





The Rugby Union Scholarship programme offered at Wath Academy Sixth Form is a specialist 16–18 programme delivering exceptional experiences to aspiring and talented rugby union players. It is a realistic pathway into semi-professional rugby, whilst studying at a highly successful sixth form. In short, the scholarship is an elite rugby union development programme that ensures all students access a first-class rugby experience in addition to their post-16 education.

Therefore, all players on the rugby union scholarship programme undertake A Levels or equivalent vocational subjects, with further possibilities to acquire work-based qualifications, such as the England Rugby Coaching Award. Scholars access a high quality rugby union provision, working with coaches who have previously and currently still work within the professional game. The programme involves training on a daily basis with the scholarship coaching team. This provides players with a fantastic opportunity to further develop their rugby union education and knowledge of the game.



Wath Academy Rugby Union Scholarship: Our Vision

The Wath Academy Sixth Form Rugby Union Scholarship aims to ensure the delivery of world-class coaching which inspires every scholar to achieve excellence in rugby.





## **Our Intent**

- All rugby union scholars develop an inner belief and ambition to fulfil their dreams
- All rugby union scholars develop a lifelong passion for rugby
- All rugby union scholars access first-class continuing professional development opportunities
- All rugby union scholars develop exceptional character
- All rugby union scholars develop high levels of cultural and global awareness
- All rugby union scholars become responsible citizens
- All rugby union scholars gain an array of positive school memories
- All rugby union scholars are given a chance to explore a variety of academic and professional exit routes
- All rugby union scholars reach their full rugby capabilities

# **Facilities**

Rugby union scholars have access to high quality facilities on the Wath Academy campus to support each player in their individual development, performance and learning.

#### Our facilities include:

- State-of-the-art 3G pitch
- Two high-quality grass pitches
- Three indoor sports facilities
- Strength and conditioning studio
- Structured training programme
- Video analysis classroom
- Match preparation sessions
- Match analysis

# Competitions

Scholars will compete in a range of cup and league competitions whilst participating in the Association of Colleges rugby union league and associated cups.







### The Offer

All those enrolled onto the scholarship programme undertake A Levels or applied qualifications alongside their rugby union programme.

#### The scholarship provides students with:

- A rugby union coaching programme delivered by experienced coaches and current professionals
- Training through the week, including match analysis, strength and conditioning, rehab and recovery and technical/tactical sessions
- Veo camera technology recording games
- PlayerTek GPS software throughout the
- Access to state-of-the-art training facilities, including a floodlit 3G pitch to support winter training
- A comprehensive league and competition structure on Wednesday afternoons
- Opportunities to participate in overseas tours
- Work experience opportunities

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### **Coaches**

Our rugby union scholars will have access to exceptional coaching from a highly skilled coaching team. We are privileged to have experienced and knowledgeable rugby union coaches that will guarantee student progression.



#### **Ryan Burrows**

#### Rugby Development Officer/ Head of Rugby

Level Two RFU Coach Mr Burrows is a Wath Academy alumnus and ex-professional rugby player. He has amassed over 350 professional games and has a wealth of experience and knowledge, having played for Rotherham Titans, Leeds Carnegie, Newcastle Falcons and Coventry in varying domestic and European competitions. In total, he has played well over 17,000 minutes of professional rugby, scoring 46 tries. In his last year of professional rugby, Mr Burrows worked with Coventry U23s, while assisting with Coventry's RFC's 1st XV.



#### **Ian Evans**

#### **Head Coach**

Having had a playing career in Wales, London and South Yorkshire, Mr Evans is currently in his 22<sup>nd</sup> year at Wath Academy and has coached extensively across junior and senior teams. Over the years, he has worked with elite players through the Yorkshire Elite pathway and coached both South Yorkshire at U15 level, Yorkshire at the 17 and 18 age group, as well as assisting with the North of England team. At senior level, he was fortunate to coach Wath RUFC to a National Vase final in 2012.



#### **Simon Lines**

#### **Assistant Head Coach**

Mr Lines has worked at Wath Academy for 13 years and has coached school teams extensively throughout that time, as well as assisting in junior representative rugby. He has played for Wath RUFC for numerous years, playing more games and captaining the club more times than anyone in their history. Having successfully led the team as a player, Mr Lines took over as Wath RUFC Director of Rugby in 2015 and led the team to National Vase success at Twickenham in 2018.



### James Habergham

#### Strength & Conditioning Coach

Mr Habergham has a BSc and Msc in Sports Science and Sport & Exercise Physiology from Leeds Beckett University. Mr Habergham has a wealth of experience in elite sport, currently working as a strength and conditioning coach at Sheffield United academy. He also supports at the Leeds Talent Hub with several Olympic endurance athletes.



# Careers & Future Opportunities

As part of the scholarship programme, students will open the door to many different career pathways, including:

- Professional/semi-professional rugby
- Professional coaching
- Professional officiating
- Strength and conditioning
- Physio and rehabilitation
- Performance analysis
- Business/sport management
- University and higher education
- Apprenticeship



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