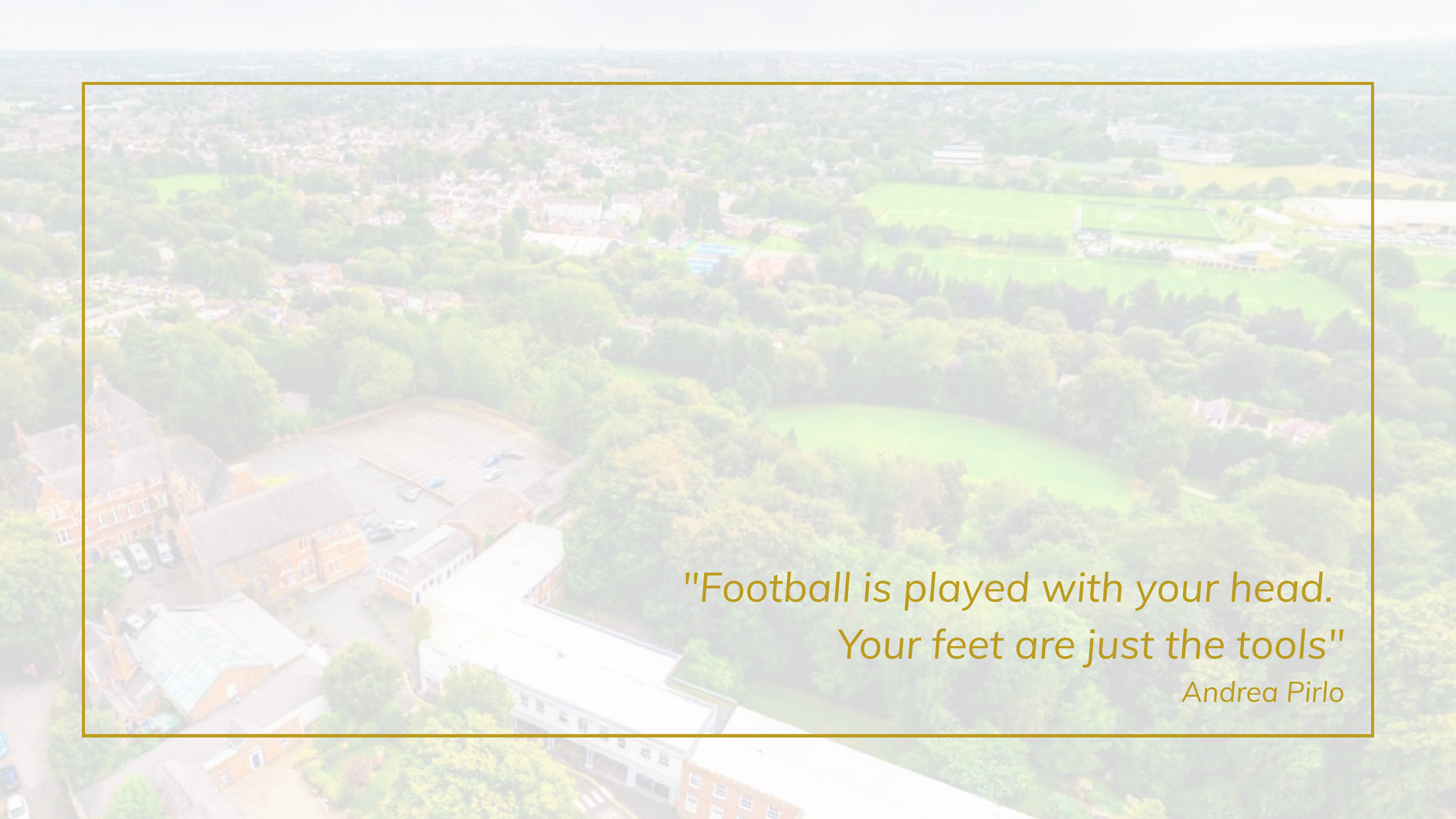






The Tettenhall College International Football Academy



"Football is played with your head.
Your feet are just the tools"

Andrea Pirlo

THE TETTENHALL COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ACADEMY

in global partnership with Wolverhampton Wanderers FC

The Tettenhall College International Football Academy is an outstanding opportunity for day and boarding pupils at this leading independent school to combine an excellent academic programme with a high-level football pathway.

