



D O N C A S T E R
ELITE
ADVANCED|FOOTBALL

NEW STARTER – WELCOME

NEW SEASON



NEW ERA



WELCOME TO ELITE

ELITE is a professional independent football academy based in Doncaster for players with dedication and aspiration to learn, purposefully develop and play with the highest standards. Doncaster Elite was founded in 2020 by then Doncaster Rovers Academy Head of Coaching and prior to that Academy Manager, Ben Mawson with an aim of bringing a professional club structure, culture and environment into junior grassroots football.

Since its formation ELITE has supported the development of over 100 young people into professional football environments in the UK and USA. It is our purpose and commitment to guide our players into the professional game and where that doesn't happen guide them into the world with understanding of professional standards required to achieve success in education, work and business.

All our teams compete in the national Junior Premier League, widely regarded as the highest level of competition for young players outside of EFL Academy football. JPL is advanced level junior football.

It is a pleasure to welcome you to ELITE as part of the Academy. We look forward to guiding your journey and progression into professionalism.

Our Values

Core values guide our actions:

- Respect everyone. First. Always.
- We always act honestly, ethically, and with integrity.
- We strive to provide you the highest standards of service and innovation





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OUR PROMISE

HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

There is a false narrative that Independent (private) Academies give false promise of contracts in professional football Academies. At ELITE we give a number of genuine promises.

At ELITE we promise:

- ⚽ **to provide a Professional football environment with the highest standards of coaching and behaviours.**
- ⚽ **to provide the highest level of competition through our games programme in Junior Premier League (JPL) and showcase fixtures against local professional Academies.**
- ⚽ **to provide honest feedback on performance and development**
- ⚽ **to provide a platform for players performing at the required level into professional football through games against professional academies, in front of professional club scouts and through referrals to our partner clubs.**

The pathway is open to all young players. Our aim is to provide our players with a professional environment with the standards, expectations and skills to prepare them to cope and excel in a professional club environment if that opportunity arises.





HOW TO PREPARE FOR UPCOMING TRIALS

PHYSICAL

Our club values Energy and Enthusiasm very highly. We want all of our players to work harder than the opposition so we look for this as a main quality of players joining our club. Physical fitness is one important quality to enable you to outrun the opponent but the willingness to do it consistently is even more valuable. Football is a physical sport. Speed, acceleration, strength, and cardiovascular endurance can give you an edge over your competition.

UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY'RE LOOKING FOR

MENTAL

A players mentality is very important to both performance and progress. Respect for all in the game is fundamental to how we run our club. We expect all Elite players to uphold this value at all times. Taking responsibility, controlling emotions and positivity are important to us. Remember to relax and keep your mind at ease. We expect mistakes. Mistakes will not go against you. We are looking for what you CAN DO and we expect to support your areas for development.

EAT RIGHT

To perform at your best, be sure to eat the right foods leading up to your trial. In addition to eating a healthy, balanced diet, it's important to consume the correct amount of food at the correct time before the event.

For best results, you need to have enough carbohydrates in your system to keep you going. It's also important to be fully hydrated on the day. While having a glass of water before the trial is recommended, downing copious amounts will not magically hydrate you. For best results, you should be drinking at least 2 litres of water per day the week before to stay fully hydrated.

LOOK THE PART

Your first impression can have a lasting effect. Smile. If you are confident enough, introduce yourself. Things like character, effort, presence, reaction to mistakes, voice and more, can make you be seen. Be sure to have all the right training gear.

TECHNICAL

Brilliant basic skills. First touch is very important. Passing, shooting, dribbling, tackling and ball manipulation will all be assessed too. Each of these skills can be practiced independently, so you can work on your skills away from your normal training group. Don't feel the need to do everything.

GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP

Research suggests that sleep deprivation has a negative effect on athletic performance. Not getting enough sleep can lower your cardiovascular ability and decrease your muscular strength.

It's essential to get enough sleep in the nights leading up to your trial. To get your body into a routine, we suggest heading to bed the same time each night and remove technology at least an hour before bed. If possible, try to get at least eight hours of quality sleep.

SHOW YOUR STRENGTHS

We aren't necessarily looking for special skills. For the most part, we want to see that you can do the basics well in a high-pressure environment. If you're a midfielder, stick to that position and don't try to be something that you're not.

DON'T GIVE UP

Not all trials are successful. To be successful, you'll need to keep playing through the rejections. Football is a game of opinions, so don't let the opinion of one coach or club determine your future. If you don't get selected, you may need to further improve your skills. Keep training, attend more trials and be positive but realistic about your skills.



PROFESSIONAL COACHING TEAM



UEFA PRO LICENCE COACH



UEFA A LICENCE COACHES



UEFA B LICENCE COACHES



UEFA C (LEVEL 2) ASSISTANT COACHES



QUALIFIED TEACHERS



COACHES WITH 10 YEARS+ PRO ACADEMY COACHING EXPERIENCE



COLLECTIVE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE WORKING IN PROFESSIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT





REASONS YOU SHOULD JOIN

ENJOYABLE ENVIRONMENT



DEVELOP KEY SKILLS



UEFA PROFESSIONAL COACHES



QUALITY FACILITIES



ADVANCED LEVEL COMPETITION



#WE
ARE
ELITE



SCOUT

CHECKLIST

What are we looking for?



ENERGY & ENTHUSIASM

☐☐

FIRST TOUCH

☐☐

COACHABILITY

☐☐

ESSENTIAL SKILLS*

☐☐

COMMUNICATION

☐☐

PHYSICAL FITNESS

☐☐

SUPPORT NETWORK

☐☐

***ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR EACH POSITION**

STRONG TACKLE

SCORE A GOAL

PRODUCE A GREAT CROSS/PASS

MAKE A GREAT SAVE

REACT POSITIVELY TO A MISTAKE

**#WE
ARE
ELITE**



SHOWCASE FIXTURES

We have a growing reputation nationally and have excellent relationships with local clubs which have given our players plenty of opportunities to play against some of the biggest names in football in recent years. Teams we have competed in showcase games against recently include:

Sheffield United
Rotherham United
Doncaster Rovers
Sheffield Wednesday
Huddersfield Town
Hull City
Grimsby Town
Lincoln City
Bradford City
Mansfield Town
Notts County

Manchester City
Manchester United
Leeds United
Arsenal
Derby County
Nottingham Forest
Sunderland
Bolton Wanderers
Birmingham City
West Ham United
Charlton Athletic

Multiple American & Canadian touring teams



WARRIORS



JUNIOR
PREMIER LEAGUE





TRAINING SCHEDULE

BOYS & GIRLS – 2025/26 SEASON

Winter Training schedule is highlighted below.

NB. Training times can change when we move to summer training.

U7 & U8	17:00 – 18:00	MONDAY
U9 – U12	17:00 – 18:00	MONDAY & TUESDAY
U13	18:00 – 19:00	MONDAY & TUESDAY
U14 – 16	19:00 – 20:00	TUESDAY & THURSDAY

We do not train Bank Holidays

Training is held at **DE WARRENNE ACADEMY, GARDENS LANE, CONISBROUGH, DN12 3JY**



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STAY UP TO DATE

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