



Parents Evening

Tuesday 6th September 2011

Walsall Football Club
The Banks's Stadium
Bescot Crescent
Walsall
WS1 4SA



Introduction:

Topics to be covered this evening include:

- T&G to COE – A Comparison
 - **Timetable & Coaches**
- Assessments (Wk 15 and Wk 30)
 - **Cost & Payments**
 - Junior Team Effect
 - **Games Programme**
- Walsall College Football Academy – Exit Pathways
 - **Code of Conducts – Parents & Players**
 - Parent Representatives
 - **Physiotherapy**
- Trials (Walsall FC v Other Clubs, Older Players Expectations)
 - **Website – Online Shop, New Pages (Diet & Nutrition)**
 - Feeder Centres
 - **Summary**

Marc Wilkes is now full time Football Development at Walsall FC Community Programme. Contact hours (Phone – 07737 204139) 9am to 6pm weekdays or email any time – marc.wilkes@walsallfc.co.uk



T&G to CoE – A Comparison:

It is important to us that we run the Talented & Gifted sessions in tandem with the Centre of Excellence.

This way players involved with Walsall FC (in either capacity) are developing in a similar way. Should a player graduate to CoE trials there should be a seamless transition.



Similarities include:

- Coaching & Development Philosophies
 - Assessment Forms
 - Assessment Dates
- Sessions & Training Curriculum
 - Delivery Coaches
 - Training Venue
 - Training Kit
 - Contact Time



Timetable and Coaches:

Following requests from a large number of parents and players we will be increasing the sessions to twice weekly for all age groups at The Banks's Sessions. To enable us to do this we will be increasing the number of coaches involved with teams. We will also introduce other members of our staff to work as Assistants and to gain valuable experience.

Head Coaches for the Talented & Gifted groups will be:

- Marc Wilkes – FA L3 & YA M3 (10 years)
- Paul Larvin – FA L3 & YA M3 (7 years)
- Dean Williams – FA L3 & YA M2 (5 years)
- Adam Davy – FA L3 & YA M3 (17 years)

Coaches at the Feeder Centres will be:

- Martin Manley – FA L2 & YA M2 (6 years)
- Chris Hollis – FA L2 & YA M1 (4 years)

It is our intention to continue Saturday Sessions and to run more holiday sessions for all T&G groups.





Timetable 2011/2012:

Below is the double session timetable for each age group:

	Under 7	Under 8	Under 9	Under 10	Under 11	Under 12	Under 13	Under 14	Under 15/16
Mon	5pm – 6pm (MW)	5pm – 6pm (AD)						5pm – 6pm (PL)	
Tues			5pm – 6pm (AD)	5pm – 6pm (DW)	5pm – 6pm (MW)		5pm – 6pm (PL)		
Weds	5pm – 6pm (MW)	5pm – 6pm (AD)				5pm – 6pm (DW)		5pm – 6pm (PL)	
Thurs			5pm – 6pm (AD)	5pm – 6pm (PL)	5pm – 6pm (MW)				
Fri						5pm – 6pm (DW)	5pm – 6pm (MW)		5pm – 7pm (PL)

This is the timetable for Season 2011/2012. Term dates are proposed as follows:

- Term 1 – WB Monday 12th September 2011 to WB Monday 21st November 2011 (Not inc. Half Term)
 - Term 2 – WB Monday 9th January 2012 to WB Monday 19th March 2012 (Not inc. Easter)
 - Term 3 – WB Monday 23rd April 2012 to WB Monday 2nd July 2012 (Not inc. Whitsun)



Cost & Payments:

The cost of sessions at The Banks's Stadium sessions will increase in line with the extra sessions. The cost is now £35 per half term.

Parents can pay this on a termly, half termly or sessional basis. Cheques can be made to Walsall FCCP for those wishing to pay in this way. It is easier for us to manage the subscriptions if payments are made in full at the first session of every term / half term.

Payments records are kept by the coaches and in our Community Office.



The Feeder Centres will continue to run 1 session per week at a cost of £35 per term.

