



Our Sports Academy...

HOW DOES THIS CHANGE NORMAL PE?

The Sports Academy is additional to everything we already do in PE. All children in all age groups will still receive their normal PE lessons, sports clubs and all of the other events we do. Our Academy Lead helps teach some of their PE lessons, making them even better. By having an Academy, we offer football club and matches to other children who don't play in our school team.

WHY DOES STOPSLEY HAVE A SPORTS ACADEMY?

Sport matters. It's good for our fitness, mental health and well-being. Many of our children experience a lot of success in sport both in school and out. Lots of children love playing sport and want to do it at a high level. Our children are lucky as they attend a school which has many staff who love sport and with a teacher who has the UEFA A License in coaching football. Sport can link our community together and we aim to give our children a real opportunity that they would not get if they went to school elsewhere. We want to give them positive experiences before they have to make choices in later life. We believe we are the first primary school in the country with a Sports Academy.

HOW DOES THE SPORTS ACADEMY WORK?

Mr Chart is our Sports Academy Lead. He holds a UEFA A License in football, has coached at several professional football clubs, is a qualified teacher and is passionate about all sports.



Our Sports Academy currently offers football. Up to 20 children from Years 4, 5 and 6 (boys and girls) will be invited to join our Academy for one year.

These children will receive five additional lessons (totalling 3¼ hours) each week, consisting of both practical and theory work, in our Academy classroom. Academy sessions are not during normal lesson time. They take place either before school, after school, during lunchtime or at other times of the day. We have designed a bespoke football curriculum, which is taught across the year, with parents receiving termly reports on their child's progress. Our Lead is supported by a coach from LTFC too.



HOW CAN MY CHILD GET A PLACE IN THE ACADEMY?

Parents of children in Years 4-6 can register their interest using the link provided by the school. This form tells us about your child's interest and ability in football. We use teacher assessment to help select the appropriate children and we also hold trials to make sure everyone has a fair chance. Places in our Academy are fluid, meaning changes can be made during the year. Changes might happen for a number of reasons. The Academy starts every September.

DOES IT COST PARENTS ANYTHING?

Not at the moment. The school is covering the cost of places and providing all members with a full training kit. We use some of our Sports Premium funding to help cover costs. We hope to keep it free!

WHAT ELSE WILL HAPPEN?

We currently offer football. If the Sports Academy is successful, our next step will be a netball Academy, followed by other sports. Our Academy children will play matches against other schools and against development centre teams from professional clubs. They will work in partnership with LTFC, other pro-clubs and with clubs in the local community. We'll be documenting our whole journey on social media.

WHAT IS THE 'STOPSLEY 6'?

Our football curriculum has 6 values that run through every lesson. You can see these values surrounding our logo above. We know that children will enjoy our Academy and obviously improve their knowledge and skills at football. However, our main aim is that all children in the Academy leave our school more competent and more confident in our 'Stopsley 6' values. These are important life skills, which we believe are key to success. Children may often 'live and breathe' football but they will also learn to 'live and breathe' our Stopsley 6 values as well.