The Academy is designed for aspiring and ambitious players aged 7 - 18, both boys and girls, who are serious about their game and about their education. The school provides a fully integrated footballing programme that does not compromise the academic endeavours of the pupil. Both are of significant importance.

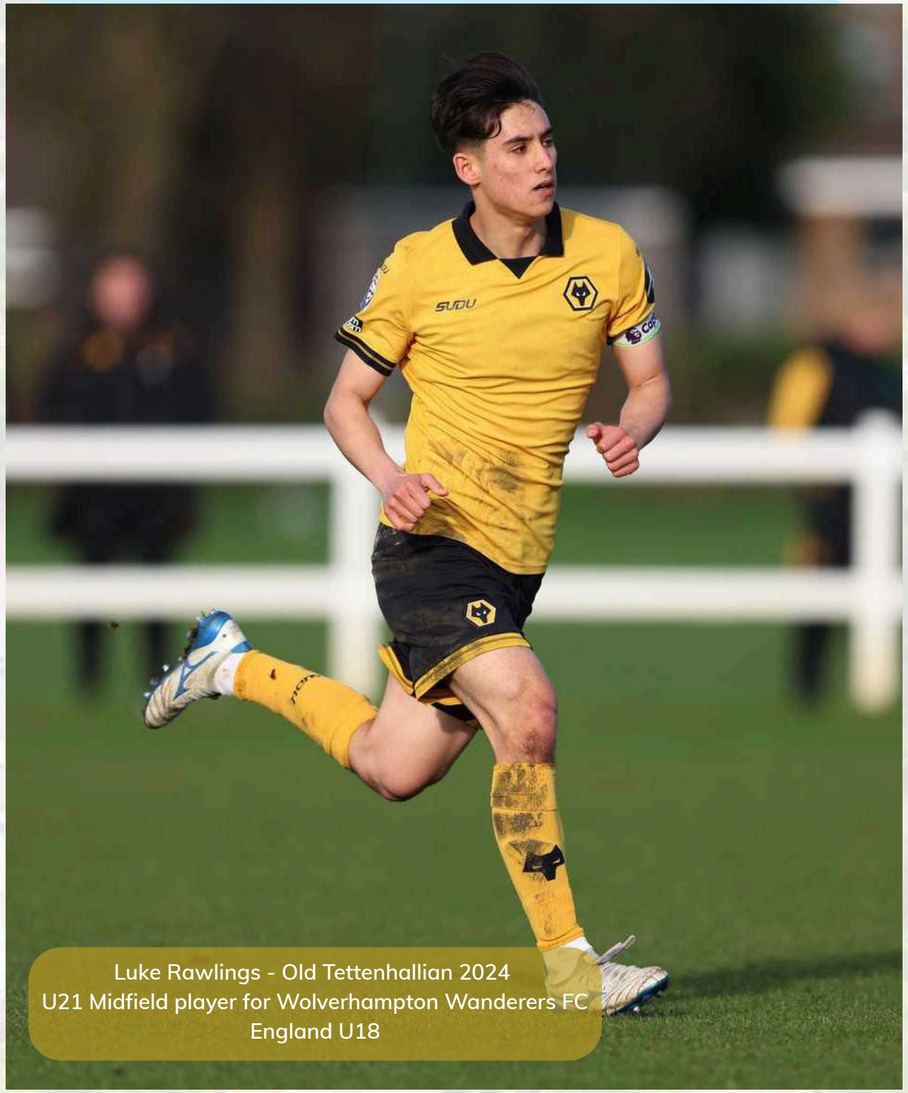
Both Tettenhall College & Wolverhampton Wanderers are historic institutions within the local area of Wolverhampton, the West Midlands and more broadly the United Kingdom. Tettenhall College (TC) was founded in 1863, and just 14 years later in 1877, Wolverhampton Wanderers (Wolves) was founded, just ahead of the formation of the Football League, of which it was a founding member.

The Tettenhall College International Football Academy brings these two very important organisations together to deliver structured, age appropriate pathways which evolve with the pupil through each year of school. These pathways are designed to nurture potential and unlock performance both on and off the pitch.

The school's 33-acre site is located within a 6-minute drive of the Wolves training centre at Compton Park, whilst the club's training facilities are within clear view of our boarding houses.

