



Swindon Town FC Community Foundation
FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY



Swindon Town FC
Community Foundation



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STFC COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Swindon Town FC is one of 72 clubs in the English Football League with a community programme affiliated to the EFL Trust. We have been working tirelessly for over three decades to deliver sporting and social opportunities to people within our community, regardless of age, race, gender, or background.



Swindon Town FC Community Foundation

Swindon Town Community Foundation was founded in 1991 as 'Swindon Town Football in the Community' by former Swindon Town player Leigh Barnard. Jon Holloway took over the project with Clive Maguire in 1996, helping to transform and grow it into the thriving organisation that it is today, before handing the reins to Shane Hewlett in 2024, who serves as Head of Foundation.

The Foundation delivers Football and Multi-Sports based programmes within Swindon and the county of Wiltshire, and we endeavor to deliver and increase participation for people from 18 months to 91 years of age, throughout our spectrum of programmes. Under the guidance of the English Football League Trust, and the Premier League Foundation, we deliver the four key themes of: Sports Participation, Education, Social Inclusion and Health.



The Foundation, with the support of our local partners, continues to engage with over 30,000 participants on an annual basis, and this number is only growing. We have no intention of resting on our laurels however, and we're as excited as our participants to find out what the future holds for us.

OUR CHARTER

Where People Matter

The vision of the Foundation is to strive and endeavor to help people achieve their goals by delivering quality and innovative programmes that focus upon the needs and requirements of its participants.

Our Mission

Swindon Town FC Community Foundation delivers a wide range of programmes in Swindon and the surrounding areas. These programmes are delivered with the aims of **Engaging, Participating and Achieving**.

This is done by increasing sports participation, whilst looking to increase the allegiance between the local community and their local professional football club. The Foundation aims to achieve this whilst meeting the aims and objectives, and themes of the Premier League and Football League Trust, including **Sports Participation, Education, Social Inclusion and Health**.

Swindon Town FC Community Foundation continues to strive to meet the highest professional standards, to enhance and develop our programmes.

Our Core Values

- **Deliver professional, quality, safe and affordable programmes.**
- **Listen to the views of children, young people, adults and our partners.**
- **Provide excellent communication and customer care.**
- **Offer opportunities for all participants to be empowered to achieve their goals.**
- **Invest in and support staff to develop.**
- **Make a difference.**

OUR HEAD OF FOUNDATION

“As Head Of Foundation, I am incredibly proud to lead a dedicated and professional team of staff and volunteers who consistently go the extra mile to create a positive impact in our community.

“This brochure highlights the wide range of projects and programmes we’re running in your community. We remain committed to engaging as many people as possible through diverse initiatives designed for all ages and abilities across Swindon and its surrounding areas. We look forward to welcoming you to one of our programmes soon.”

Shane Hewlett,
Head of Foundation



A NOTE FROM SWINDON TOWN

“When I first became involved with Swindon Town FC, one of the most striking things was how deeply rooted the club is within its community. It became immediately clear that this isn’t just a football club; it’s a central pillar for the people of Swindon. The sense of pride, connection, and belonging that people have with STFC is remarkable, and it’s something that extends well beyond the matches on the pitch.



“The Foundation works tirelessly to bridge the gap between the club and the community, ensuring that STFC isn’t just about football but about providing meaningful opportunities for individuals of all ages and backgrounds.

It’s truly inspiring to see how the Foundation impacts so many lives, using the club as a force for positive change and building a legacy that supports the well-being of Swindon’s people.”

Clem Morfunj,
STFC Chairman

SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

We wouldn't be afforded the opportunity to do the amazing work that we do without the support of our sponsors and our partners, so we'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the great companies and organisations that support us. We'd also like to give our special thanks to our main sponsor, Roots, and to Jon Cummins, who continue to support us and the people of Swindon.





