



KIDDERMINSTER  
COLLEGE



# HARRIERS ACADEMY

2025/26 SEASON

U19s TRIAL DATES & FAQs



REGISTER FOR AN UPCOMING TRIAL  
<https://bit.ly/3XNYh3P>





# EDUCATION

## WHERE DOES THE COURSE TAKE PLACE?

Lessons will take place at the Centre of Sporting Excellence (CoSE), Zortech Avenue, Kidderminster, DY11 7DY. Other off-site locations, such as the University of Worcester, may be used throughout the year. Transport will be provided for these visits.

## COURSES AVAILABLE

- Level 1 - BTEC Introductory Certificate in Sport
- Level 2 - BTEC Certificate in Sport (one year)
- Level 3 – (year one) BTEC National Extended Certificate in Sport/BTEC National Foundation Diploma in Sport
- Level 3 - (year two) BTEC National Diploma in Sport/BTEC National Extended Diploma in Sport

## ANY REQUIREMENTS?

**Level 2** - You will need four GCSEs at grade D/3; one or two GCSEs at grade C/4, or a Level 1 Sport qualification with grade Merit.

**Level 3** - You must have successfully completed a Level 2 programme of learning with GCSEs, vocational qualifications including four GCSEs, or equivalent qualifications including Maths, English, Science & PE. Please note, the offer of a place on the Academy course is also subject to a successful football trial. You will be sent further details of how to register for the trials via the college website following receipt of your application and interview.



## WHAT DOES THE COURSE CONSIST OF?

The course will be mainly delivered through taught classes and lectures, with some learning taking place using the college's VLE (Moodle), and other electronic means, including YouTube. Assessments on the course will be varied, and could include written assessments, individual and group presentations, production of booklets and practical performance. There will also be an external component of assessment, in the form of synoptic assessments and examinations, which will be sent off to the exam board for marking and assessment.

## WHAT ARE THE PROGRESSION OPPORTUNITIES?

If you have successfully completed and pass all units from the Level 1 qualification in a year, you will can go onto the Level 2 Certificate in Sport. Similarly, if you successfully complete the Level 2 qualification in a year, you may progress to further learning through the Level 3 Extended Certificate or Foundation Diploma, or alternatively seek employment within the sport and leisure industry. Alternatively, you could progress onto a second Foundation Diploma in a complementary sector, or a larger size BTEC National in the sport sector. This may include the Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport.

## WHAT AREAS OF THE SPORTS INDUSTRY WILL THIS ENABLE ME TO FOCUS ON?

The course is designed so students/players can utilise their skills, and develop in areas of sport, even outside of football. Transferable coaching skills that can be applied across sports, will be part of your ongoing development during the course. You also gain an understanding of recovery, injury prevention methods, managing sports events and understanding the sporting industry from a business point of view.





# FOOTBALL

## HOW OFTEN IS TRAINING?

You will train three times per-week (Monday, Tuesday and Friday). Games will be played on Wednesdays. Our U23s and first team also train on site so there may be opportunities for extra training, if selected.

## CAN PLAYERS PLAY FOR OTHER CLUBS WHILE BEING PART OF KHFC?

It is paramount the players are given the best chance to develop as footballers. If we feel that players will benefit from time at other clubs, then we will look to arrange this during the course of the season. This will be communicated every step of the way.

## WHERE DOES TRAINING TAKE PLACE?

All training and games take place at the Centre of Sporting Excellence (CoSE), Zortech Avenue, Kidderminster, DY11 7DY.

## WHAT DOES THE GAMES PROGRAMME LOOK LIKE?

We are currently registered to six leagues including the U19 National Alliance, U18 Floodlit Premier North, and the AOC Sport Cat 2A-2D. There are also opportunities to play in the Harriers Midweek Cup, which includes professional academy teams, opportunities to play for the U23s, and an array of friendly fixtures throughout the season.

