**Harrogate Town AFC**

**Job Title:** Academy Sports Science

**Contract Type:** Part-time, Temporary (until June 2025 with scope to extend)

**Salary:** Competitive dependent on qualifications and experience

**Reports To:** Academy Manager

**Based in**: Harrogate (with flexibility to travel to/from other venues such as the First Team training ground and opposition venues)

**Hours:** Minimum of 18 hours per week (with opportunity for additional hours in the wider club)

**Start Date:** Immediate

**Purpose of Role**

**Key Responsibilities**

* Lead the Academy PDP (U18) of Strength & Conditioning programmes in synchronisation with the design, planning and implementation of return-to-play with the Academy Medical staff.
* Collection and analysis of daily condition monitors (wellness) and readiness to re-perform monitoring, applying appropriate interventions where necessary.
* Execution of physical attribute testing procedures, data collation and analysis, including player reviews and relevant intervention prescriptions.
* Designing, implementing and reviewing individualised Strength and Conditioning programmes for lower and upper body strength and power.
* Provide documentation and have involvement in the PGAAC Safe to Operate/Compliance Sports Science section.
* Monitor training load through the use of session RPE data where required, particularly in the return to play process.
* Contribute to the delivery of performance education sessions to all players, parents and relevant staff.
* Ensure the Academy Strength & Conditioning services are consistently operating at best-practice standards.
* Provide a clear link between players transitioning from Academy to First Team, staying in constant communication with the PDP staff.
* Support department staff in maintaining sports science/strength & conditioning equipment and consumables.
* Contribute with verbal and written reports to Academy multi-disciplinary meetings and contribute to both Academy and first team departmental.
* Continuous Professional Development (CPD) whilst conducting regular research into areas of contemporary sport and exercise science.
* Attend all meetings that fall under the Sports Science Programme remit.
* Attend evening review meetings with players, coaches and parents (one at Christmas and one at end of season).
* Ensure completion of Individual Development Plans for apprentices.
* Oversee completion of the club induction with apprentices.
* Collate, record on Kitman Labs (or equivalent) and pursue any concerns with players, parents and school/college.
* Attend Academy Management meetings / Multi-disciplinary meetings.
* Present to parents and players the Sports Science Programme of the apprenticeship and how it looks, what support will be in place, player responsibilities etc.
* Observation/communication with the players on a day-to-day basis to proactively identify **at risk** areas of well-being or safeguarding.
* To promote the independence of each player, improving their self-sufficiency. This will include responsibility for their own day-to-day activities and pressures of a footballer.
* Work closely with players and their parents/carers - professional success of the young people in Harrogate Towns AFC’s care for the apprentices and give regular updates.

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| **Essential requirements for the post** | **Desirable requirements** |
| Undergraduate Degree – BSc Sport and Exercise Sciences, BSc Strength and Conditioning (or equivalent) | BASES Accreditation (or working towards) |
| Flexible approach to work, to meet the needs of the business. | UKSCA Accreditation |
| Experience of managing large and varied workloads and tasks whilst maintaining attention to detail. | Previous experience and/or training in child safeguarding. |
| Excellent communication skills, organised approach to work and excellent IT skills. | Up to date DBS |
| Ability to manage own workload and prioritise tasks. | A minimum of 2 years working with elite players or within a professional environment. |
| Resilient whilst under pressure and ability to work to deadlines. | PGAAC audit experience |
| Valid Driving Licence |  |

**Person Specification**

* Self-driven with a positive outlook and a proven track record in academy football.
* Previous experience of management within an elite sports environment
* Comfortable in dealing with people at different levels and able to maintain a high level of professionalism at all times.
* Able to lead a team through consultation and cooperation, and at the same time achieving the highest quality results.
* Able to represent Harrogate Town AFC positively at all times and portray an image to internal and external users of the Academy that promotes enhances the academy’s reputation.
* To understand and be committed to equality and diversity and to respect others’ values and beliefs and treats other with dignity and respect.
* To understand and be committed to Harrogate Town AFC’s mission and values.

**Safeguarding**

* Harrogate Town is committed to safeguarding, and the safeguarding of all people associated with the Football Club.
* All employees must have an understanding of the clubs safeguarding and anti-discrimination policies and procedures and put these into practice in the workplace. To enable this all employees must undertake the required training as directed by their line manager.

If you have seen the job advertised on a different platform than iRecuit please email the attached application form and send it to [richardjones@harrogatetownafc.com](mailto:richardjones@harrogatetownafc.com) (Academy Manager) with [daveriley@harrogatetownafc.com](mailto:daveriley@harrogatetownafc.com) (Operations Director) CC’d in.