



The Talented & Gifted Programme 2009/10

Welcome and congratulations on being selected for the official Walsall FC Talented & Gifted Programme. The programme first began in September 2008 and is designed to offer quality coaching to players who are excelling at Mini Soccer and Junior Football level and have the potential to develop to a standard worthy of the Club's Centre of Excellence.

Please note that a place on the Talented & Gifted Programme does not guarantee a trial for the Centre of Excellence (COE) but will certainly develop young players and improve their individual skills. We are also the official feeder to the COE (see Coaching Pathway), to aid a player's development we may give them a Guest Pass to the COE for a few sessions to measure their progress. This could ultimately result in a 6week trial, if a player was to excel in the T&G Programme we would then recommend that he should go straight for a trial with the COE.

After a successful first year, there will be a few new additions to the programme, starting with this Talented & Gifted Welcome Pack. This pack includes a Code of Conduct, the Walsall FC Community Programme's Coaching Pathway and a 10 week T&G Curriculum. By introducing this, players will now know well in advance what they will be working on during the programme, there will also be Curriculum Overview which we will be filled in to check what all topics have been covered. A skills test has also been provided for players who wish to challenge themselves in their own time. After reading through the Player/Parent feedback reports many of you asked us how we measured and assessed the player's progress, so at the end of each block of 10 weeks the players will be given a completed assessment form from their Head Coach.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all T&G players the best of luck for the season and hope you fully enjoy the Walsall FC Talented & Gifted Programme.

In the event of needing to contact us regarding the Talented & Gifted Session (E.G: Non-attendance due to injury or illness etc) please use the following Contact Details:

T: 01922 644742 (Community Office)
M: 07737 204139 (Marc Wilkes T&G Development Officer)
E: community@walsallfc.co.uk
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Yours in Sport,

Marc Wilkes
Talented & Gifted Development Officer