

The Saturday Club

In partnership with Bradford City Football Club the TEAMS project ran a Saturday club for looked after young people. The day consisted of, football coaching for an hour with Bradford City "Football in the Community" coaches, lunch and finished off by with the opportunity to watch Bradford City FC v's Swansea City FC.

The group was made up of young people from residential homes, placed with parents, with foster parents and also living independently. There was a total of 14 young people who attended on the day, all of whom where boys aged 11 - 18 years old.

The day got off to a bright start with all the young people taking part in a football session. The young people were soon put through their paces with various warm up games involving running with the ball, which some found harder than first thought. The session picked up pace and moved onto running with the ball and passing, before the serious matter of a game to finish off the session. Everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves, taking the training very seriously and getting along with each other very well.



After all the running about the young people worked up quite an appetite, and were provided with sandwiches, fruit and juice. Whilst lunch was being served people were starting to make their way to the ground and the atmosphere within the ground helped to build on the excitement of the young people.



Finally the group made its way to the stadium to take their seats for the game. Located in the main Sunwin stand of the ground, some of the group started to show their support for the team by trying to be the noisiest in the ground. They managed to keep the noise going for most of the first half, although it didn't seem to motivate the team as they went in at half time one nil down. The second was very much like the first both teams with plenty of possession but little goalmouth action, until the final ten minutes when Bradford equalised and could have gone on to win the game. The game ended in a draw and the young people were exhausted with the constant singing and the football coaching earlier.

The day had been a success with many of the young people expressing an interest in any future sessions. We now look forward to building on our partnership with Bradford City FC and also the relationship with the young people involved.

I would like to thank David Ward for helping to organise and run the day, Bradford City 'Football in the Community' for providing the coaching, Paula Sutcliffe and Chris Simpson for there help with the group on the day.

John Pickard
Football Development Officer (TEAMS)

In partnership with:

