

# Professional Player to Coach Scheme (PPCS) Season 2024/2025



- **Job Title:** SWFC Academy Coach
- **Contract Type:** 23 Month Fixed Term Employment
- **Salary:** £25,000 - £27,500 per annum.
- **Hours:** Flexible 35 hours per week Monday to Sunday.
- **Premier League Coach Development Programme:** The successful candidate will divide their time between their Sheffield Wednesday Football Club (SWFC) employment and their individual development plan which includes enrolment to the Premier League's Coach Development Programme
- **Location:** Sheffield Wednesday Football Club Training Ground (S6 1TF) and Main SWFC Stadium S6 1SW. Some travel will be required. i.e. Away games.

## Background

Sheffield Wednesday Football Club (SWFC) was founded in 1867 and is the fifth oldest football Club in England. Located in an area of Sheffield used to be known as Owlerton, the Club goes by the nickname "The Owls".

Professional football must better reflect modern Britain. Sheffield Wednesday Football Club (SWFC) in partnership with the Premier League, Professional Footballers Association (PFA), and English Football League (EFL) we are seeking to improve the diversity of football coaches in the professional game to make this area more representative of society and the playing population. As part of our commitment to improving diversity, we are proud to be able to support the Professional Player to Coach Scheme, Season 2024/2025, by providing a high-quality fixed-term employment opportunity to develop under-represented groups within the football industry. The scheme is open to PFA members who are currently under-represented within English professional football coaching workforce. Men and Women coaches from Black, South-Asian and Mixed Heritage backgrounds. We believe that having greater diversity helps the whole club to perform better both on and off the pitch.

## What is the Professional Player to Coach Scheme?

PPCS provides a 23-month fixed-term employment opportunity and development programme for the successful candidate. The club will act as the 'base' of employment and the individual will work across a variety of football functions within the club to broaden their learning experience.

The fixed-term employment opportunity will include coaching and observation across the Academy, and collaboration with multi-disciplinary teams. Successful applicants will enter the Premier League's Coach Development Programme which is accredited by Leeds Beckett University. Upon successful completion of the programme, coaches will receive a Diploma in Professional Football Coaching. The development programme includes mentoring, workshops, peer learning, projects, and need-led access to FA/UEFA coaching qualifications.

## Objectives of the Scheme

- To increase the number of former professional players from Black, South-Asian and Mixed Heritage backgrounds in full-time coaching positions in English professional football
- To provide coaches on the scheme with a fixed-term employment contract and development opportunities within a Premier League or EFL clubs
- To substantially improve long-term employment prospects for coaches who complete the scheme.
- To provide each of the coaches with their own development programme to ensure that they are appropriately supported to become successful coaches and visible role models
- To assist in diversifying the workforce at Premier League and EFL clubs, promoting a culture of equality, diversity and inclusion



## Person Specification

<b>Background</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is a positive action scheme aimed at addressing some currently under-represented groups within the English professional football coaching workforce. PPCS is open to PFA members who are Men and Women from Black, South-Asian and Mixed Heritage backgrounds. Applications will only be accepted from individuals from these backgrounds</li> </ul>
<b>Experience</b>	<p><b>Essential</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PFA member</li> <li>Coaches must not have previous experience of holding a full-time coaching role in a Premier League or EFL Club</li> </ul> <p><b>Desirable</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experience of delivering effective and engaging coaching and player development support to children and young people (<i>e.g. in education, grassroots, community coaching, or part-time development centre or Academy setting</i>)</li> <li>Experience of coaching a team or group of players on a regular basis</li> <li>Experience of holistic youth development activities within, or beyond sport</li> </ul>
<b>Qualifications</b>	<p><b>Essential</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UEFA B Licence</li> <li>Current FA Safeguarding Certificate (<i>Prior to commencing role</i>)</li> <li>Enhanced DBS Clearance (<i>Prior to commencing role</i>)</li> <li>Emergency First Aid Certificate (<i>Prior to commencing role</i>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Desirable</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UEFA A Licence</li> </ul>
<b>Person Specification</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drive to become a football coach in English professional football and to help individual players, and teams, to successfully develop and perform.</li> <li>Passion to create developmentally appropriate learning environments for players.</li> <li>Commitment to fulfilling duty of care for children, young people, and adults in healthy, high performing environment.</li> <li>Exceptional interpersonal skills, and relationship building expertise.</li> <li>Resilience for the everyday rigours of high-performance football environments</li> <li>High potential to be a world-class football coach and visible role model.</li> </ul>

## How To Apply

Applications are welcome from PFA members who are Men and Women coaches from Black, South-Asian and Mixed Heritage backgrounds. Reasonable adjustments will be made for any applicant with a disability, and these should be requested directly to Louise Carpenter HR Manager [Louise.carpenter@swfc.co.uk](mailto:Louise.carpenter@swfc.co.uk)

Sheffield Wednesday Football Club believe in equal opportunities and all applications will be assessed on merit only. All personal data that the applicant shares on the equality monitoring form will be submitted separately and not form any part of the application process. This information is collected simply to see if our advert is reaching a wide and diverse range of applicants who are applying for this role. The successful candidate will be selected based on merit as measured against the person specification, set out above.

**Please follow these guidelines to apply.**



SWFC will only consider applications from PFA members who are Men and Women coaches from Black, South-Asian and Mixed Heritage backgrounds.

1. **Please demonstrate in your covering letter of no more than one page, that you meet each of the criteria for the PPCS.**
  - a. Background
  - b. Experience
  - c. Qualifications
  - d. Person Specification
  
2. **In addition, please include answers to the following questions in your covering letter.**
  - a. Why you are attracted to the PPCS, and your ambitions for this specific role?
  - b. How does PPCS fit into your career plan, and the personal and professional development you have undertaken to prepare yourself for this role?
  - c. How would your unique expertise positively impact upon the club, and the players we support?
  - d. What in your opinion makes an excellent football player?
  
3. **Please submit your application alongside your cover letter to [vacancies@swfc.co.uk](mailto:vacancies@swfc.co.uk)**

### **Deadline For Applications**

Please submit your application and covering letter by **12<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

Please email your application and any queries to [vacancies@swfc.co.uk](mailto:vacancies@swfc.co.uk)

A shortlist of suitable applicants will be completed shortly after the closing date and successful candidates will be contacted about the interview process that will take place across w/c 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 until 26<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

By submitting your application, you are agreeing to SWFC and the Premier League processing your personal details for the purpose of administering and evaluating the Scheme in accordance with SWFC and the Premier League's privacy notices<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.premierleague.com/privacy-policy> SWFC Privacy Policy - Sheffield Wednesday