



SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



Welcome to our first monthly update from the Thirsk Talent Hub! Each month we'll share what's been happening both on and off the pitch, celebrate the achievements of our students, and keep you up to date with exciting upcoming opportunities.

THIS MONTH'S SCHEME OF WORK

This month, we have been working hard on developing our football performance on the pitch. Students have been encouraged to identify their own super strengths, helping them to become more self-aware players and build strong personal development habits.

This month has been full of exciting learning opportunities and great progress. We're proud of our students for their effort and enthusiasm in every activity. Here's a quick look at what we've been up to:

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Each month, we celebrate some of our shining stars! This section highlights a student/s who has gone above and beyond—whether through kindness, creativity, hard work, or leadership. Let's cheer them on and be inspired by their example!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Here's what's coming up for the Hub in the next few weeks:

Year 8 Ball Duties – Tuesday 1st October vs Scunthorpe

Year 9 Ball Duties – Monday 21st October vs Boreham Wood

Year 5 Trials: Wednesday 29th October, 10am-12pm.

Primary School Sports Comps: Throughout October our cohorts will be responsible for organising and refereeing the football tournaments held by Thirsk School.

Year 7 - Teddy Griffiths
Year 8 - Elsie Hindmarch
Year 9 - Gethin Evans
Year 10 - Jack Ryan

Well done to all four! Your attitude, commitment, and work ethic has been exemplary in the programme!



YEAR 7 BALL DUTIES

Our Year 7 group had their first taste of matchday responsibility as they took on Ball Duties at York City's home fixture against Carlisle. The players were smartly presented, professional in their approach, and showed brilliant teamwork throughout the evening.

For many of the group, this was their first time being part of a professional matchday environment—and they did the Hub proud. It was fantastic to see them soaking up the atmosphere, learning from the occasion, and representing both Thirsk Talent Hub and their school with maturity.

This was a great stepping stone for the players, and a real memory-making moment for Year 7. Well done, everyone!





fa: play safe weekend



This month, the Thirsk Talent Hub joined clubs and organisations across the country in supporting the FA's Play Safe campaign, which focuses on the vital importance of safeguarding in football.

At the Hub, we want every player to feel safe, supported, and confident both on and off the pitch. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility — coaches, parents, volunteers, and players all play a role in creating a positive environment.

WE REMINDED OUR COHORTS ABOUT:

- Speaking Up – knowing who they can talk to if they have any worries or concerns.
- Respect – treating teammates, opponents, officials, and staff with fairness and kindness.
- Wellbeing – understanding that feeling safe and supported is just as important as developing technical and tactical skills.



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Coaches' Corner

Tips of the month

togetherness

Supporting, including, and encouraging one another to succeed both in and out of the classroom.

teamwork

Be the loudest supporter of your teammates. Positivity is contagious.

pitch personality framework proactive

Take responsibility for your own development. Don't wait for someone else to push you.

Dylan's reflections

"What has stood out to me so far is the professionalism of the group. Whether it's arriving on time, preparing properly, or setting high standards in training, our players are showing behaviours that mirror what's expected in an academy or professional environment.

The Year 7 Ball Duties at York City vs Carlisle really highlighted this. The group handled themselves brilliantly in a pressured environment, showing maturity beyond their years.

These experiences are about more than just football — they're about building confidence, communication skills, and a sense of responsibility.

Over the next month, we'll be challenging players to add detail to their game: thinking tactically, improving decision-making, and learning how to influence matches both with and without the ball.

To all our players: keep showing the same drive and commitment, because it's noticed and appreciated. The small habits you form now will set you up for long-term success."



Dan's reflections

"It's been an excellent start to the year at the Talent Hub. From the very first session, I've been impressed by the energy and willingness to learn shown by the group. The big focus has been on understanding personal performance — recognising strengths, but more importantly, being honest about areas where we can improve.

That honesty is a big part of becoming a better player. Football isn't just about technical ability — it's about mindset, resilience, and the willingness to work hard every day. I've already seen some of our players take real ownership of their development, and that's exactly the environment we want to create here.

Looking ahead, I'm excited about the school cup fixtures. These games will give us the chance to see how our training transfers into competitive situations, and I know the group is ready for the challenge. Keep working hard, keep asking questions, and remember that improvement is a process, not an instant result."



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