

Annex 4

Sandwell Academy – Community Initiatives and Outreach Work

Community use of the Academy facilities

Sandwell Academy now has well established links that provide opportunities for community groups to make use of the Academy's facilities. These links allow for high quality provision for students both in and out of the Academy.

The following areas are available for use in the Academy and all are used at various points in the year:

Sports Hall, Fitness Suite, 3G Pitch and other sports facilities

Theatre, Dance, Drama Areas

Library

Information Technology Suites

Restaurant and Hospitality Suite

Conference Centre

As an Academy specialising in Sport, the facilities are used to host festivals, tournaments, regular training sessions and coaching courses.

In 2016/2017 the Academy worked with the following community groups to facilitate a range of activities for our students to enjoy either an enriched curriculum or pursue opportunities for excellence in a team or club setting.

West Bromwich Albion Community Programme

The partnership with the Albion Foundation has been further strengthened during the last academic year with the sharing of a variety of resources.

The relationship has enabled and facilitated a variety of enrichment talks and activities to a range of groups of students of PE and Sport. The Albion Foundation also provides sports coaches for activities throughout the year including disability qualified coaches and speakers for events such as the Academy's enrichment week.

The Academy continues to host a number of community programmes, such as holiday camps, throughout the year. These include football skills camps and dance camps for 6 to 15 year olds. The Academy enjoys an excellent working relationship with the Community Team who have provided work experience opportunities to a number of Sixth Form and Year 11 students and encouraged them to return to the club for work. The Academy and The Albion Foundation are also working together to provide a significant amount of voluntary coaching experience

opportunities over the course of the academic year. The Albion Foundation piloted their Up Front programme with Year 7 which focuses on student's mental health and well-being. This programme is continuing with Key Stage 4 students and has already completed its first successful term.

West Bromwich Albion Women's Football Club

In July 2011, the West Bromwich Albion Women's football provision was granted Centre of Excellence status, an application and process heavily supported by the Academy. The Academy provides training facilities via the 3G pitch and use of both changing facilities and the new Fitness Suite. The club has proved to be popular and many students from Years 7 to 11 are now playing within the ladies setup. The Academy's fitness instructors have also been utilised by the Women's Football Team to develop personalised training programmes and provide access to facilities on a weekly basis throughout the season. Our Session 3 programme was supported with WBA coaches from the women's team coming into sessions and coaching the girl's teams from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4. The coaching sessions were well structured and attended by the students.

West Bromwich Albion Pan Disability Football Club

The Academy hosts Pan Disability coaching sessions and students from the Academy have become increasingly involved with the disability sports teams both as players and coaches. Encouragingly these arrangements and sessions have continued as part of our Olympic legacy.

West Bromwich Albion Basketball Club

The West Bromwich Albion Basketball Club now works in conjunction with England Basketball and Sandwell Academy. The aim is to become the centre of basketball provision in the Sandwell and Black Country area. All teams train at the Academy and use the facilities for matches. The club provides coaching sessions for Academy students alongside excellent exit routes to elite league basketball. The club, with the support of the Academy, plans to roll out a programme to increase teams and provide more competitive opportunities for boys and girls in national league teams.

West Bromwich Albion Academy

As part of the strong link with West Bromwich Albion Football Academy, Sandwell Academy teaches all scholars involved with the Football League and Premier League Education Programme. We are proud of the outcomes that we achieve for these students and opportunities this creates as an alternative to football. In addition for the sixth year running a cohort of Year 10 students from the WBA Academy have joined the Academy as full time students and are part of the Elite Player Performance Plan (EPPP).

The Academy also provides facilities to support WBA. The restaurant provides a venue for parents of players during the winter months and theatre is used on a regular basis for talks and presentations to parents and other partners.

West Bromwich and Dartmouth Cricket Club

The Academy has developed an excellent relationship with the West Bromwich and Dartmouth Cricket Club. In return for the use of our indoor facilities for winter training, the Academy has received the services of the Club's professional for students to receive first class coaching and Academy staff are able to access the cricket clubs coaching courses free of charge. The club has also encouraged students to attend their training sessions and we have a number of students who have played for their cricket teams. The Club's excellent facilities have also been used for Sixth Form matches and social events for the staff. Coaches from the cricket club are regular visitors, providing coaching taster sessions and talks to sixth form students as part of their studies.

