clubs who subsequently sign the Academy Player shall be bound to comply with Rules 299.1 and 299.3 and for the avoidance of doubt the original Applicant Club shall not be liable to the Training Club in respect of:

- 302.1** any appearance fees payable pursuant to Rule 299.1 and due in respect of appearances made by the Academy Player after he has ceased to be permanently registered for the Applicant Club;
- 302.2** sums payable pursuant to Rule 299.2 and 299.3 arising from transfers in respect of which the Applicant Club was not the Transferor Club.

303 Any agreement between a Club and another Club (or club) as to the compensation payable on the transfer of a registration, whether pursuant to Rule 292.2 or otherwise, may not take effect so as to vary the contingent compensation payable pursuant to this section of the Rules to any other Club (or club).

304 If an Academy Player has spent part only of any year at the Training Club, the amount of compensation in respect of that year shall be calculated pro rata based on the number of days registered in each year (which term shall mean the period from 1st July to 30th June next following, inclusive).

305 If the Academy Player has been registered for a Training Club for part only of the period between the start of his Under 12 year to the conclusion of his Under 16 year, the amount of contingent compensation payable to that Training Club calculated in accordance with these Rules shall be paid pro rata to the Training Club (and in the case of any part of a year, the method outlined in Rule 304 shall apply).

- 306** The compensation set by the Professional Football Compensation Committee in respect of an Academy Player to whom Rule 294 applies shall be determined in accordance with the Committee's Regulations.
-
- 307** The new registration of a Contract Player under Regulation 60.2 shall impose an obligation on the Club next holding his registration to pay to the former Club (or club) compensation for the training and development of that Player if the Club (or club):
- 307.1** had held that Player's registration as an Academy Player;
 - 307.2** had offered to enter into a Scholarship Agreement with him which offer he had not accepted; or
 - 307.3** had entered into a Scholarship Agreement with him; and either
 - 307.4** the Scholarship Agreement had been terminated at the Player's request; or
 - 307.5** in accordance with the terms thereof the former Club (or club) had offered him a contract as a Contract Player which offer he had not accepted.
-
- 308** The amount of compensation payable pursuant to Rule 307 shall be:
- 308.1** such sum as shall have been agreed between the applicant Club (or club) and the former Club; or
 - 308.2** such sum as the Professional Football Compensation Committee on the application of either Club (or club) shall determine pursuant to Rule 306.
-
- 308A** Any agreement between Clubs or between a Club and a Premier League club or between a Club and a Former Football League Club as to the amount of compensation payable shall be in writing, and a copy provided to the League within 5 days of being entered into.
-
- 308B** All compensation (including instalments thereof and contingent sums) payable to a Club, a Premier League club or Former Football League Club shall be paid by the Applicant Club into the Transfer Fee Account.

APPENDIX A – SAFEGUARDING

Part 1 – The Football League Child Protection Statement

The aim of The Football League is to:

- develop a positive and pro-active position in order to best protect all children and young people who play football, enabling them to participate in an enjoyable and safe environment.
- facilitate the provision of child protection awareness training at Clubs in conjunction with, and supported by, the Football Association and the NSPCC.
- demonstrate best practice in the area of child protection.
- promote ethics and high standards throughout football.

The key principles underpinning this Policy are that:

- The welfare of children and young persons is, and must always be, the paramount consideration.
- All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual identity.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- Working in partnership with children and young people and their parents/carers is essential.

Children Services Departments have a statutory responsibility to ensure the welfare of children and young people. The Football League is committed to working together with Social Services Departments and Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCB) in accordance with their procedures.

Where The Football League believes circumstances exist which may harm a child or children or poses, or may pose, a risk of harm to a child or children, The Football League shall refer the matter to The Football Association for investigation and action in accordance with the appropriate FA Disciplinary Procedures for safeguarding children, or if appropriate the statutory agencies such as the Police or Children's Social Care Team.

