



Role Profile

Loans and Emerging Talent Sport Scientist

Department: Men's First Team Emerging Talent and Loans Team / Boys Academy Sport Science and Medicine Department

Role Reports To: Head of Academy Sport Science and Medicine and Head of Emerging Talent and Loans

Role Purpose: Lead, co-ordinate, deliver and evaluate expert profile directed sport science and athletic development support to our 'On Loan' players through a multidisciplinary evidence-based sports science and medicine provision working towards the department's vision of optimising player health, availability and enhancing on-pitch physical performance

Main Responsibilities and Accountabilities

- Provide sport science support to 'On Loan' players, liaising with loanee medical and sport science teams to ensure continuity of care, physical development and performance standards
- Be responsible for formulating, obtaining and sharing relevant loan-player sport science information (testing results, GPS/workload data, gym metrics, wellness) prior to, during and post loan with all key stakeholders
- Play an active role, when required, in assisting with the monitoring and physical development of Emerging Talent players on Loan in collaboration with Head of Athletic Development
- Support the Head of Athletic Development with evaluation of alignment and success of the Academy long-term athletic development (LTAD) framework across all phases, with particular focus on players transitioning towards the First Team environment
- Plan, deliver and evaluate high-quality field- and gym-based athletic development sessions (strength, power, speed, agility, robustness and conditioning) for Loan players and selected Emerging Talent players when on-site
- Be proficient in devising and delivering expert conditioning and on-pitch return-to-performance programmes for players in rehabilitation, in collaboration with the Loans Physiotherapist's and wider internal and external Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs)
- Work collaboratively with the Academy and First Team MDTs, contributing to Individual Development Plan (IDP) reviews at intervals set by the coaching/loans department
- Inform and support the Loan Player Development Coach in the physical performance development of loan players, maintaining regular contact and undertaking loan player visits as required
- Build and maintain strong relationships with key sport science and medical stakeholders at clubs across the English Football League (EFL) pyramid and beyond, influencing standards of physical development and monitoring where appropriate
- Produce clear, concise performance reports for key stakeholders that summarise player status, loading, testing trends and key physical priorities
- In conjunction with the Head of Athletic Development and Loans Physiotherapists be responsible for formulating monthly loan player profile reviews and monthly/season injury audits
- Assist in formulating and reviewing the sport science aspects of the loan player "Performance Support" strategy in collaboration with the Head of Emerging Talent and Loans, Loans Physiotherapists and Head of Athletic Development
- Participate in weekly meetings to ensure relevant information is disseminated to all stakeholders
- Contribute to the success and achievements of the First Team and Academy Sports Science and Medicine Departments, and the Club as a whole, striving for excellence and continuously evolving and developing departmental policies and procedures in line with current research and best practice
- Assist the Head of Emerging Talent & Loans and Head of Academy Sports Science and Medicine (or other senior figures at the club) with any reasonable duties and responsibilities given, including project work
- Take personal responsibility for continued professional development (CPD), attending regular courses and conferences in addition to keeping an up-to-date portfolio and sharing knowledge amongst the department.
- Acknowledge and comply with the rules and regulations which the Academy and Club are bound to observe

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e.g. Premier League, Football Association and Football League. Comply with professional codes of conduct, standards and guidelines. Ensure actions and behaviours are always consistent with and comply with AVFC policies and procedures Any other reasonable duties and responsibilities which your line manager or another senior manager at the club asks you to perform. Demonstrate commitment to Safeguarding by adhering to relevant policies, procedures and values relating to safeguarding children and adults at risk. Support the Club's commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion
Qualifications, Key Skills and Experience
Essential <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSc (Hons) Sport Science (minimum 2:1) MSc in Strength and Conditioning (or equivalent) UK Strength and Conditioning Association (UKSCA) accreditation or equivalent (or in progress) Significant previous experience of providing high quality gym-based Sport Science provision for elite athletes in a full-time capacity within a professional football setting Detailed understanding of athletic development principles, including coaching fundamental and advanced movements, strength and conditioning, growth and maturation, injury prevention, gym-based rehabilitation support and physical data analysis Ability to demonstrate clear, structured and detailed rehabilitation planning, utilising excellent clinical reasoning skills and a criteria-based return Experience of player profiling alongside developing and delivering strategies that manage injury risk and enhance on pitch performance Strong applied understanding of contemporary sports science practice, rehabilitation progressions, screening, profiling and load management for youth-to-senior transition players High-level interpersonal skills and emotional intelligence: able to build trust, manage expectations and influence both internally (Academy / First Team MDT) and externally (loan clubs) in pressured, performance-focused environments Excellent communication and organisational skills Proactive and adaptable approach Full, UK driving licence Available to work flexibly including evenings, weekends and matchdays including travel for loan player visits
Desirable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous experience in providing high-quality Sport Science provision in a full-time capacity in a First Team or Loans environment Previous experience of managing or overseeing the physical development and monitoring of players on loan Experience of analysing, interpreting and evaluating industry related sports science data and presenting insights clearly to coaches and performance staff Experience of working and collaborating with internal and external inter and multi-disciplinary teams across different clubs/environments Emergency First Aid in Football (EFAiF) qualification Knowledge of the Elite Player Performance Plan (expectations of a Category 1 academy)
Disclosure and Barring Service Check Requirement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This role will be subject to an Enhanced disclosure including a Barred List Check

Aston Villa Football Club is an inclusive institution that provides a welcoming environment to supporters, the local community, customers, employees, contacts and competitors. We want to ensure that the Club and all its subsidiaries are free from discrimination of any kind, embracing all regardless of age, race, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, sex (gender), religion or belief.

Aston Villa Football Club is fully committed to safeguarding children and adults at risk across our Club. As such, we adhere to Safer Recruitment processes and for some roles a satisfactory enhanced disclosure via the Disclosure & Barring Service may be required prior to starting in a role at the Club. For more information, please see [Aston Villa Football Club | The official club website | AVFC - Safeguarding](#)