**“STFC
Community Foundation
has been like a second family to
me. I have been with them since I was
four years old, starting in the Development
Centres all the way up to now playing for Swindon Town
Women's and the coaches have supported me every step
of the way. Winning the CEFA cup final with the C6 girls
was a dream come true, and I wouldn't have got there
without the support of all the coaches and teammates. I
can confidently say that it's more than a club, it's a
home.”**

- Elise Clayton, Swindon Town Womens Player

PLAYER PATHWAY

We've worked tirelessly to develop our player pathway, starting at the age of eighteen months. Our Foundation Centres are designed to create a fun and safe environment, where players can develop their skill, and we can potentially identify talented youngsters for the pathway to our Elite and Advanced programmes.



Our Foundation Centres are comprised of sessions devised to improve your child's football skills. This is all through the fun of football, and other structured games and activities.

The programme gives many children their very first experience of participating within a professional football coaching session, and the emphasis is on the children learning and developing within a safe and fun environment. Our aim is to provide our participants with a 'foundation' upon which to build their own pathway whether that leads to a career in sport, or just a healthy adult lifestyle.

At the Swindon Town FC Community Foundation, we provide a wide variety of Foundation Centres hosted at Foundation Park, and other locations in Swindon, tailored for children from the ages of 18 months to 14 years. These centres provide an opportunity to have fun, meet people and keep fit, and also serve as stepping stones on the pathway to progressing football skills and ability. For some, the end goal of this pathway is a professional football contract and although we are very proud of those who make it to Swindon Town FC, we are just as proud of it leading to an appreciation of a healthy active lifestyle.



Mini Foundation (18 months–4 Years)

Our Mini Foundation sessions give children their first taste of a structured football session, in a safe and fun environment, in which parents and carers can join in as well. We aim to strengthen listening and concentration while enhancing balance and coordination skills. These sessions help develop an early love of sport and exercise.

Junior Foundation (4–6 Years)

A natural progression from the Mini Foundation, the Junior Foundation allows players to continue with their football and personal development. Building on what they have learnt, our coaches create a fun and safe environment for young players to work on their team work, communication and football skills.



Youth Foundation and Foundation Goalkeepers (6–14 Years)

These aim to focus on and develop players' skill and technique at a crucial period of the pathway. Designed to supplement and work alongside membership of a grass roots football team, these sessions also serve to enable us to identify players of particular talent to trial for our individual sessions

Girls' Youth Foundation (6–14 Years)

Although we actively encourage both boys and girls to attend our Youth Foundation centres, we recognise that some girls would rather play in a girls-only environment. These sessions contain all of the benefits that come from the Youth Foundation centres, with focused training and friendly match experience in a girls only environment.





Youth Foundation Invitational

When we identify a player of particular talent with the right attitude in our Foundation Centres we may invite them to join our boys' invitational sessions. These sessions are also available to members of our Advanced and Elite Boys' teams, in addition to their training within those programmes.

Boys' Advanced Teams

Players that stand out in our invitational centres, may be invited to trial for our Boys' Advanced Team. Coaches and players work closely to develop key skills on and off the ball. The coaches are also able to focus more closely on tactics and game-play in preparation for their regularly scheduled competitive fixtures. Alongside the Elite teams, our Advanced players are given the opportunity to take part in international tournaments.



Boys' Elite Teams

The final step on the player pathway before the academy, our Boys' Elite Programmes represent the best of our Foundation Centres. Our Elite teams compete in the Elite Development Programme and play in scheduled fixtures, as well as getting the opportunity to take part in international tournaments across Europe.

Girls' Emerging Talent Centre



GIRLS' EMERGING TALENT CENTRE
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

The FA has continued to strengthen the landscape of girls' and women's football across England. A key part of this evolution has been the introduction of Emerging Talent Centres (ETCs), which replaced the former FA Advanced Coaching Centres which is free to play.

Swindon Town FC Community Foundation remains proud to hold the FA Emerging Talent Centre licence for Wiltshire, and the programme continues to go from strength to strength. The ETC plays a vital role in expanding opportunities for girls across the county to access high-quality, elite-level coaching within a professional and supportive environment.

Working in close partnership with the Wiltshire County FA, we have established a strong and sustainable framework that improves inclusivity and accessibility for girls in Wiltshire who aspire to reach the highest levels of the game.

In practical terms, the ETC provides players with regular opportunities to compete against some of the highest-calibre talent from across the country, showcase their abilities in front of national scouts, and progress confidently along the England talent pathway. We are proud of the ETC's impact to date and its position as a key stepping stone in the development of future players.