The school is home to an excellent range of facilities including grass pitches, indoor swimming pool, fitness suite (Sept 26), all weather MUGA pitch with floodlights, sports hall and additional facilities such as squash courts. Close by we have access to Hamilton's Leisure, a new multi-million pound facility with 3G floodlit performance pitch.

During the programme, Academy members will have opportunities to play at Compton Park, the training ground for Wolverhampton Wanderers FC. There will also be a range of experience trips with options including a Wembley Stadium Tour, a training day at St George's Park and visits to live Premier League Games *(additional charges for trips will apply)*.



Luke Rawlings - Old Tettenhallian 2024
U21 Midfield player for Wolverhampton Wanderers FC
England U18

TETTENHALL COLLEGE

Tettenhall College is a historic co-educational day and boarding school for around 500 pupils aged 2 – 18 years. Whilst the majority of the pupils come from the local area (c. 78%), it also has a vibrant international community, with around 100 boarding pupils (22% of the school population) coming from more than 25 different countries, as well as the UK. These currently include: Brazil, Mexico, China, Germany, France, Italy, Chile, Argentina, Vietnam, Thailand, India, Nigeria, Ghana, South Korea, Blugaria, Kazakhstan, Norway, Turkey and many more.

The College offers an active, wide ranging and successful programme of sport, with football remaining one of the most popular options. Whilst traditionally this has been offered to boys, the College is seeing a significant increase in participation from girls, many of whom are playing at a high level.

The College strongly believes in opportunities for all pupils to participate and represent their school, whatever their level. However, the are a notable number of talented pupils, both boys and girls, who belong to academy level programmes across the Midlands area, including those at Wolves, Birmingham City, Aston Villa, and Kidderminster. The Tettenhall College International Football Academy works to integrate with a player's current club to ensure a consistent and effective approach.

Small Class Sizes	**Subject Specialist Teachers**	**Pastoral Care**	**Outstanding Facilities**	**Top University Destinations**
Top Class Boarding	**Diverse Community**	**Global Connections**	**33-Acre Site**	**Excellent Enrichment**



CORE VALUES & PRINCIPLES

Both Tettenhall College and Wolverhampton Wanderers FC are institutions rooted in values that underpin their work, both on and off the pitch, in and out of the classrooms.

As a Premier League football club, Wolves is driven by progression and the values of determination, humility and togetherness, along with the belief that these values can empower people to lead better lives.

Tettenhall College is ambitious for every single young learner, with an unwavering commitment to the combined and uncompromising delivery of Excellence and Care.

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS:

- **Progression**: A commitment to constant development and moving forward.
- **Determination**: A strong work ethic, ownership, and decisiveness.
- **Humility**: A grounded approach, despite success.
- **Unity**: A sense of togetherness and collective effort, both on and off the pitch.
- **Brightness**: A goal to inspire and have a positive outlook.

TETTENHALL COLLEGE:

- **Ambition**: Striving for Excellence - more than personal success - the drive to make a difference.
- **Character**: The Bedrock of Integrity - the foundation upon which lifelong success is built.
- **Community**: Strength in Unity - a school does not exist in isolation; it is deeply intertwined with the community it serves.
- **Opportunity**: Unlocking Potential - the gateway to success, regardless of background.
- **Creativity**: We have the freedom - a value that shapes the way we learn and grow together.

THE ACADEMY PATHWAY PROGRAMME

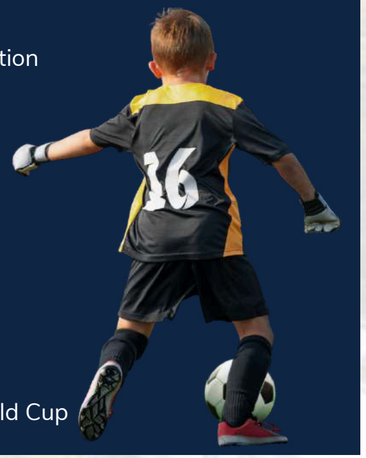
DEVELOPMENT PATHWAY
YEARS 3 - 5 (AGES 7 - 10)

Delivered by UEFA-qualified coaches, our junior development pathway focuses on building strong technical foundations within a structured, age-appropriate development syllabus.