The same payment procedures apply for the feeder centres.



Assessments:

All Talented & Gifted players will receive an assessment mid-way through the 30-week scheme and at the end. These assessment times & forms mirror the Centre of Excellence.

These assessments will be on a one-to-one basis with the coaches. The results of which will determine the progression routes for all players.

The mid-way assessment will be used to inform players of their progress so far, and point out any strengths or weaknesses.

We are in the process of writing a similar assessment procedure, but on a slightly smaller scale, for the feeder centres.

Players can be moved up or down the Talented & Gifted Development pathway.





Signing & Releasing:

“Signing and releasing players to the Talented & Gifted Programme is a decision we do not take lightly. No promises are made that any player will get a trial at Walsall FC Centre of Excellence but, for a select few, the opportunity is there.”

A number of points for consideration:

- Once signed, players stay within the programme for a guaranteed 3 terms.
 - Group sizes do not become excessive. (Maximum 16)
 - We are always looking to improve the standards of groups.
- Pathway sessions to feeder T&G Groups available for released players.
 - T&G has always been, and will remain, an invitation only programme.
 - Players & Parents within T&G accept that assessments will be made honestly and fairly.

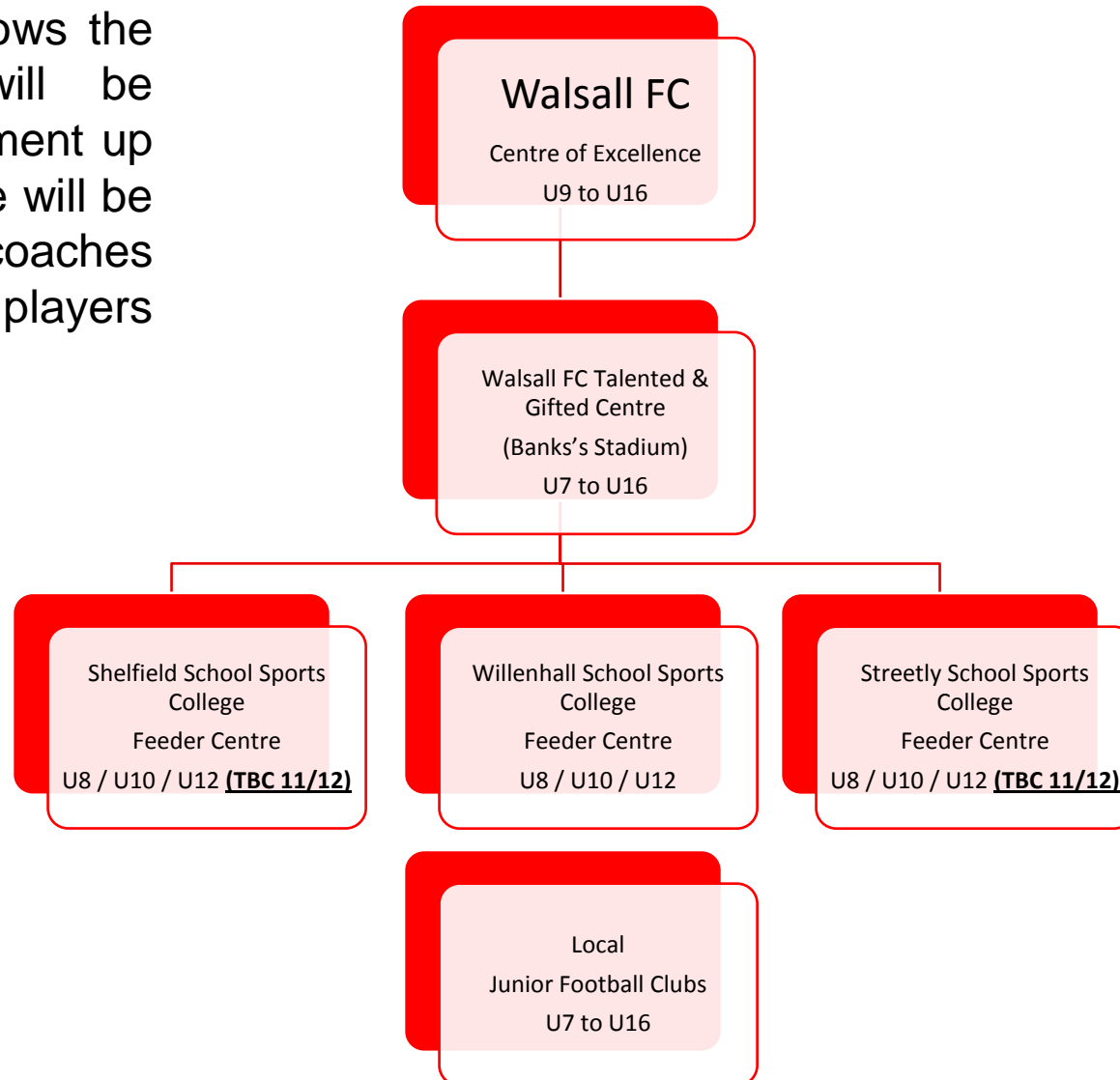
“Players develop at different rates and peak at different ages. Releasing players does not mean that they are suddenly poor footballers. It is the case that they are not developing in line with the group percentile.”

