



THE ALBION FOUNDATION POWERCHAIR FOOTBALL ACADEMY

Specifically designed for ambitious young sports people with high needs
aged 16-24 years old who are passionate about football, coaching and sports leadership.



Be part of our family



Queen Alexandra College

Empowering Abilities, Inspiring Lives

WWW.QAC.AC.UK

The Albion Foundation is a registered charity that works in partnership with West Bromwich Albion Football Club. The aim is to use the medium of football and the kudos of West Bromwich Albion Football Club to make a difference in the local community.

Queen Alexandra College (QAC) is a national specialist residential college and charity based in Harborne, Birmingham. The College supports over 380 residential and day students and provides education, training and routes to independent living.

PROJECT OUTLINE

Powerchair Football is a unique fast-paced and dynamic sport.

Enjoyable to play and watch, Powerchair Football creates a great social environment that builds key life skills such as teamwork and communication.

The Powerchair Football Academy is the first collaborative 'study programme' of its kind in the country, offered to students who use a power or manual wheelchair and are eligible under the Federation of International Powerchair Football Association (FIPFA) classification criteria.

If your sights are set on a career in sport, this exciting programme provides students the opportunity to work towards sports qualifications and develop as a powerchair football player. It can also provide a player pathway from playing in regional, national and international competitions.

With access to modern state-of-the-art sports facilities, students will also learn transferable coaching skills as part of their practical training sessions, with key partners delivering specific sporting qualifications.

The curriculum is designed to maximise adult life, independence and work opportunities for all students, with links to sector-specific work placements. It also aims to develop confidence and self-esteem.

English, maths, employment skills and tuition in personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) subjects are embedded across all areas of study, along with any required support and therapies to meet individual needs.

"The Albion Foundation means a lot to me because it's helped me progress in playing and coaching."

Amy Sherman,
East Riding Electric Eels PFC player



WHY STUDY WITH QAC AND THE ALBION FOUNDATION

- Be part of a unique, ground-breaking elite sport performance programme
- Work towards to achieve recognised football coaching qualifications:
 - Online Awards – Playmaker and Introduction to Football Coaching Award (England Football Learning)
 - Face to face and in club setting - UEFA C Coaching Licence (England Football Learning)
 - Other coaching awards maybe available across The Albion Foundation, including compliance awards such as First Aid and Safeguarding.
- Be coached by experienced and qualified Football Association and Powerchair Football coaches.
- Start your journey on the England Football Learning coaching pathway.
- Achieve nationally accredited qualifications at Level 1 to 3
- Coaching pathways from volunteer through to potential paid work as a sports coach
- Access to specialist support services such as physiotherapy, mentoring and travel training
- Participate in generic disability sports workshops
- Become a volunteer at local football clubs, schools, local authorities and other disability sports organisations as part of the work experience aspect of the programme

TYPICAL WEEK FOR DAY AND RESIDENTIAL STUDENTS

MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY

Based at QAC, students will access a timetabled programme of vocational qualifications, independence, PSHE, functional and employment skills; support subjects as required by each individual to help them achieve their goals for adult life. In addition, students will have access to a wide range of ongoing wellbeing and mindfulness initiatives.

THURSDAY & FRIDAY

Students will spend two days each week being coached to become the best players they can be, and work towards coaching qualifications employers want.

Practical sessions include learning about the technical side of the game, such as the 4 out system and the principles of play. Players will work on their chair control, passing, shooting and dribbling, amongst other skills needed to play the sport.

Socialising, having fun and building friendships is a big part of life at QAC. There's always a wide range of sports, music and leisure activities on offer that help to promote this. Scan the QR code to find out more about the residential experience at QAC.



"The QAC Powerchair Football course is an incredible opportunity for new or experienced players. QAC coaches and staff have had an incredible positive impact on every student on the course."

Brad Bates, former WBA PFC player & England International

WEST BROMWICH ALBION FC POWERCHAIR FOOTBALL SUCCESS

WBA Powerchair teams provide opportunities to represent West Bromwich Albion in disability football at all levels:

- WBA PFC – Wheelchair Football Association (WFA) National League Premiership winners 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21
- WBA PFC – Runners up in the EPFA Champions Cup 2016
- WFA National Cup winners 2018/19, 2019/20
- WBA Throstles – West Midlands Powerchair Football League Champions 2019/20
- Development Team League Champions and Runners Up in the West Midlands PWCH Regional Championship 2012/13

PROGRESSION

Students benefit from impartial careers, information, advice and guidance to make positive transition plans based around their needs and aspirations.

On successful completion, progression is likely to be: further education or higher education or sustained/substantial voluntary/paid work.



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If you would like to be part of this ground-breaking programme or for more information about the academic elements and funding process (an EHC plan may be needed through your Local Authority), please contact:

Queen Alexandra College - 0121 803 5484 | info@qac.ac.uk

For more information about the elite sport element of the course, please contact:

Paul Hunt on 07984 610 283 | paul.hunt@albionfoundation.co.uk



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