APPENDIX A – SAFEGUARDING

Part 2 – Specific Requirements

- 1 For the purposes of this Part 2, **Regulated Activity** has the same meaning as given to it in Section 5 and Schedule 4 of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 as amended by the Section 64 of the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012, as amended, extended or re-enacted from time to time.
- 2 No person working in a Regulated Activity shall be employed at or retained by an Academy or Development Centre unless:
 - 2.1 that person has completed and submitted to the Academy Manager of the Academy at which he seeks to be employed, a self-certification form in Form YD2;
 - 2.2 they have obtained from the Disclosure and Barring Service an enhanced criminal records check together with the appropriate barred list check to the satisfaction of the Football Association; and
 - 2.3 his particulars are held on Form YD3 and maintained at the Academy at which or at whose satellite he is employed.
- 3 Academies shall ensure that any other individual employed or working at the Academy obtains an enhanced criminal records check from the Disclosure and Barring Service where the role being fulfilled falls into any of those roles identified as requiring such a check in guidance as issued by the Football Association and/or The League from time to time.
- 4 There shall be made available for inspection by a duly appointed officer of The League, at all reasonable times, evidence to demonstrate compliance with paragraphs 2 and 3 above including a copy of Form YD3.
- 5 At each Academy operated by a Club, a member of staff shall be assigned as the Designated Safeguarding Officer, and that person shall be trained in child protection issues and shall be given specific responsibility for the same and in particular shall:
 - 5.1 ensure there are written child protection policies and procedure based on the principles set out in guidance as issued by the Football Association and/or The League from time to time;
 - 5.2 ensure compliance by the Academy with paragraphs 2 and 3 above;
 - 5.3 ensuring all staff who work with children undertake appropriate safeguarding training for their role in accordance with guidance as issued by the Football Association and/or The League from time to time;
 - 5.4 liaise with Youth Players, parents, staff, the police, local authority statutory agents including the Local Authority Designated Officer “LADO”; Social Services Departments; The League, The FA and other relevant persons and Bodies in relation to child protection issues;
 - 5.5 promote awareness of child protection issues generally and encourage and monitor the adoption of best practice procedures in that regard; and
 - 5.6 work together with designated safeguarding officers from other departments of the Club (under the leadership of the Senior Safeguarding Manager) to support a strategic approach to safeguarding within the Academy and the Club as a whole.
- 6 The minimum qualification for such member of staff shall be the satisfactory completion of The FA Safeguarding Children Workshop and annual attendance at Safeguarding Workshops approved by The League.
- 7 The name and contact details for the Designated Safeguarding Officer shall be notified to The League’s child protection advisor within 2 Working Days of their appointment.
- 8 Youth Rules 46 and 47 shall apply.

APPENDIX B – CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SCOUTS

- 1 The function of a Scout is to identify to his Club players with whom his Club may wish to enter into negotiations with a view to securing their registration. Scouts are not themselves entitled to enter into any such negotiations nor are they able to make promises to or offer inducements to any players whom they approach.
- 2 Scouts are employed by and represent their Clubs and are Officials within the meaning of the Regulations of The Football League ("**the Regulations**") by which they are bound.
- 3 Scouts must therefore be familiar with the Regulations and in particular the Rules Relating to Youth Development ("**Rules**"). They must maintain an awareness of and at all times comply with the Regulations and Rules setting out the circumstances in which their Club may make an approach to a Player or Academy Player (as defined in the Regulations) whose registration is held by another football club.
- 4 When acting in the course of his duties a Scout shall at all times carry the formal means of identification issued to him by his Club and shall produce the same upon demand.
- 5 Scouts are responsible for the conduct of their contacts and shall be liable for any act or omission by a contact which constitutes a breach of the Regulations.
- 6 Scouts shall conduct themselves in a manner befitting their role as Officials of their Clubs and shall take all possible steps to promote the reputation of the game of association football and to prevent it being brought into disrepute.
- 7 A Scout shall forthwith disclose to his Club the nature and extent of any direct or indirect interest he may have in any transaction or arrangement involving his Club and he shall account to his Club for any benefit which either directly or indirectly he derives therefrom.
- 8 A Scout shall conduct himself at all times in an ethical and professional manner and shall observe the highest standards of integrity and fair dealing.



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT 2014/15 **CHARTER FOR ACADEMY PLAYERS AND PARENTS** **CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT**

I, on behalf of my son

who is registered at Football Club,

can verify that I am in receipt of the Football League Youth Development Charter for Academy Players and Parents Guide 2014/15.

Signed

(Parent / Guardian)

Print name

Date

To be completed, detached and returned to the Academy Manager.





www.football-league.co.uk

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