“Two years on from being awarded the opportunity to deliver the FA Emerging Talent Centre for girls in Wiltshire, we are incredibly proud of how the programme has grown and developed. It continues to provide a high-quality environment where talented female players can thrive and reach their potential, and its success reflects the strong partnership we have built with Wiltshire FA. Together, we remain committed to expanding and strengthening opportunities for girls' football across the county.

— Brad Carter, ETC Centre Manager



Player Development Centre (PDC)

These sessions run alongside our boys' invitational programme and are the first step on the Girls talent pathway for players with potential to get into our centres. They offer an additional challenge, allowing us to focus on more advanced techniques and concepts than in mixed-ability sessions. The sessions also provide extra training opportunities for Centre of Excellence and ETC players. PDC players can train with ETC/CFFE squads and compete in fixtures against them as part of our Talent ID pathway.

Girls' Centre of Excellence (U11s, U13s, U15s)

Our Girls' Centre of Excellence programme runs for the age-groups between the years of the ETCs. These age groups receive the same high quality coaching as the ETC but play their competitive fixtures at a regional level rather than nationally. However, we still provide our Centre of Excellence participants with excellent opportunities, and the support they need to prepare them for when they phase into the next year's ETC programme.



Girls' Emerging Talent Centre (U10s, U12s, U14s, U16's)

The ETC programme ensures that talented girls in Swindon and Wiltshire have opportunity to access the FA's national talent system. We're currently licensed for U10s, U12s, U14s, and U16s and these girls will receive the same high class coaching they have been receiving in the Centre of Excellence, with additional support from the FA, strength and conditioning sessions, and the opportunity to play in the highest tiers of girls' football within the country. ETC is also free to play and fully funded.



COURSES AND PACKAGES

From when I got there, it was even better than I thought it would be!

Everyone was really nice and made me feel happy and not nervous. The coaches were super fun and helped me learn lots of cool things, and they made everything really exciting. I learned so much in just three days, and it went by really fast! I didn't want it to finish because I had such a great time. It was amazing, and I really want to come back again!.

- Noah , Holiday Course Participant

COURSES AND PACKAGES

Our courses and packages offer our community a number of different opportunities to feel a part of their local football club. Whether that's celebrating your birthday at the County Ground, joining us for a match-day experience with the Saturday Team Club, or spending the school holidays with us on our Holiday Development Courses.



Beyond our Foundation Centres, there are a host of ways for people to get involved. Since the Swindon Town Community Foundation was founded over three decades ago, a key aim of ours has been to help the people of Swindon engage with their local football club. Both the town and STFC have a proud heritage and history, and we're privileged to be able to share that with the people of Swindon.



Holiday Development Courses

Our holiday courses are one of the core components of our commitment to provide everyone with access to professional level coaching.

Three days of football at Foundation Park with an emphasis on fun, as well as the development of technique and skill. Split into a number of age groups, it affords young players the chance to play with others of varying abilities, spend lots of time on the ball, and get invaluable game experience. At the end of the week, each participant receives a goodie bag, and has the chance to win trophies in the competitions, special prizes in the Rockin' Robin Raffle, and the coveted 'Kid of the week award'. We also hand out player feedback for each participant to support their development.

There are **three** main types of holiday courses that we run:



Mainstream

Our primary offering is a chance for players of all abilities from across Swindon and Wiltshire, of all abilities, to play together in a friendly environment. The week consists of lots of fun activities, skills development, a chance to play on one of our inflatable pitches, and a tournament on the final day, to implement everything they've learned.



Girls Only

Girls are more than welcome on our mainstream course, but for those who prefer a girls only environment, this provides all the benefits and features of our mainstream course. Having the opportunity to play in this setting helps to build confidence in girls and allows them to indulge their love of football on their own terms.



Goalkeepers

For all young up-and-coming Goalkeepers, this is an opportunity to be offered professional, personal and expert advice to help improve your performance within this specialist position. This course offers a week focused on improving the technical basics in young keepers, such as handling, different save types, and distribution.