## WHAT PROGRESSION ROUTES ARE AVAILABLE AT KHFC?

The natural progression is for players from our U19s to progress into our U21s, U23s, and First Team squads. This isn't a given, and every individual player will be different. Within our U23s programme, there are two routes to go down: a Football Business Management and Sports Coaching Foundation Degree (2 years), or a Personal Training (PT) course (1 year). Others may progress onto other Universities across the country to continue, if they wish, on a sports pathway in areas such as coaching, teaching, sports therapy, analysis, disability sports and sports business and management.

# ALUMNI



**TOM PALMER**

An Under-19s graduate, Tom Palmer has been involved in the First Team since 2016, signing his first professional contract soon after. The shotstopper is now Goalkeeping Coach for both the Academy, and First Team.



**SAMSON HEWETT**

Samson graduated from the Under-19s side to sign his first professional contract in 2023, having progressed through the Junior Academy from the age of 13. In 2022/23, he was selected for the England Colleges FA National Team.



**JOSH BISHOP**

Josh combined his studies and Academy football with regular first team action at Stourport Swifts, where he kept 21 cleansheets, and was named their Young Player of the Season, earning his first Harriers contract in 2023.



**KOBE HALL**

Kobe's first team debut at the age of 16 years and 135 days made him the youngest player on record to play for Harriers competitively. Kobe signed his first professional contract on his 17th birthday in 2023.

# FURTHER INFORMATION

## WHAT STAFFING STRUCTURE IS IN PLACE?

A large and high-quality staffing structure is in place, to ensure that players are given the best possible opportunity to develop both in the classroom and on the football pitch. Our staff will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the football programme:

Luke Astley - Academy Manager (UEFA A)  
Brandon Bevins - Assistant Academy Manager (UEFA B)  
Harry Butler - U23s Lead Coach (UEFA B)  
Alex Surrudge - Academy Coach (UEFA B)  
Kevin Bunn - Academy Coach (UEFA B)  
Jack Cole - Academy Coach (UEFA B)  
Craig Hatfield - Academy Coach (UEFA C)  
Matthew Hatfield - Academy Coach (UEFA C)  
Nathan Duggal - Academy GK Coach (UEFA C)  
Tom Palmer - GK Coach & First Team Player  
George Preston - Higher Education Programme Lead  
Andrew Glover - Further Education Programme Lead (UEFA B)  
Leon Clarke - Academy Coach (UEFA A)

## WHAT EXTRA OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

All students get opportunity to undertake the FA Level 1 coaching qualification. However, this is available on a first come, first served basis, and course fees are applicable. All students will undertake a two week work experience placement.

We also provide a trip to St. George's Park, the home of England's national football teams, where students will be coached by External coaches who are completing their coaching badges - these may be ex-professionals in a world class facility.

# TESTIMONIALS



**KAI  
LISSIMORE**

“ An Under-19s graduate, Kai signed a two-year professional contract in 2021. He has since gone on to feature for Tamworth in the National League.

*I left Wolves at the age of 16, I had a few ups and downs and felt my confidence was knocked a bit, coming to Kidderminster has completely restored that, they've given me opportunities which I don't think I would get anywhere else.* ”



**NOAH  
RUBIO**

“ Another Academy graduate, in 2023/24, Noah featured in two FA Cup squads, before making a National League start on the final day of the campaign.

*You're given opportunities often and you're definitely pushed. You're out there and everyone looks out for you, including the players and staff.* ”





# WANT TO JOIN US?

## TRIAL DATES

Tuesday 29th October 2024

Tuesday 18th February 2025

Tuesday 15th April 2025

Tuesday 27th May 2025

Tuesday 8th July 2025

## TRIAL DETAILS

10am-2pm

Centre of Sporting Excellence

Zortech Avenue, Kidderminster, DY11 7DY

## ANY QUESTIONS? NEED MORE INFO?

Email: [academy@harriers.co.uk](mailto:academy@harriers.co.uk)

Web: [harriers.co.uk/academy](http://harriers.co.uk/academy)

Social media: [@harriersacademy](https://www.instagram.com/harriersacademy)



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PICTURED: Harriers Academy players and graduates in first team training (pre-season 2023-24)