- Weekly after-school training sessions (once per week)
- Weekly school time training session with Wolves coaches (once per week)
- A professionally designed development curriculum aligned with grassroots best practice
- Competitive school fixtures, including:
  - Arranged friendlies
  - Grassroots fixtures against developing opposition
  - Opportunities to play against professional pre-academy environments
- Emphasis on enjoyment, skill development, and game understanding in line with grassroots principles, where early experiences are key to long-term engagement and progression.

- Wear the International Football Academy kit

Option to be selected to attend the Gothia Youth World Cup



ACADEMY PATHWAY
YEARS 6 - 10 (AGES 10 - 15)

At Tettenhall College, the Academy Pathway lays the foundation for future success - blending technical development, tactical understanding, a focus on personal fitness, and a strong academic core. Our senior school programme provides a high-performance football environment, designed to mirror professional academy standards.

Delivered by UEFA-qualified coaches, following an advanced professional development syllabus:

- Two after-school training sessions per week
- Weekly school time training with Wolves coaches (2 hours per week)
- Regular competitive fixtures, including:
  - Midweek school games against independent schools
  - Entry into ISFA competitions
  - Friendlies against visiting national and international opposition
- Enhanced player development opportunities
- Access to football academy guest speakers and masterclass sessions
- Match analysis and performance review
- Individual Learning Plan (ILP) programme tailored to each player
- Opportunities to attend Wolves FC fixtures during the season

- Wear the International Football Academy kit

Option to be selected to attend the Gothia Youth World Cup



ELITE PATHWAY

YEARS 11 - 13 (AGES 15 - 19)

From Year 11 at Tettenhall College, pupils step up into the Elite Pathway and begin a three year journey that combines high-level football development with an outstanding education. Be part of the Wolves FC family and philosophy.



Each player follows a personalised training schedule, averaging 12 hours of high intensity coaching, training and fitness development each week. Along side this, there is a comprehensive schedule of league and friendly fixtures, all designed to challenge, elevate and prepare an athlete for the next level of performance.

- **High Intensity Technical Sessions with Wolves FC & All Stars coaches each week** - focused on individual development, typically leading up to a game
- **Tactical sessions with Wolves FC and All Stars coaches each week** - the day before a match centred on squad preparation and game plans
- **Recovery sessions** - lighter, low-intensity work the day after a game
- **Training sessions at Wolves Training Ground, Compton Park**
- **One to two Match Days per week -** a combination of league competitions and arranged friendlies.
  - Game Days: Wednesday and Saturday (typically)
  - There will be additional match opportunities through the season against professional academy sides across the region and international touring teams.
- **Opportunities to attend Wolves FC fixture**s during the season
- **Personalised strength & conditioning sessions**
- **Professional sports psychology** visualisation and goal setting
- **Wider exposure to football and the business of football** through sessions with Wolves FC representatives
- Wear the International Football Academy kit

Option to be selected to attend the Gothia Youth World Cup



PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Players benefit from physical appraisal sessions at suitable intervals through the season, along with termly squad fitness assessments. Each player has their own Individual Action Plan, built around the Four Corner Model - covering the Physical, Psychological, Technical and Tactical elements of their game.

- PHYSICAL
- PSYCHOLOGICAL
- TECHNICAL
- TACTICAL

"It's all about making sure every player knows exactly where they are, where they're going, and how to get there".

Craig Bowker - Football Academy Director

PERFORMANCE SUPPORT

Performance analysis sits at the heart of what we do. When it is paired with a personalised action plan, it becomes a really powerful tool - helping players pinpoint the specific areas of their game, that, when improved, make a tangible difference to their contribution within the team. In order to support the development process, each match will be filmed and reviewed, in order to support each players Individual Action Plan. In support of this, players have access to:

- PHYSIOTHERAPY
- SPORTS PSYCHOLOGY
- SPORTS THERAPY
- PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS
- STRENGTH & CONDITIONING
- SPECIAL PLAYER MENU
  Nutrition for body & mind

ALL STARS SPORTS COACHING

All Stars Sports Coaching CIC is driven by a shared passion for developing both players and people through a humanistic approach.

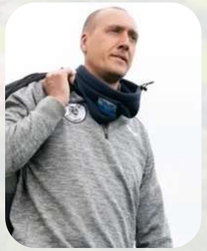
From 1-to-1 sessions to group and team environments, the organisation is built on creating positive experiences that support confidence, mindset, and long-term growth.