Birthday Parties

At Swindon Town Community Foundation, we offer exciting football-themed birthday parties packed with fun and celebration. Children enjoy an action-filled football session led by our experienced coaches, followed by time to share birthday snacks together. To top it off, the birthday child receives a signed Swindon Town FC football as a special present from us.



Saturday Team Club

The STFC Community Foundation offers the opportunity for Junior football teams and local youth groups to be a part of the English Football season, with a Swindon Town Football Club match-day experience.

Available before Saturday home games throughout the season, this includes a professional coaching session, lunch of Domino's Pizza, tickets and parking for the game.

We start taking bookings for this experience as soon as the fixtures are released for the upcoming season with certain matches, such as local derbies, booking up very quickly.

Players, coaches and parents/carers are invited to take in the atmosphere and be a part of a home game here at the County Ground, experiencing a special day as a treat for your team or youth group.

We are also happy that we're able to offer this experience to the participants of some of our other programmes on selected dates. In the past we have been very proud to secure funding to allow participants from some of our vulnerable or disadvantaged groups to take part in the experience for free, giving many of them the chance to watch their first Swindon game.





SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

Project Me helped me a lot.

It made me feel more brave and believe in myself. My Swindon Town coach was really nice and listened to me, and helped me make goals I didn't think I could do. I learned how to deal with tricky things better, and now I feel like I can do lots more. I'm really proud of myself.

Isabelle - Project Me Participant

SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

Education is a cornerstone of the Foundation, and we aim to use football as a tool for inspiring inside and outside the classroom; whether through the Premier League Primary Stars programme, offering sports education for teachers and students, our work within our partner schools, or our C6 programme for further education students.



There are a number of ways that our community can engage with us through their schools- as a parent, teacher, or pupil. We deliver in the majority of schools across Swindon through our in-school coaching and PPA, or the Premier League Primary Stars programme. We also deliver our After-School Clubs in a large number of schools in Swindon, which can offer children a great chance to experience playing a sport outside of a PE lesson, but still in a fun supportive environment.

Our C6 programme has enabled us to take our commitment to education beyond secondary school age, and since it launched in 2016 we've been enabling the girls and boys on the programme to increase their potential, gain work experience, and earn coaching qualifications alongside their A-Levels and vocational qualifications. All whilst training with the STFC Community Foundation coaches, and playing in competitive league matches.

We're proud to work with such great schools, teachers, and students, across the entire spectrum of education, and we're striving to continue with our record of inspiring fantastic results – both on and off the pitch.



Premier League Primary Stars

Premier League Primary Stars

Using the appeal of professional football, we deliver the Premier League Primary Stars programme in schools to inspire primary school children to reach their potential in PE, Maths, English and PSHE. We work closely with teachers, supporting them to develop their knowledge and confidence to deliver high quality PE, and use these skills across the entire curriculum.

Premier League Inspires

Premier League Inspires is a personal development programme for 11–18-year-olds, funded by the Premier League. It builds life skills, character, and positive attitudes, using football to engage students at risk of disengaging from education through mentoring, workshops, and social action projects run by professional club charities.



Degree Programme

Our degree programme, in partnership with the University of South Wales, equips learners with the skills to work in professional football clubs, sports coaching, and national governing bodies. Students gain hands-on coaching experience while studying youth coaching, football development, social inclusion, and sports management.

After School Clubs

Our After-School Club programme is one of the largest of its kind in the South-West, and we run our clubs in a number of schools throughout Swindon and North Wiltshire. The clubs run once a week during term-time and offer children the chance to engage in fun, structured, coaching sessions directly at the end of a school day.



The C6 Programme

The C6 programme was launched in September 2016, as a Year 12 programme, with the educational element being delivered at Commonweal's brand new, state of the art sixth form centre in the heart of Swindon.

Alongside a full range of A-Level and Vocational qualifications, students are offered the opportunity to train, gain coaching qualifications, and compete against other professional football clubs from around the country. The teams play their fixtures once a week, averaging about 25 games per season, against teams such as Chelsea, Ipswich, and Aston Villa. With the popularity of the course we have gone from one girls team to two.