“To maintain a reputation as a reputable development programme, assessment decisions have to be made to keep the standards as high as they are expected to be by players, coaches and parents alike”



Feeder Centres I:

This diagram shows the pathway we will be following. Movement up or down the scale will be monitored by coaches involved with all players and age groups.





Feeder Centres 2:

The Talented & Gifted Pathway is a football development model. The feeder centres play an important role within this. It is our intention to improve the feeder centres by implementing the following:

- Games against the Talented & Gifted groups
- Formal Assessment procedure
- Quality Control visits from Marc Wilkes each half term
- Continual Professional Development of coaches
- Improvement in player quality and standards of play
- Guest Passes into the Banks's Sessions to assess player standards





Junior Teams (Effect):

We are aware that twice weekly coaching sessions will have a knock on effect with Junior Team training.

If any clubs / teams do have issues we encourage parents and coaches to discuss these problems with us so we can work together to ensure the best for all players.

The children are the most important factor in any decision and we will respect any decisions made by the players or their parents.



It has come to our attention that some players are considering, or indeed have, dropped out of Sunday teams.

This is not something we encourage but we will work with players to enable them to play quality football, in training and games, whilst being mindful of overuse and over play injuries



Games Programme:

Fixture List 2011/2012

October Half Term (Thursday 27th & Friday 28th October 2011)

Hosts: Northampton Town Visitors: Oxford United & **Walsall**

February Half Term (Thursday 16th & Friday 17th February 2012)

Hosts: Arsenal Visitors: **Walsall** & Coventry City

Easter Week 1 (Monday 2nd & Tuesday 3rd April 2012)

Hosts: **Walsall** Visitors: Brentford & Northampton Town

Whitsun Half Term (Thursday 7th & Friday 8th June 2012)

Hosts: Wycombe Wanderers Visitors: Charlton Athletic & **Walsall**

Summer Week 1 (Thursday 26th & Friday 27th June 2012)

Hosts: Derby County Visitors: **Walsall** & Coventry City





Walsall College Football Academy:

Walsall College run, in conjunction with Walsall FC, a very successful Football Academy. This is a perfect progression route for our Under 16 players to consider beyond school.

Players involved in the Football Academy train 3 times a week whilst also studying BTEC or NVQ Sport Qualifications.

Walsall College will field 3 Competitive Teams in 2011/2012 and run a 4th Recreational Group. Talented & Gifted players should aspire to be regular 1st or 2nd Team players. The 1st Team are based at The Banks's Stadium for games and training and will compete in the British Colleges Football Leagues and Cup competitions. To explain more we have Rayna Jones from the college.

Rayna is the Head of Sport at the College.

British Colleges





Codes of Conduct:

Over the summer we have developed Codes of Conducts for all players and parents to follow.