Other sports clubs

The Academy has built up a strong relationship with British Cycling where our facilities are used for coach development and training courses for which the Academy has free places for staff. This has worked successfully. Links have also been developed with a number of providers who offer opportunities away from the school site for our students. Through work with the Sandwell Leisure Sports Development team the Academy has been involved in Indoor and Outdoor athletics, officiating, coaching and performing. Student leaders from the Academy are also regularly involved in community events such as providing support for a local schools sports day. We maintain close links with Smethwick and Wednesbury Leisure Centres who both provide our non-swimmers with one swimming lesson per week in Year 7. Thomas Telford School also continues to provide us with access to their swimming pool to complete practical assessments for Key Stage 4 students. The Academy also works closely with the West Midlands Schools FA and provides facilities for County Trials and meeting rooms. We have used Boulders Central as a provider for our GCSE rock climbing assessments; the staff there have assessed the students and supported with their expertise to enable students to achieve the best possible grades.

Local School links and Sport and Physical Education Outreach Programme

The Academy has been working in conjunction with a number of primary schools to promote the quality of sporting and physical activity opportunities, increase participation and offer a wide range of inter and intra sporting competition across all age groups.

Over the course of the academic year, various students from Years 9 to 6.2 have led coaching sessions and provided competitions to Primary school students from George Betts, Abbey Catholic, Langley, Rowley Hall, Moat Farm, Uplands Manor, Black Heath, Hargate, Reddal Hill. These sessions have given our students first-hand experience of multi-sport leadership events and have directly lead to a positive impact on the outcomes of our BTEC Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 courses. Some of the tournaments between schools that we have hosted have been girls' football, capture the flag, handball and we have led some tennis.

We hosted two Primary school Sports Days at the Academy during the summer, our Young Leaders led the event along with staff from the PE department. This again provided our students with valuable leadership experiences but the schools and children who took part were given an experience that that would not have been possible without the involvement of the Academy. We

aim to continue to be an effective 'hub' within the local community where schools can look to access our facilities and receive support from the PE department and our Young Leaders. We sent a group of Young Leaders to Hargate to run both of their Sports Days for the consecutive year. When Sandwell Leisure or Black Country Games run an event, we are always approached to send our Young Leaders. We have established that as a school we have a number of Young Leaders with potential to be pushed further and develop their personal skills.

Students have been involved in a number of additional events, this has included a number of coaching sessions and competitions across the academic year. Targeted groups of students have completed workshops led by various Sky Sports Living for Sports Mentors. These have been for disengaged students, students with barriers to learning such as behaviour, solely females and our more able students.

Other links

We have made a conscious effort to continue to be a member of the Youth Sports Trust (YST). At present we hold a full membership at the highest level and the Head is a Headteacher Ambassador for YST. We have been actively involved in a number of number of YST initiatives since achieving the gold Youth Trust Partner School award. We have had many guest speakers in through our contacts with the YST, and run successful initiatives like Girls Active and Beyond the Baseline. We are piloting the Youth Sport Award which we hope to add to our successful work with the YST.

In recognition of the contributions we make to Sainsbury's School Games we are a Gold Mark school. The support that we give to this organisation through participation, providing Young Leaders and officials to events they host is held in high regard.

We have made participation high on our agenda in PE this year and so have continued to develop our establish links with the Black Country Consortium and their project 'Sportivate'. This initiative aims to drive participation levels of non-active students into some sort of physical activity. After identifying a number of students in Year 7 and 8 who weren't engaging in any physical activity we made it a priority to allocate them to an activity they would commit to that would encourage them to recognise the meaning of leading an active lifestyle. The activities on offer were Horse Riding, Rock Climbing, Cycling, Mixed Martial Arts, Dance and Golf. The successes of these have led to satellite clubs being set up between the school and continued participation from the students. We are pleased that we have secured a second year project within the school and this year we are targeting the Year 7 cohort to encourage an uptake in participation at an earlier age where we hope to see an impact and continued participation.