

## WELCOME TO THE FTIFA PRO EXPERIENCE



Fleetwood Town International Football Academy (FTIFA) is the International Academy of Fleetwood Town Football Club (FTFC). FTFC is an English professional football club playing in League 1 of the English Football League (EFL). The club is based in the North West of England on the Fylde Coast only an hour away from both Manchester and Liverpool.

The North West of England is an established hotbed of footballing talent with over 20 professional clubs based in this geographical area and three of these can be found on the Fylde Coast within only nine miles of each other.

## WHERE ARE WE?

Since the 1800s, Blackpool has been Britain's most popular resort. With entertainment at the heart of the beloved Blackpool, the seaside town has been synonymous with fun-filled and action-packed adventures! With an abundance of award-winning attractions, Blackpool has something for everyone, you don't need to travel far to have an amazing experience.

Thrill-seekers can enjoy the thrills and spills of the white-knuckle rides at Blackpool Pleasure Beach, or why not visit the world famous Blackpool Tower, one of the most loved and recognisable landmarks in the world and home to the famous Tower Ballroom, The Tower Circus, The Blackpool Tower Dungeons, The Blackpool Tower Circus and The Blackpool Tower Eye.

## WHY CHOOSE FTIFA?

We offer a unique opportunity to train within a professional football club training environment and share the same facilities as all the clubs professional and academy teams. FTIFA's FTFC coaches and coaching curriculum have a track record in providing a platform to develop and achieve, most famously with Jamie Vardy the England striker.

This season (2020/21) has seen a number of academy graduates as young as 16 make their first team debuts.

FTIFA attendees will also have access to the same departments as the clubs first and academy teams such as physiotherapy, club doctor, analysis and sports science to name but a few.









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## ON THE PITCH

All players will follow the FTFC club ethos which aims to improve players technically, tactically, physically and mentally. We will also provide specific workshops to help the players understand other areas of the game and to develop personally as individuals. All FTIFA coaches will be existing FTFC elite academy coaches with a wealth of experience in youth and player development.

Individual development will be regularly monitored & discussed with club scouts & first team coaches. Individual Learning Programs and weekly player evaluations to ensure training tailored to every players needs and targets set regularly.

## THE TEAM

The FTIFA staff have vast amounts of experience in Professional and Academy football. With such a wealth of talented employees, we are in a strong position to assist in all areas of a players development.



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## **FOOTBALL PROGRAMME OVERVIEW**

Fleetwood Town International Football Academy FTIFA aims to provide all players with aspirations of playing at the highest level possible with the platform to realise their goals. We have structured 4/12/24 week cycles of learning which will ensure players will develop all parts of their game. There will, of course, be opportunities to showcase talents to both FTFC's own coaches, along with scouts from other UK clubs and clubs worldwide. FTIFA's experienced coaches and mentors will also provide ongoing advice as to the very best route for future football with support from a significant network of contacts worldwide.



## **GAMES PROGRAMME**

The games programme is a vital ingredient to the overall programme. FTFC will provide a varied games programme against teams linked to both Premier League, EFL Clubs, private academies and from the grassroots game. Players will also play regular Futsal fixtures.

Selected FTIFA players, who show appropriate levels of development and talent will be given the opportunity to take part in showcase events run by FTFC in front of Premier League and EFL registered scouts.

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## **FACILITIES**

The programme will be delivered at the home of football on the Fylde Coast - Poolfoot Farm Sports & Leisure Complex. This is the training ground of FTFC's first team and academy. FTIFA players will train alongside the FTFC first team, Development and Academy teams. The £9 million facility was opened by the legendary former Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson in April 2016 and is home to the following:

- Seven top class grass pitches
- Two FIFA 2 star grade (the highest grade possible) 4G pitches
- Four red (FTFC colours) 5-a-side pitches
- Pizza Calcio restaurant (players will enjoy lunch here)
- The first team and Academy gym (FTIFA players will have access)
- The first team and Academy physiotherapy room (FTIFA players will have access)
- 10 changing room facilities including showers
- The first team and Academy analysts (FTIFA players will have access)
- Club meeting rooms. (Regular FTIFA individual/team meetings to be held here)
- FTFC classrooms. Multi-use for: Analysis sessions, nutrition lessons, upcoming fixture preparation and much more.



## FTFC PARTNER CLUBS

When signing up for the FTIFA programme, players are not just signing up to FTFC but also our extensive network of partner clubs globally. Currently FTFC have partner clubs to which we share best practice, provide and technical support and accommodate player exchanges in the following countries: Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Iceland, United states, Japan, Uzbekistan, Canada, Australia, Ivory coast, Bolivia and Chile to name a few. This as of today means FTFC have club partners in 6 different continents.

## PLAYER SUPPORT & DEVELOPMENT

## **SPORTS SCIENCE**

This is an area which has developed massively in the last 15 years. All FTIFA players will have access to a bespoke strength and conditioning programme which will be delivered by an FTFC coach within the 1st team/academy gymnasium onsite at Poolfoot Farm.

## **PYSIOTHERAPY & INJURIES**

All FTIFA players will have access to the clubs physios. Any sporting injuries picked up whether in training, during matches or whilst using the club gymnasium will be treated on site by our highly qualified, experienced physiotherapy team to get players fit again as soon as possible.







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## **VIDEO ANALYSIS & 360 PLAYER**

All games will be videoed and tracked for analysis purposes with clips and data being uploaded to the players own VEO and 360 Player software account for the player to review and create highlights video. The VEO and 360 Player is an online individual player development system used throughout professional football in England for academy players aged eight years old through to first team players. Players will have their own private login details and have their own personal individual learning plans (ILPs) created and reviewed through written and videoed feedback on a weekly basis.





## **KIT PACKAGE**

FTIFA players on 4, 12 and 24-week courses will receive a full training kit package from our FTFC kit manufacturer. Hummel.











## **COURSES**

## 4-WEEK | £2,250.00

- 5 days football training per week, designed to reflect a training programme of a FTFC professional
- Opportunities to play in matches against professional, semiprofessional, academy and amateur teams
- Individual feedback tutorials & Report
- Branded training kit and full FTFC kit
- Full access to 360 Player
- Full access to VEO analysis platform
- Sports science Testing & profiling
- Full Physio Cover & Recovery Reports
- 2 strength & conditioning sessions per week

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### **4-WEEK PAYMENT STRUCTURE**

10% (£225.00) non-refundable deposit to be paid along with completed application form.

We will then require payment for 4 weeks (£2,025.00) upfront at least 14 days prior to FTIFA start date. If the full amount is not received, then players will not be allowed to commence the course.

Failure to do so will result in your place on the course being withdrawn immediately

## 12-WEEK | £6,550.00

- 5 days football training per week, designed to reflect a training programme of a FTFC professional
- Opportunities to play in matches against professional, semiprofessional, academy and amateur teams
- Individual feedback tutorials & Report
- Branded training kit and full FTFC kit
- Full access to 360 Player
- Full access to VEO analysis platform
- Sports science Testing & profiling
- Full Physio Cover & Recovery Reports
- 2 strength & conditioning sessions per week

## 12-WEEK PAYMENT STRUCTURE

10% (£655.00) non-refundable deposit to be paid along with completed application form.

Payment of £2,947.50 to be paid & received by FTIFA 14 days prior to course start date given.

Remaining cost of £2,947.50 to be paid & received by FTIFA before the completion of week 6.

Failure to do so will result in your place on the course being withdrawn immediately.

## **COURSES**

## 24-WEEK | £12,500.00

- 5 days football training per week, designed to reflect a training programme of a FTFC professional
- Opportunities to play in matches against professional, semiprofessional, academy and amateur teams
- Individual feedback tutorials & Report
- Branded training kit and full FTFC kit
- Full access to 360 Player
- Full access to VEO analysis platform
- Sports science Testing & profiling
- Full Physio Cover & Recovery Reports
- 2 strength & conditioning sessions per week

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- FTIFA is open 48 weeks of the year with start dates being flexible to the individual.
- 4, 12 & 24 weeks courses commences from arrival date at the academy.
- Full access to all Poolfoot Farm Facilities.
- Gym membership, including access to swimming pool and
  sauna
- Full Board Meal Plan.
- 4\*/3\* Accommodation at partner club hotel including breakfast, evening meal and laundry.
- Airport Transfers (North Of England).
- FTFC Onward Card to attend all FTFC Home Fixtures.
- FTIFA require a minimum of 14 working days notice in order to organise accommodation.

#### 24-WEEK PAYMENT STRUCTURE

10% (£1,255.00) non-refundable deposit to be paid along with completed application form.

Payment of £5,625.00 to be paid & received by FTIFA 14 days prior to course start date given

Remaining cost of £5,625.00 to be paid & received by FTIFA before the completion of week 12.

Failure to do so will result in your place on the course being withdrawn immediately



## **EXTRA TIME**

## **FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES**

All players on the FTIFA programme are effectively on trial with FTFC throughout the duration of their time with us. Those demonstrating the required levels of ability will be offered the chance to train with some of our professional teams. For those who do not meet the necessary ability levels, opportunities are available to trial at an FTFC partner club in other countries where we feel they will have the best chance to impress.