Codes of Conduct are important to instil levels of professionalism and behaviour that we would expect at all times, particularly at training and games.

Copies of the Codes of Conduct are available to view on the website. We will also be asking all players and parents to sign a form to confirm that they will follow the guidelines we have set.



These Codes of Conduct are also important as they are similar to that of the Centre of Excellence.

We have had some issues with players / parents that would not be tolerated or allowed at a Centre of Excellence level. Hopefully these Codes of Conduct will resolve them.



Parent Representatives:

Following the return of the feedback sheets at the end of last season Marc has made a note of parents that have expressed an interest in being parent representatives for their child's age group.

This is not an onerous role and what that will help us with, amongst other things, messages being passed on and general organisation. We are busy when we are coaching and don't always have the time to catch up with parents at the end of sessions.

The decision to trial the concept of parent representatives is one we have spent a lot of time deliberating.

The scheme has its negative points but we feel that the positives it brings far outweigh these negatives.

We do, however, wish to make it clear that parent representatives do not have an influence on decisions made by coaches and should keep all personal feelings regarding other players to themselves.





Physiotherapy:

Steve is the principle Physiotherapist, graduating from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital School of Physiotherapy in Birmingham in October 1986 and specialises in sports and high-speed trauma injuries and Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy.

Since qualifying, Steve has held posts within the NHS, including;

- Sandwell District General Hospital
- Birmingham City Hospital
- Good Hope Hospital
- Walsall NHS Primary Care Community Trust

Steve has a wide range of experience in treating sports injuries, having worked in Professional Ice Hockey, Basketball and Football and is currently involved in Professional Speedway Racing as team Physiotherapist for the illustrious Belle Vue Aces who compete in The Sky Sports Elite Speedway League.

Steve also works with The Birmingham Brummies, who recently also became members of The Sky Sports Elite Speedway League and the newly formed Dudley Heathens who compete in the National speedway League.

www.stevewilliamsphysio.co.uk

PRICES:

1st Consultation and Treatment - £39.00

T&G - £30.00

Treatment Visits - £35.00

T&G - £28.00



Trials at Pro Clubs:

Topics for discussion regarding Trials at Professional Clubs:

- Offers from other clubs...
 - The numbers game!
- Development Group or Academy / CoE?
 - Is age a barrier?
- The benefit of the Walsall FC pathway...





Website:

We have now purchased the software to enable us to update our website from our main office. All details regarding T&G will be updated on a regular basis. The direct link to the T&G page is:

www.walsallfccp.co.uk/talented/

Please see this area of our website for details regarding:



- Training Times / Curriculums & Alterations
- Match Details
- Codes of Conduct
- Online Shop
- Player Information Sheets



Additional Information:

We appreciate the commitment both players and parents give to the T&G programme. It is with this commitment that we will achieve the best for the players.

As ever, we are fully committed to the next 30 weeks training. We will work hard to see all players develop their football ability technically, socially, physically and tactically.

A few bonuses to the scheme we have introduced are:

- **Free tickets to Walsall FC matches for all T&G players and reduced rate tickets for parents (Letter)**
- **Ball Boy opportunities for certain age groups**
- **Executive Box invitations (Prize Draw)**
- **Reduced rate physiotherapy**
- **Community Transport to away fixtures to help reduce travel costs**





Summary:

The summer has been a busy period for us. Marc has worked hard to make sure that any improvements we can make have been actioned in time for the start of this season.

Our commitment to improve the sessions is backed up by our creation of the full time post Marc now holds as well as the added bonuses mentioned on the previous slides. We have also continued to improve our knowledge by attending FA courses over the past 12 months.

A number of the improvements have been as a result of the feedback sheets we give out on a regular basis. We will continue to give these out over the season and we welcome any feedback throughout the year.



This presentation is testament to the improvements we have made and we hope that this season proves to be a successful time for the Talented & Gifted programme and, in particular, all of the players involved.

A copy of this presentation will be made available on the T&G pages of the WFCCP website and / or emailed to parents...