At the heart of All Stars are three core values: putting the player first, ensuring every individual is supported and understood; building confidence through enjoyment, creating engaging environments where players can thrive; and a commitment to holistic development, focusing on both the person and the player.

Since its launch, All Stars has supported players in developing a growth mindset and progressing into professional academies and international pathways. This is further enhanced through a growing network of partnerships, including guest sessions from Mike Phelan, sports psychology support from Sabrina Dale, and ongoing collaboration with the Global Institute of Sport.

The programme continues to expand its opportunities through collaboration with PSSA, providing potential pathways into US colleges and universities. Additionally, they work alongside the Black Country Coaches Club to offer qualifications that support employability and career development.

Through these connections, and their extensive network within the professional game, All Stars Sports Coaching provides players with meaningful opportunities and clear pathways, supporting their journey from grassroots football into elite and alternative sporting environments.



Craig Bowker - Football Academy Director

Craig began coaching in 2012 and holds a UEFA B Licence. He has a MSc in Coaching and Performance Analysis from the Global Institute of Sport, where he has also supported lecturing within the coaching philosophy module. Alongside this, he is Head of Coaching at Sporting Khalsa FC, playing a key role in developing pathways and structures that have led to the club achieving a 3-Star FA Accreditation—the highest level available for a non-league club. He also works with Staffordshire FA as a Coach Mentor, supporting coach development across the county.



Ian Bonnette - Assistant Academy Director

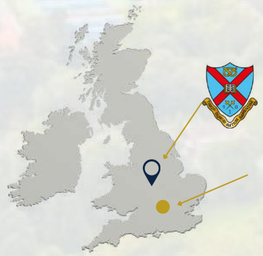
Ian is a UEFA B licensed Football Coach with over a decade of experience developing players from grassroots through to international level, having nurtured talent including the current England U16 girls' captain.

As Founder and Lead Coach of All Star Sports Coaching CIC, he delivers age-appropriate football programmes across schools and community settings in the West Midlands, oversees safeguarding and quality assurance, and builds the partnerships that help young players thrive both socially and athletically. With a First-Class BSc in Football Coaching and Performance from the University of Wolverhampton, his approach is rooted in holistic player development.

TETTENHALL COLLEGE FACILITIES & LOCATION

Tettenhall College is an excellent school, located in the heart of England. The beautiful green and well-appointed campus is located in the picturesque and safe village of Tettenhall, with easy access to the high street with coffee shops, restaurants, boutiques and other services.

SUPERB CONNECTIVITY



- Birmingham = 30 minutes
- Manchester = 1 hour
- Central London = 1 hour 45 minutes by direct train
- London Heathrow = 2 hours 10 minutes

The College is blessed with a comprehensive range of high-quality facilities which include:

- Specialist science laboratories
- Art rooms and studio spaces
- Classrooms for all subject areas with interactive technology boards
- College Chapel
- Beautiful library
- A Sixth Form study centre
- Common Rooms, including a dedicated Sixth Form common room
- College coffee shop
- Uniform shop
- The Towers Theatre
- Music Department and practice rooms
- Grand pianos and additional practice pianos
- Sports facilities, pitches, pavilion & squash courts
- Computer suites
- Health centre
- Fitness equipment
- Fully equipped Sports Hall
- Acres of beautiful grounds and woodland.

The College offers a comprehensive Enrichment Programme each week, which all pupils from Year 6 upwards participate in. There are currently very successful partnerships with a range of local clubs and academies in Basketball, Golf, Tennis, Padel, Racketball, Horse-Riding, and Volleyball. For more information about the wide-ranging sports programme, please refer to the College brochures and website.



















