

VLUK – Background / Detail

Low risk to all partners

In 2010-11, VLUK launched a 16-18 Football and Education Scholarship Programme for 99 learners in partnership with an academy school and two professional football club partners. For 2011-2012, we developed further partnerships with academies, multi academy trusts and further education colleges and sports, and now in 2016 - 17 have over 1200 learners on Level 2 and 3 learner responsive study programmes at a large selection of Professional and Semi Professional Sports Clubs.

The growth in student numbers has been accompanied by growth in the number of education partners that we sub-contract from.

Our full time programmes include a minimum of 600 hours of learning, consisting of different learning pathways, leading to the Level 2 or 3 BTEC Diploma in Sport and Business Studies. We ensure **that learners are immersed into the heart of the professional sports club**, providing coaching and refereeing qualifications, as well as work experience. Learners also benefit from professional club partner involvement, a bespoke learning platform, and entrance into national leagues.

VLUK also delivers Traineeships and a number of Apprenticeships, including the level 3 Advanced Apprenticeship in Supporting Teaching and Learning in Physical Education, Sports Development and Customer Services at 16-18 and 19+. These are delivered with a host of Sports and Business sector partners.

Exit routes from our Level 3 programmes are into university, work in the sports industry, and professional sport, with over 70% of 2016 leavers progressing into further/higher education and training, and over 97% into positive destinations. We achieve this, by offering our own exit routes, with many delivery partners following our HND in Sports Coaching programme, allowing students to stay with their professional sports clubs for a further two years.

The VLUK retention rate for the Academic year 15-16 was 96.4% on learner responsive study programmes and 89% on apprenticeships, with success rates of 98.5% and 100% respectively.

September 2017

For September 2017, VLUK is expanding its portfolio of education and delivery partners, with additional subject areas and sports, utilising professional industry partners across the UK.

Delivery of learner responsive study programmes

VLUK recruits a minimum cohort of 15-25 learners into a year group. Each cohort is educated at the local professional club (Clubs have a fully resourced classroom environment), by trained teaching staff (employed by VLUK), using a bespoke learning platform, provided by VLUK. (www.vesystems.org)

The clubs provide the training and match day facilities, including entrance into National Leagues, as appropriate.

All learners are registered to the 6th form of each partner Institution and the sixth form is provided with all relevant information ensuring full EFA and Ofsted compliance.

All partner Institution policies, including quality assurance, and safeguarding are implemented by the partner club, and managed by VLUK.

Management and Implementation of learner responsive study programmes

We understand that all partner institutions will want to ensure robust quality at all delivery sites. VLUK's senior education professionals carry out management, quality assurance and safeguarding visits at each site, providing reports to the funding partner and feedback to each individual site. These are in line with the latest Ofsted framework, and include supportive developmental visits, formal QA visits, Self Assessment reports and a full internal verification process carried out by qualified standards verifiers. The education partner carries out quality assurance checks, in line with their own policies, as appropriate.

The education partner is kept fully informed at all times through regular progress checkpoints, real-time access to our web based learning platform, and a high level Ofsted style report on each site every 12 weeks (or more frequently as appropriate). A joint meeting cycle coincides with the production of these reports, to ensure that all aspects of the programme are monitored, reviewed and developed in line with the strategic priorities of the Academy/College.

Funding of learner responsive study programmes

The cost per learner, for the fully managed programme, payable in monthly instalments to VLUK is a percentage of the per learner fee secured by the Education partner. The variation in fee for each student allows us to tailor the programmes to their requirements. For example, for those learners that are accepted onto the programme without GCSE Maths and/or English, we are able to provide additional support leading to Functional Skills Level 2 or the resit of English and Maths, as appropriate.

The partner Institution retains the rest of the funding for administration, registration, and any QA and IV processes they opt to undertake.

Timeframe

We understand the constraints Institutions operate under when requesting and agreeing 6th form funding with the EFA, so we explore options with potential future partners for all of our programmes throughout the preceding Academic Year.

If you are interested in any developing a partnership with VLUK for this type of provision please:

visit <http://www.vluk.org/school-and-colleges/> and complete the enquiry form

call Simon Abercrombie on 01793 701441

email simon.abercrombie@vluk.org