In addition to this, all students on the programme will be able to access the pastoral support, enrichment activities, and careers' opportunities available to all students at Commonweal Sixth Form. This is an opportunity for the young people of Swindon to embrace a new type of further education, that has led previous members to University Placements, apprenticeships and work with STFC Community Foundation, and scholarships in the USA.



STFC6



I joined the C6 through the football education programme and spent two years taking part in a wide range of sporting and academic opportunities. The programme provided experiences that I will always value and played a significant role in helping me secure a place at the Foundation's University Degree Programme, where I now study Sports Coaching. I can't recommend the football education programme highly enough. My favourite moment was winning the treble with the girls, we had such a great team on and off the pitch.

- Millie, C6 Graduate



To be honest, I didn't really know where I was in life. I was trying to lose weight but was struggling to see results, which was affecting both my mental and physical health. A friend told me about FFIT, so I signed up and came along, and it's completely changed my life. I'm in much better shape now, feeling mentally stronger and so much fitter physically. After the 12-week course, it's left me wanting to do even more exercise and continue losing weight.

- Andy Lovell, Football Fans In Training Graduate

HEALTH AND FITNESS

STFC Community Foundation are proud to be able to deliver health, fitness, and nutritional education to our community. This ranges from helping people improve their health and fitness through the Football Fans in Training programme or staying active in their later years with our Extra Time programme.



We understand that health and fitness can sometimes slide down the priorities list, so we want to help make it as easy as possible to remain aware of and maintain this essential aspect of life. With the support of Swindon Borough Council and Public Health Swindon; since 2014 we've been offering our 'Football Fans in Training programme', for men over 35 with a waist measurement of over 38". This has since expanded to include female groups. However, we're constantly striving to improve how we serve our community, so we will be continuing to roll out health and fitness opportunities for all sectors of our community in the future.

Health and fitness aren't just about weight loss. For over a decade, our Extra Time Programme has helped older people stay active and social, enjoying a variety of weekly activities in a fun, welcoming environment. We also run sessions on healthy eating and self-care for children and adults with additional needs, and others who may benefit from extra support.

Health Education Events

The Foundation runs a number of free educational events for minority groups in our community such as recent migrants, and people with disabilities.

These events combine fun physical activity with practical and hands on educational sessions where participants can learn the hidden cost of unhealthy snacks and drinks.

Using the extensive knowledge we have amassed running our Football Fans in training programme, it has been fantastic to tailor this information to a different audience, to help address potential health crises affecting our community



Extra Time

The Extra Time project initially started in 2008 and now has over 25 retired or semi-retired men meeting on a weekly basis to get exercise, socialise and take part in different sports and activities.

Taking place in the Nigel Eady Training Centre, our Extra Timers take part in activities such as tennis, badminton, netball, walking football, and more. We also like to get out and about frequently, playing sports such as padel, croquet and bowls; and the Summer picnic and Christmas meal are annual highlights.

We always have a great time, and it's a great opportunity for people to stay social and active in their later years.



Football Fans in Training

The STFC Community Foundation's Football Fans in Training programme is continuing from strength to strength. This hugely successful 12-week fully funded free course is proven to help men and women lose weight, live a healthier lifestyle, and change their life for the better!

We run courses for men and women, so we're open to everyone aged 35 to 65, with a waist measurement of 38" and above. Although we emphasise that the end goal should be improving health and fitness, each cohort has, on average, lost a collective 32 stone, which totals to a combined weight loss of over 5 TONNES!

Every 90-minute session contains a different topic, which includes managing your alcohol consumption, understanding food labels and calorie intake to help balance your diet. There is also a physical component to each session, and our aim is to ensure you set targets on a weekly basis based around both physical activity and food changes.



Public Health Swindon and Swindon Borough Council have been instrumental in supporting us with the Football Fans in Training initiative, which has helped over 500 local Football Fans become healthier and lose weight. The Foundation is continuing to establish new links with local authorities and has since been recommended to patients at the Great Western Hospital as they begin rehabilitation.



SOCIAL INCLUSION

I believe these sessions are extremely beneficial for the participants. They go beyond developing football skills, with a strong focus on hand-eye coordination as well. You can clearly see the enjoyment when they come together with their teammates and peers, and how much fun they have while playing.

