



Role: Head of Football.

Background: Established in 1999, Ignite Sport UK's primary aim is to inspire people with sport, activity, and wellbeing, and to help create a sense of achievement for participants of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. The Ignite group encompasses, Ignite Sport UK, Ignite Training and Velocity Football.

Velocity Football is a full-time educational academy that combines football and sport business with academia. Velocity hosts apprenticeships, BTEC and Alternative Provision. Based at the home of newly promoted, National League club, Oxford City FC in Marston, the courses are the only ones of their kind based in Oxford. Our programmes offer students the unique chance to join Oxford City FC's renowned football academy, undertake wider development and coaching modules and receive academic education.

We are seeking a dynamic and experienced professional to drive Velocity Football. You will join us at a very exciting time, fresh from a Men's first Team promotion and a big investment into the female game, as our student numbers are growing and our reputation going from strength to strength in the Thames Valley.

The Head of Football will lead a team of coaches and support staff to deliver excellence throughout the football provision including the training schedules, games programmes and player development pathways. Delivering excellence across the education provision is a key objective. Working with the teaching staff you will ensure the classroom experience is of the highest possible standard.

We pride ourselves on offering a truly inclusive programme, supporting mainstream students and those with additional needs, to become the best footballers they can be, and to achieve their desired educational outcomes.

This is an opportunity to shape the lives of male and female footballers and to support them into adulthood and future sporting career paths. We strive to make the experience of every student to be truly exceptional and for that we need a truly exceptional and highly motivating leader.

Job type: Full-time (40 hours per week)

Location: Oxford City FC, Court Place Farm, Marsh Lane, Marston, Oxford OX3 0NQ.

Salary Grade 8/9: £36,000 - £44,000 + bonus

Key Responsibilities:

Management of the whole student experience, including the quality of the football and education provision, promotion of company values and staff development.

Monitor practice externally from a range of sources, such as, Ofsted Education Inspection Framework, The Football Association, The National League.

Lead the team to ensure overall effectiveness in planning, preparing, and delivering the football and education provision for the benefit of Ignite partners, customers and stakeholders.

Create innovative and varied enrichment opportunities to add value to the student experience.

Manage, analyse and report on the engagement, attendance and appropriate outcomes of each learner enrolled across Velocity.

Promote a culture of support for all students throughout their learner journey.

Lead the development of individualised football and education plans for each student.

Demonstrate stakeholder engagement and satisfaction practices.

Line management of the following direct reports: Football coaches, support staff who regularly contribute to Velocity to support their individual growth and personal development.

Work closely with the Tutor Lead to ensure quality education

Take oversight of the various systems and processes to track progress – e.g., business development leads, enrolments, completions, and individual learner interventions.

Analyse and report on progress against Velocity KPIs and offer solutions and action to meet/exceed targets.

Nurture external partnerships with schools, colleges, OXLEP and The County Council to support reaching a wider audience to grow student numbers.

Identify case studies and success stories to support the marketing and communication of Velocity.

Represent and promote Velocity at sector-relevant external networks/partnerships/conferences.

Manage a strong professional presence on social networks to grow personal role and business presence.

Attend management meetings and implement appropriate actions.

Lead administrative and business support-based tasks associated with the successful delivery of Velocity.

Follow all Ignite and partner organisation's procedures and policies, with a sharp focus on Safeguarding responsibilities and reporting lines.

Be an active member of the Safeguarding Team.

Support football coaching delivery with masterclasses, 1:1s and support sessions, accordingly.

Complete any other duties, which may be required from time to time to within Ignite Sport UK's running to assist in smooth running of any parts of the business, across our group of companies.

Essential Criteria:

UEFA B licence

Minimum of 3 years leading football education programmes

Current Safeguarding qualification

Full Driving Licence

Proven experience within the football industry.

Strength in technical programmes, physical programmes and player development pathways.

Strong understanding of vocational sports qualifications.

Extensive knowledge of safeguarding policies and practices.

Experience with forecasting, budgeting and tracking.

People management skills.

Excellent communication and presentation skills.

Desirable Qualifications/Skills:

UEFA A licence

UEFA Pro licence

Level 5 learning and development or leadership and management qualification

Level 5 tutoring qualification

First Aid at Work Certificate

Current Prevent qualification

Benefits:

28 days holiday + bank holidays

Pension with employer contribution

Free childcare at Ignite Holiday Camp Settings (ages 4-11)

Annual employee wellbeing grant & perks

Good to know:

On-site parking

We reward excellence and celebrate achievements with awards, socials & regular incentive opportunities

Regular CPD

Mobile phone, laptop and coaching uniform and kit provided

Access to fully funded courses to support both professional and personal development

To apply:

In the first instance we invite contact via email to our Managing Director, Louise Merritt L.merritt@ignitesportuk.com letting us why you are perfect for this role. Please include a link to your LinkedIn or similar professional network profile and a copy of your CV.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to apply formally via application form in line with our safer recruitment procedures. Applicant must be willing to go be vetted via robust referencing and undergo an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check with children's barred list.

Application deadline: July 10th, 2023.