SAMPLE WEEKLY SCHEDULES

(ACADEMY & ELITE PATHWAYS)*



MONDAY	High intensity training session
TUESDAY	Tactical session
WEDNESDAY	Games programme/ fixtures
WEDNESDAY EVENING	Recovery session
THURSDAY	Wolves squad training (Technical)
FRIDAY	Wolves squad training (Tactical)
SATURDAY	Match Day
SUNDAY	Rest & recover

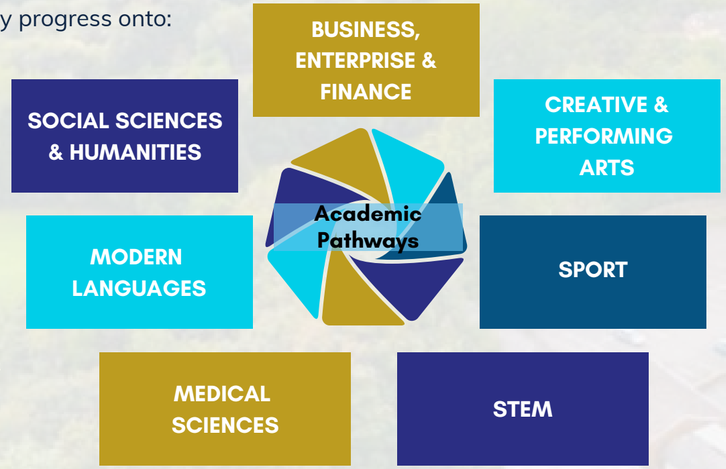
** this is a sample schedule and the order of training may vary subject to timetable requirements.*

FUTURES PATHWAY

The Tettenhall College International Football Academy is designed to support the holistic development of each pupil while providing a clear pathway for progression to the next stage of their footballing journey. Underpinned by strong and practical connections with Wolves FC and the footballing philosophy promoted by the club, this programme offers pathways to a future where football remains a key focus for the individual.

Pupils who are part of the football academy may progress onto:

- UK university football programmes
- US university football scholarships
- Semi-professional football opportunities
- Further professional development pathways within the game



The Sixth Form Pathways Programme at Tettenhall College covers seven distinct routes to support a strong university application, including Sport. The pathways are designed to give access to a broad and meaningful range of supra-curricular activities. For Sport, these incude the Sports Leaders Qualfication



GIS GLOBAL INSTITUTE of SPORT

The International Football Academy programme offers access to GIS (Global Institute of Sport) which delivers ground-breaking degree programmes in the football and sports industry online and with access to a global network of industry leaders and elite stadium venues in the UK, US, Canada, Australia and Belgium. GIS is dedicated to the delivery of unrivalled degree programmes in the strategic, operational and business facets of the football and sport. GIS has developed a profile of pioneering qualifications to provide pathways into the exciting world of sport and enable those working within sport to drive forward their career in the global multi-billion-dollar industry.

BOARDING LIFE AT TETTENHALL COLLEGE

Tettenhall College is a vibrant, busy and highly sought after boarding school. Alongside our fantastic British boarders, we are also delighted to welcome pupils from around the globe.

Every year the boarding community at Tettenhall College is home to pupils from more than 25 different countries, currently covering 5 different continents. Pupils travel hundreds, sometimes thousands, of miles to be part of our authentic British school, which is personal, supportive and ambitious for each young person.

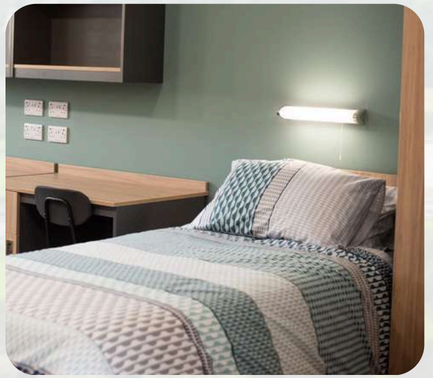
The boarding accommodation at Tettenhall College is excellent. Recently refurbished, our boarding houses are modern, warm, inviting spaces, where pupils can relax, feel at home and have social time with their friends.

- Junior boarders from ages 10 - 14 will typically share a bedroom with two or three other students,
- Intermediate boarders from 15 - 17 will typically share a room with one or two other students, often with an en-suite bathroom.
- Senior boarders aged 17 - 18 may be offered an individual study bedroom.

We take food and nutrition very seriously here at the school. A high-quality range of freshly cooked, healthy and satisfying meals are served for breakfast, lunch and dinner every day. Our team of chefs take great care to address any allergy or other food requirements, so that everyone has just what they need.

For more information about the superb boarding programme at Tettenhall College, please see our boarding brochure, review this section on the College website, or use the QR code here.











GOTHIA CUP OPPORTUNITIES

The Gothia Cup is the world's largest and most international youth football (soccer) tournament, often referred to as the "World Youth Cup". Held annually in Gothenburg, Sweden, it brings together thousands of young players from around the globe to compete and share cultural experiences.

