



**HELPING
PEOPLE
PARTICIPATE,
DEVELOP
& ACHIEVE**

ACCRINGTON STANLEY COMMUNITY TRUST
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1139575

STRATEGY
JULY 2022-JUNE 2025



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Foreword

This 2022-2025 Strategy sets a direction of travel for Accrington Stanley Community Trust over the next 3 years and is about how our business can make the best possible contribution to improve the lives of the people of Hyndburn. Our strategy has been developed through detailed consultation both internally and externally with local, regional and national organisations and policies. We have collated feedback from key stakeholders, participants, parents and our workforce using several methods such as surveys, meetings and strategy focus groups. Accrington Stanley Community Trust has also prepared a 2022-2025 Business Plan to accompany this Strategy.

The strong foundations that were first established in 2010 when Accrington Stanley Community Trust were formed has enabled us to identify key areas to focus on in order to make a difference to our community. This Strategy comes at a key time in our development and provides a platform for positive change and modernisation going forward. It builds on some significant achievements to date and on the good progress already made against our initial objectives.

The Board and management team have set new objectives and priorities based on a robust review process. An agreed set of objectives and priorities will help us to plan and prioritise our work and make sure that we ask the questions 'are we making a difference and improving the lives of the people of Hyndburn?', 'how are we meeting needs?', 'what is the value of our contribution?' Questioning the 'how' and the 'what' is so important if we are to continue to maintain the sort of balance we want – where our social agenda is not compromised by a drive to increase income and that those who can least afford to pay for our services are supported the most.

There are opportunities for us to improve our business; we are a dynamic organisation with plenty of enthusiasm and ambitious ideas. We are also wise enough to know that we cannot achieve all that we want to on our own and that partnership with others, particularly Hyndburn Borough Council and Accrington Stanley Football Club, is paramount to our success; all the more so at a time when funding is so challenging.

It will be an exciting and hopefully fruitful next 3 years and a time when maintaining a firm focus on our priorities will put the organisation on a stronger footing thereafter.

Martin Fearon | Chief Executive Officer | Accrington Stanley Community Trust

01/07/2022



Situation Analysis

It was important to develop this strategy with an approach where we gained an understanding of the beliefs, attitudes and behaviours of our stakeholders both internally and externally to help shape our future provision to best serve our community.

The process was conducted over a period of time and at the heart of it has been the involvement of our workforce. The entire workforce from trustees to volunteers have had their opportunity to feed into the strategy. We created a questionnaire which enabled all staff to input ideas and thoughts on where we currently are and where we want to be. These were then followed up with key stakeholder meetings.

We received over 50 questionnaires as part of our online consultation process, this enabled us to shape our strategy based on external feedback as well as internal. The feedback has also highlighted necessary improvements which will be actioned throughout the period of this strategy.

To accompany this, the senior management team met with key partners, groups and organisations. These stakeholders have given expert advice and support on where they see us fitting within the local networks as well as expressing their opinions on where we can do things better. We have familiarised ourselves and consulted with national partner strategies including Sport England, English Football League Trust and the Premier League.

The result of all of the above has helped us to be clear and confident in both implementing and delivering the Accrington Stanley Community Trust Strategy 2022-2025.

What does our workforce want to achieve in this strategy?

- *Expand current sport and education provision and engage with more participants*
- *To be actively involved in the planning of the future direction of the organisation*
- *Retain high standards and quality across all provision*
- *Diversify into areas such as inclusion and health*

What do our partners want in this strategy?

- *Engage with inactive and underrepresented groups*
- *Help them achieve their goals through a joined-up approach and smart working*
- *Deliver high quality provision*
- *Work together to create a better Hyndburn for all*

What does our community want in this strategy?

- *Remain rooted to the local community and continue developing further*
- *Provide a top class community sport and education facility to improve grassroots football and community sport*
- *Provide a focus on helping disadvantaged and disabled people in Hyndburn*
- *To increase opportunities for young people to take part in sport and education*

How do others describe Accrington Stanley Community Trust?

- *Reliable*
- *High Standards*
- *Indispensable*
- *Progressive*



Vision, Mission, Values and Purpose

Our Vision

“Use the power of Accrington Stanley Football Club to improve the lives of the people of Hyndburn through participation in sport and exercise”

Our Mission

To support the local community regardless of age, gender, race, religion or skill level and promote a healthier lifestyle through sport and education by encouraging individuals to take part in fun-based activities, which develop confidence, co-operation and education.