- John , DS Active Parent

SOCIAL INCLUSION AND DISABILITY

One of the most amazing things about sport is its ability to bring people together, regardless of their situation. Our Social Inclusion and Disability programme aims to ensure that everyone in our community has a place to feel supported, whilst staying active, and having fun, regardless of background or ability.



We aim to ensure that everyone has a place on one of our programmes, so we engage with participants from every walk of life, whether that is someone who is living with cerebral palsy, or someone who finds it difficult to engage in school. Through initiatives such as our Premier League Kicks programme, we aim to offer all people of Swindon the opportunity to play football in a safe and supportive environment.



The STFC Foundation is now also supported by funding from the Masonic Charitable Foundation, enabling us to expand our programmes for young people with SEND. Our coach, Scott, delivers six-week interventions in schools, providing tailored support and development opportunities. Throughout the season, we also select match days to invite participants to the stadium, giving them the chance to enjoy the full football experience.



DS Active

Our Down Syndrome sessions have been running since 2000, and through DS Active since 2011. Children and young people with DS engage with the sport they love each week, and all children and young adults with DS are welcome. Additionally, the team have played in some competitive fixtures against other clubs such as Northampton Town and Bristol City. The participants have also played on the Swindon Town pitch and been flag bearers at a Swindon Town game as part of Down's Syndrome Awareness day.

Pan-Disability Sessions

This weekly session for children, aged 5-16 with SEN and Physical disabilities ranging from cerebral palsy to ADHD, helps to develop social, mental and physical ability - as well as offering a respite facility for parents and carers who have children with special needs. The children attend on a weekly basis, and are encouraged to engage within the session, which delivers the opportunity to play sports such as football, unihoc, and basketball. Three-day Multi-Sports Holiday courses are also delivered during a number of school holidays throughout the year.



LD Football Sessions

LD Football is a weekly session designed specifically for adults with learning difficulties. Held at the Nigel Eady Training Centre, this initiative provides a safe, inclusive space for participants to develop their football skills and enjoy physical activity in a supportive environment. The sessions aim to reduce social isolation and promote positive interactions, helping participants build confidence and form connections through sport. The LD Football session plays a crucial role in breaking down stigma and creating a sense of community for individuals who may face barriers in other areas of life.





Refugee Sessions

Supported by Swindon Borough Council's Warm Welcome and Live Well teams, we deliver free weekly football sessions for refugees and displaced people who now call Swindon home. These sessions are primarily aimed at teenagers and young adults, although older participants have also been welcome in the past. In addition to regular coaching and matches, we provide opportunities for participants to take part in tournaments and festivals, as well as arranging fixtures with other groups and programmes, helping to build friendships, confidence, and a sense of community through football.

Project Me Mentoring

The Project Me programme supports children with mild to moderate mental health conditions, such as social anxiety or behavioural disorders. Through topics such as Trust, Self-Awareness, and Resilience; the programme uses sport and activity to support positive mental health in children, and encourage social inclusion and participation during in school hours.



Project Me Graduation

We celebrate our Project Me participants who have completed the course with a special graduation event. This involves an exciting Swindon Town Stadium tour, exploring behind the scenes and getting a real taste of the professional football environment. They each receive a personalised completion certificate and took part in a Skill Zone in our dome. It is a fantastic way to recognise their achievements and inspire them to continue building confidence and resilience through sport.



Super Robins

The Super Robins is our dedicated team for able-bodied adults who have struggled to find acceptance in mainstream football due to ongoing mental health challenges. This team provides a supportive and inclusive environment, helping participants feel part of a community. They train once a week, offering both physical activity and social interaction. In addition, the team competes in the Wiltshire Ability County league, giving players the opportunity to experience the excitement of competitive matches in a welcoming and understanding setting.

Staying Connected

The Staying Connected project was founded during the pandemic, as a way to support our hundreds of elderly supporters. We have now expanded this programme to offer a weekly coffee morning at Foundation park, with activities and games, and guest speakers such as current and former STFC players and club staff.



