



YEOVIL COLLEGE AND YEOVIL TOWN FC TEAM UP WITH THE WESTERN GAZETTE TO ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY FOOTBALLERS

Yeovil College and Yeovil Town Football Club are working together to host a community football tournament for schools' teams in years 9 & 10. The Western Gazette will sponsor the event.

The tournament will take place in April with the male and female competitions taking place on different dates. Winners of each competition will receive tickets to a Yeovil Town home match towards the end of this season and will have the opportunity to take to the pitch at half time.

Matt Hann, Curriculum Area Manager for Sport at Yeovil College said, *"Being involved in football at this level is such a rewarding experience. The team at Yeovil College shares a goal of improving players' technical game, but also helping them with their academic and personal development, things like a positive outlook, handling conflict, being focused and so on, that will help their game but also prepare them for life."*

"I'm looking forward to these competitions so we can promote all the benefits of football to the wider community and players of all ages, and we're grateful to Yeovil Town FC and the Western Gazette for their help in making it happen."

John Fry, Chairman of Yeovil Town Football Club said, *"Every top footballer started out as a grassroots player, so we at Yeovil Town FC are really pleased to be involved with this sort of partnership with Yeovil College, and this community football tournament. Once talent is identified, it's about nurturing it so we help the players with real potential in whatever form that takes."*

Schools wishing to take part in the tournament should contact Matt Hann on matt.hann@yeovil.ac.uk.

Yeovil College's Men's team is on track to finish highest in the league of all the Somerset colleges and in the top half of the south-west regional league.

Yeovil College's Ladies team is also flying high. The squad features no fewer than 11 Yeovil Town Ladies FC players, who are positioned to finish top of their league of all the Somerset colleges and also high in the south-west regional league.

Yeovil College's partnership with Yeovil Town FC sees male and female players undertaking their studies at Yeovil College, utilising their skills in leading tournaments such as this, whilst playing for the college teams and also for their club outside of college time.

Yeovil College and Yeovil Town FC run a successful Elite Football Development programme to help talented youngsters pursue their footballing ambitions without having to compromise on their academic studies. Any 16-18 year olds wishing to join the scheme or learn more should contact the college on 01935 423921 or info@yeovil.ac.uk

