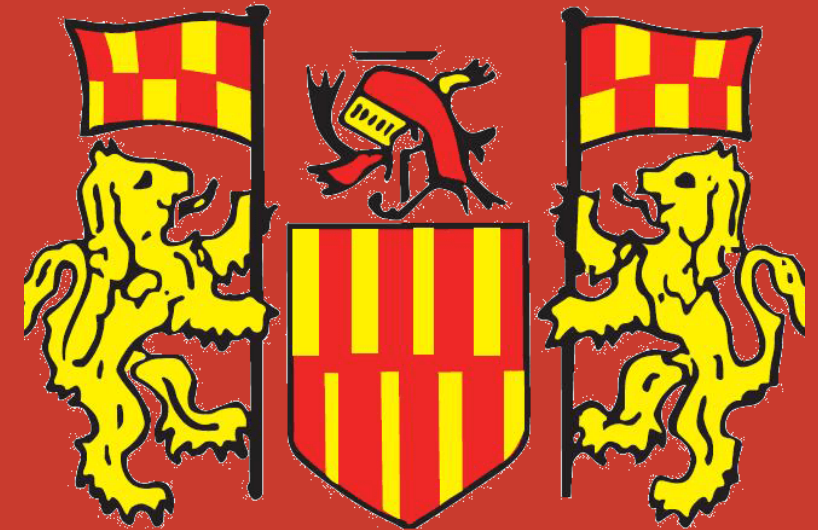


NFA Inclusion Hubs 2023/24

NORTHUMBERLAND
FOOTBALL
ASSOCIATION
LIMITED



What is an NFA Inclusion Hub

- A Grassroots Club ran recreational football session offering weekly opportunities for 6-11 years old and/or 12-16 year olds with Special Educational Needs (SEN). The focus of sessions is fun, safe, active.
- Existing qualified club coaches can be used, or new external coaches can be brought in to help. The sessions must run under the 'banner' of the grassroots club and NFA Inclusion Hub programme e.g. the participant is, and knows, that they are part of the club. External organisations can support in partnership with the Club and Northumberland FA.
- Clubs can choose to run sessions at either or both age-groups.
- The long-term goal of the programme is to create a sustainable pathway within our Club network to provide specific opportunities for children and young people with SEN to be part of a grassroots club and play football into adulthood.



Support Provided

- Funding: £300 (split into £150 on start and £150 25th March)
- Inclusion Hub Clubs promoted via Northumberland FA.
- Northumberland FA staff support, including three support visits per season.
- Coach Mentoring Group Call
- Free places on Smile through Sport CPD event (January 2024 and July/August 2024)
- Free Entry into Easter Festival (March/April 2024)



Criteria to apply

- Must be an England Football Accredited Club.
- Especially interested in clubs from Newcastle, North Northumberland and West Northumberland
- All coaches to hold in-date FA DBS, FA Safeguarding Children, FA Introduction to First Aid, and FA Introduction to Coaching Football.
- All coaches to be listed on Club's WGS record.
- Club commitment to develop youth pan-disability, or impairment specific, football opportunities beyond Year 1.
- Accessible facility (accessible toilets, changing facilities, and playing area e.g. pitch/court)



How to apply

- To become an NFA Inclusion Hub Club, a Club must apply with the permission of the Club Secretary.
- Complete and submit the online application form including details of host venue, coaches to deliver, long-term plans for club to grow disability football as part of their available player pathways.
- Application window is between 2nd August 2023 – 5th September
- Successful Clubs contacted by 12th September



Successful Applications

Applications will be assessed by considering:

- Existing pathways available at the club.
- A club's commitment to inclusion.
- A club's compliance with FA safeguarding.
- Facility quality.
- Location: to maximise opportunities we will look to initially create a geographical spread of Inclusion Hubs where possible.
- Long-term plans to grow and develop disability football provision.
- Past or existing success delivering FA/NFA programs.
- Coaching development support offered by the club.