Memory Cafe Sponsored By Algra

Following on from the successful Sporting Memories event that we have run in the past, we launched our memory cafe sessions here at Foundation Park. Aimed at our elderly fans with dementia, these coffee morning sessions use conversation, story-telling, and visual and audio aids to help trigger memories, and promote socialisation and communication. Through their love of Swindon Town FC we hope to provide these fans with another resource for maintaining a sense of self and identity in their later years.

Premier League Kicks



Wiltshire and Swindon



Joint funded by the Premier League and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) the Premier League Kicks programme works with those aged 8-18 to deliver community activities, workshops and football sessions.

The programme is designed to inspire young people to develop positive, supportive relationships with one another and the authorities. The Foundation, working with the OPCC, aims to reduce the risk of youths being exploited or caught up in crime, as well as improve community safety.

Children and young people can get involved with sessions running in the evenings and after school in multiple locations across the town.



“The importance of diversionary activities for young people, like Premier League Kicks, are crucial in providing alternatives to becoming involved in anti-social behaviour, or more serious crime, and supporting them to be part of a community. The impact of our partnership with PL Kicks has enabled young people to grow in confidence and build positive relationships in their community”



-Philip Wilkinson, Police and Crime Commissioner



EVENTS AT HOME

The STFC Community Foundation aim to organise a number of events in the Swindon area throughout the year, to bring people together to celebrate our community. We aim to make these as accessible to as many people as we can, regardless of age or ability.

One key event in our calendar is our six-a-side Festival, which takes place at the end of the season on the pitch at the County Ground and gives local teams the chance to play on the hallowed turf.

Another is our SEN festival, which takes place in the spring and brings together SEN students from schools all over Wiltshire, for a day of football and fun. We've got events taking place locally all throughout the year, so be sure to check our website and social media for announcements and updates.



EVENTS AWAY

We are proud to be able to offer a number of our participants the opportunity to be able to play in some of the biggest tournaments in the world. We are also committed to ensuring that our girls teams receive the same opportunities as our boys' teams.



We have taken teams to residential tournaments within the UK as well as tournaments further afield, such as Spain, USA, Holland, Belgium, and the world's biggest youth tournament- the Gothia Cup in Sweden. The Gothia Cup has been held since 1975 and sees around 1700 teams from 80 countries taking part, we've had some success in the past, and we feel it is one of the greatest experiences that we can offer our participants. In 2024 was our best year yet where we finished 2nd.

In 2026 we will also be attending the Dana Cup for the very first time.

THE FOUNDATION IN ZAMBIA

Since 2007, STFC Community Foundation have been travelling to Zambia to deliver coach education workshops and disability coaching projects, which gives the opportunity of match experience, coaching, and tutoring for the area's young players, coaches, and referees.



In addition to the work we do while in the country, we annually send over kit and boots for local teams, and in the past, we've also installed solar lighting in schools to help children study longer hours. We have also donated an STFC mini bus to support local football programmes. During our time in Zambia, our coaching team has worked with hundreds of youngsters and the Livingstone Coaching Association, spreading the word of Swindon Town Football Club far and wide.





FOUNDATION PARK

Since opening Foundation Park in 2019, our mission has been to create an inclusive, high-quality sports environment that serves the entire Swindon community, regardless of age, ability, or background. The opening of the Nigel Eady Training Centre in 2023 was a milestone moment, and it stands as a testament to our ongoing commitment to providing the best facilities for our community.

The covered facility ensures that we can deliver our programmes year-round, offering a safe and sheltered space for young children, people with disabilities, and vulnerable groups to engage in physical activity and football. It's been heartwarming to see so many local residents and groups making use of the centre and benefitting from the opportunities it provides.

We're incredibly grateful for the support we've received from the Nigel Eady Trust, Swindon Borough Council, the Premier League, and various partners who have made these projects possible. Their generosity and belief in our vision have allowed us to create a space that brings people together and fosters a sense of community pride and belonging.

Looking ahead, we're excited to continue building on this foundation. Our aim is to introduce even more programmes that promote health, well-being, and social inclusion. We're eager to see the next generation of players, coaches, and participants come through our doors, making the most of everything Foundation Park and the Nigel Eady Training Centre have to offer. This journey has been incredible so far, and we're confident that the best is yet to come.





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