



Future Prospects Case Study 2023-24

Future Prospects is a sports leadership programme aimed at Year 9/10 students who have had some prior knowledge or experience leading at events. The programme aims to bring students together across a range of demographics from different communities. Due to the popularity of last year's programme, we have been able to extend our offer to 6 secondary schools this year. The schools selected for this year's programme were Heartlands Academy, Aston Manor Academy, Prince Albert High School, Holte School, Broadway Academy and Nishkam. Each school was asked to bring a specific demographic of young people to the training that reflected their student population.

Future Prospects also aims to give students more insight into employability pathways after they leave school, as well as the opportunity to meet with staff who are employed within a range of different job roles. The project is proud to work with Warwickshire Cricket Foundation, Aston Villa Foundation and Birmingham City University.



The project is part funded by Sport Birmingham through their leadership funding pot. This has allowed us to extend this programme to more young people in the partnership.

Participating Schools



Prince
Albert High
School



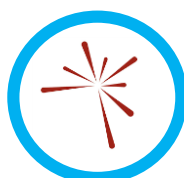
Aston
Manor
Academy



Nishkam



Broadway
Academy



Heartlands
Academy



Holte
School

Level 1 – September 2023

Schools were asked to invite 10 students to attend the Future Prospects programme. The young people selected had some prior experience of sports leadership and had shown interest in a career in the sport sector.

Students attended a Level 1 orientation day at King Edward Aston, where they completed 4 different workshops based around sports leadership. During the day, students from different schools work with each other completing a range of tasks, developing social links and empowering them to make connections. They are also tasked with co-designing a leadership project back in school to impact on their own school population. All young people are given the a hoodie to create belonging within the group and create a sense of team. On completion of level 1, students receive a Future Prospects certificate and a Sports Leaders Activity and Volunteering certificate. Schools value these rewards as evidence of enrichment activities in their school.



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Level 2 – October – December 2023

From September to January, students are tasked to go back in to their school and help deliver either a personal challenge, a sports activity or they can help with the delivery of a club at school or outside their school. Some schools have used their leaders to deliver transition events for local primary schools, helping to develop links and reduce the fear that some Year 6 students have before they attend secondary school.



Future Prospects students from Prince Albert High School helped to run basketball, dodgeball and football events for local primary schools. Many of the young people attending the events will go to the school when they enter year 7. This has helped to facilitate their transition to Key Stage 3.

“Our students have excelled working with primary school pupils. They have shown empathy, resilience and organisational skills. Future Prospects have given them a chance to work as part of a team.”

Level 3 – April 2024

Students who complete level 2 of the Future Prospects programme will then progress to level 3. They will spend a morning working with Warwickshire Cricket coaches developing their leadership skills. In the afternoon, students go on a tour of Villa Park, looking specifically at the careers and job roles that staff have at the club.



Aston Villa Academy staff discussing the roles and career pathways available at the club.



Aston Villa Foundation coaches discussing their coaching journey with students.



Students touring Villa Park and learning about potential careers in sport.

“Future Prospects has made me realise that I can have the career I want in sport.” Year 10 student

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For the final part of the Future Prospects programme, students attended Birmingham City University, at their new site, the Alexander Stadium.



BIRMINGHAM CITY
University

The aim of this day was to provide students with a taste of what university life is like and improve their knowledge regarding possible career pathways in sport.



Our day started with students hearing from Dr Irfan Khawaja and BCU lecturer Craig Newton about career pathways in sport. Students had the opportunity to broaden their understanding of the pathways open to them and what qualifications they would need to access courses. Both lecturers shared their personal journey's to the careers they have now, which really resonated with students.



Students had a great time in the Anatomy and Physiology labs learning about the bones, muscles and antagonistic muscle pairs in the body. This underlined knowledge in their GCSE and BTEC studies which will help them in the months to come.

One of the highlights of the programme was learning to coach Ultimate Frisbee on the grass at the Alexander Stadium. It was fantastic to see the social integration between students from different schools and staff participation as well. The social cohesion of the groups has been amazing to see as the project has gone on.



Congratulations to the class of 2024! It has been great to work with you all over the course of the year and see you develop your leadership skills, knowledge and social interactions with others!

A huge thanks to the staff at Warwickshire Cricket Foundation, Aston Villa Foundation and Birmingham City University for working with us on the Future Prospects Programme 2023-24 and to our programme sponsors Sport Birmingham.



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