## THE PROCESS

All fees will include transfers to and from Manchester & Liverpool airports or local railway stations on arrival. During the course, FTIFA will provide travel to and from training/match fixtures. Accommodation will be provided on a full board meal plan basis.

For players requiring VISA support, FTIFA can recommend specialist legal lawyers who can provide appropriate services for a fee.

PLEASE NOTE: FTIFA costs do NOT include flights.

## WANT TO STAY LONGER?

FTIFA will gladly discuss and accommodate players for as long as they would like to stay with us.



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#### FTIFA EXPECTATIONS

It is essential that players who attend an FTIFA course come with a growth mindset, are motivated and determined to improve on a daily basis. Players who do not meet these expectations may not be entitled to any trials or any Academy benefits due to any or all of the following:

- Indiscipline (including failure to complete FTIFA tasks of any nature, persistent lateness or poor social attitude, drug use, alcohol, physical or verbal abuse of any nature, any inappropriate behaviour).
- If you do not meet the required attitude and discipline requirements.
- Inappropriate behaviour directly or indirectly causing distress or any negative feelings towards, players, staff or the general public.
- Players will be subject to dismissal with loss of any funds paid and no refund will be paid.

### **VISAS / TRAVEL DOCUMENTS**

FTIFA have no liability whatsoever for the refusal of VISA Travel Documents. We strongly advise that before booking any FTIFA packages you check if you qualify for the appropriate VISA of travel and that you fit the application criteria as refunds are not given in any circumstances.

FTIFA can recommend companies to assist with VISA application for an additional fee.



## OFF THE PITCH

## **ENRICHMENT & WORK EXPERIENCE**

Opportunities will be provided for all players to attend and have match day responsibilities at FTFC home games, similar to that of our young academy apprentices. Additionally, work experience can also be arranged at the request of the player within all areas of the football club including; media, coaching, hospitality facility management, community outreach, and retail services. FTIFA players will have the unique opportunity to experience first-hand how a professional club works.

## **ACCOMMODATION**

FTIFA players are housed with FTFC club scholars in the North Shore area of Blackpool at one of the clubs hotels:

The Lodge Hotel 6-8 Northumberland Avenue Blackpool Lancashire, England FY2 9SB



Players will receive breakfast and an evening meal here (lunch is served at Pizza Calcio restaurant at Poolfoot Farm during the week whilst at weekends players will be provided with three meals a day. Rooms sleep one, two or four, include WiFi, a TV and are en-suite.

Players are in close proximity to the buzz of the town centre, walking distance from the world-famous Golden Mile - jam-packed full of visitor attractions, while local transport links provide an accessible gateway to the rest of the Fylde Coast & North West of Englands attractions.



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## **LAUNDRY**

All players will have access to a washing machine and any washing is to done by the players themselves. This is an expectation of all FTFC's young professionals.

## **INSURANCE**

FTIFA require you to get personal accident and injury insurance to cover the duration of your stay with us. FTIFA will not pay any medical costs or other expenses accumulated from football and non-football injuries that occur outside of the FTIFA programme and in players personal leisure time.

## **WELFARE**

FTFC and FTIFA have experienced, dedicated, approachable staff to care for the players & deal with any concerns they may have.

## **PLACES OF WORSHIP**

The Fylde Coast area and Blackpool have wide-ranging places of worship to cater to all religions.







## **HOW DO I SIGN UP TO FTIFA?**

Securing a place at FTIFA is extremely competitive as squad sizes are strictly limited. Therefore, applicants must go through several stages of submissions before being offered a place. The process is as follows:

- 1. Complete Expression of Interest form.
- 2. Complete a Personal statement.
- 3. Complete FTIFA Enquiry Form
- 4. Telephone/online (Skype/FaceTime etc) interview.
- 5. On successful completion & being accepted onto an FTIFA course, you will be sent a conditional offer of placement.
- 6. Once the Terms & Conditions are met you'll then receive a personalised official invitation letter which will include course specifics.

Your personal statement should include your skills, relevant interests and hobbies, along with any experience you think is appropriate. Your personal statement is an opportunity to tell us about yourself and why you want to apply to FTIFA.

We are looking for those with motivation, commitment and enthusiasm as well as promising soccer ability. Personal statements must not be longer than one A4 page.



# TO START THE PROCESS, PLEASE VISIT WWW.FTIFA.CO.UK

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