- **Scale:** Each year, approximately **1,700 to 2,000 teams** from around **80 nations** participate, playing nearly **5,000 matches** on over **110 pitches**.
- **Participants:** It is open to both boys and girls between the ages of **11 and 18**. Since its founding in 1975, more than **1.3 million players** from 153 countries have taken part.
- **Organiser:** The tournament is organised by the professional Swedish football club **BK Häcken**
.
- **Events:** The week-long event is famous for its massive **Opening Ceremony** at the Ullevi Stadium, which typically attracts over **50,000 spectators**.

Pupils participating in the International Football Academy will have an opportunity to be chosen as part of the squad that will compete at the Gothia Cup each summer. (there is an additional charge of c. £2,000 for this international trip).

Many professional footballers played in the Gothia Cup during their youth before rising to international stardom, including:

- Zlatan Ibrahimović
- Andrea Pirlo (won with US Voluntas)
- Xabi Alonso
- Alan Shearer
- Emmanuel Adebayor









SPORT SCHOLARSHIP AT TETTENHALL COLLEGE

When pupils reach the Senior School at Tettenhall College, the formal scholarship programme is introduced. Scholarship at Tettenhall College is a significant, foundational and active process.

Such an award is made after a structured assessment process that considers a pupil's current level of attainment, alongside their potential. Attitude and an understanding of the importance of scholarship are also fundamental aspects of the assessment process. It is important to understand that, in terms of sport, an applicant must be able to demonstrate a level of skill, representation and achievement significantly beyond 'school sport'. It is also likely that they will be able to play a range of different sports at a high level for their age.

Those awarded a Sport Scholarship will become full members of the Tettenhall College Scholars' Programme, completing termly tasks as part of their commitment to progression and personal development.

At Tettenhall College we offer a range of Scholarships which may be awarded for entry into years 7, 9 or 12. It is **not possible** for a sport scholarship to be awarded for entry into the Preparatory School.

The value of a sport scholarship is typically between 10 - 20% (maximum) of the annual school fees.

There is a competitive application process each year for those pupils wishing to apply for a sports scholarship award. A formal application process is followed, with coaches references required, and video footage typically requested.

For more information about the sport scholarship opportunities at Tettenhall College, please contact our Admissions team at admissions@tettcoll.co.uk



HOW TO APPLY & FEES

In order to apply for a place at the Tettenhall College International Football Academy, pupils must be enrolled as either a day or boarding pupil at the school.

DAY PUPIL APPLICATIONS

To apply for a place at Tettenhall College, we warmly encourage all day pupil applicants to visit the school for a private tour, or come to an Open Day event, to meet with staff and to view our facilities.

We will then arrange taster days, so that the pupil can experience a regular school day, and our staff can spend time getting to know them.

For pupils applying for a Preparatory School place, informal academic assessments will be conducted during the taster days, and recent school reports will be reviewed.

For pupils applying for a Senior School or Sixth Form place, a Cambridge CEM or CAT4 assesssment will be conducted before or during the taster days. and recent school reports will be reviewed.

For those pupils wishing to join the International Football Academy (age 7+), they will also meet with members of the Sports Department, and may have an in person or online meeting with the Football Academy Director.



BOARDING PUPIL APPLICATIONS

Whilst the majority of our boarding pupils join full time, a number of places are available for a one term, one semester or one year integration experience. Pupils can join Tettenhall College as boarders from the age of 10.

We will meet prospective pupils either in person if they visit the school, in their own country if we are visiting, or via an online video call.

If a boarding pupil is joining for one year or more (or requires a visa), we will conduct an online CAT4 assessment, prior to confirming if a place can be offered. Once a place is offered and accepted, we will work with the family to ensure that all visa requirements are fulfilled (if applicable), in good time for the pupil to join for the start of the year or the new term.

Boarding pupils will receive lots of information ahead of joining the school, including a detailed joining pack. Boarders' Arrival Day is a wonderful occasion when we welcome all of our new pupils at the start of the academic year.

Our Admissions team will be pleased to talk you through each step of the admissions process, where we aim to make this as clear and as straight forward as possible.

Full information regarding school fees and the International Football Academy can be found on the College website: https://www.tettenhallcollege.co.uk/admissions/fees/







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