Our Values

- **Challenge** behaviour and attitudes, promoting **Respect** and celebrating diversity
- **Inspire** to achieve and **Fulfil** potential
- **Develop** leaders, coaches and volunteers
- **Innovate** in delivery

Our Tagline

“Helping People Participate, Develop and Achieve”

Our Purpose

In placing Accrington Stanley Football club at the heart of the community we will:

1. Increase participation in Sport & Exercise and develop talent pathways.
2. Promote wellbeing and healthy lifestyles within local communities.
3. Deliver an inclusive programme of activities that involves and engages hard to reach groups, improving community cohesion.
4. Develop and empower leaders, coaches and volunteers.
5. Engage and inspire young people, raising and celebrating educational achievement.
6. Govern the operations of Accrington Stanley Community Trust (ASCT) efficiently and effectively.



The Board of Trustees

Accrington Stanley Community Trust is governed by a Board of Trustees whom have a responsibility for the strategy and direction of the charity's work. Since the inception of the charity in 2010 the board of trustees have grown from strength to strength in both numbers and experience. Our Trustees represent various sectors within the community including education, sport, health, business and commerce.

Upheld by our Chair of Trustees, Anne Ellwood and Accrington Stanley Managing Director, David Burgess, the intrinsic link between the football club and charity ensures that there is a clear and constant line of communication between the two organisations.

Anne Ellwood (Chair of Trustees)

Anne joined as a trustee in February 2017 and has over 40 years' experience of being involved in Girls/Women's Football, achieving major success with Preston North End and Bronte Ladies with whom she won many awards in a successful playing career. During which has seen Anne involved in a variety of capacities, from promoting the game to Coaching, Managing, officiating and administrative roles at Junior Boys/Girls & Ladies Clubs. Anne's devotion and commitment to the sport saw her rewarded by carrying the Olympic Torch in 2012. She is committed to sport having previously worked within the Leisure Services for nearly 30 years at Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council covering roles such as Sports Development /Community work and being an Events Officer.

Anne's became Vice Chair of Trustees in 2021 and is looking forward to using her knowledge and experience, especially to encourage participation and develop grassroots football.

Purves Ali: MIBC MCMI CMS (Vice Chair of Trustees)

Purves joined the board of trustees in January 2018 and brings a wealth of expertise. An experienced Freelance Business Advisor and Business Development Consultant, (SFEDI Accredited) with over 18 years' experience, delivering a number of enterprise projects in the North West area. Purves has a strong track record in assisting companies in development and growth, as well as driving new projects & initiatives to a high standard to agreed timescales. Key areas of support include project management, business planning, marketing, training & development, advice on grants & funding available.

He has supported organisations such as the Business Enterprise Trust, Enterprise Plc, Oldham Chamber of Commerce, University of Central Lancashire, North West Centres of Excellence, Burnley College, Bolton Business Support services, Lancashire Care Association, Elevate, Regenerate Pennine Lancashire, Growth Lancashire Ltd and Accrington Stanley.

Purves is also the chairman of Whinney Hill Football Club, a governor at Accrington Academy and has been a senior football scout for Manchester United for over 13 years.

David Burgess

David joined as a Trustee in February 2016, representing Accrington Stanley FC on the Board. David is the MD at Accrington Stanley, joining the club in January 2016 after 13 years as CEO at Lancashire FA. Involved at all levels of football, David was player, manager and Chairman at Clitheroe FC, a coach at Clitheroe Wolves JFC and manager of the Ribble Valley and Hyndburn District schools' team.

Through his role at Lancashire FA, David worked closely with the County FA Football Development Officers to deliver The FA Strategy for football within Lancashire, including participation, inclusion and raising standards. He has a passion for the game and in particular community inclusion, so he has been a welcomed inclusion to the Board of Trustees.

John McGregor

Accrington born and bred; John is a Director of Haworth's Financial Services Limited who are also based in Accrington on East gate. He joined Accrington Stanley Community Trust in March 2018 as a trustee.

A member of Church and Oswaldtwistle Rotary club, previous President, and Secretary of Accrington Grammar School Old Boys Association his real passion is Sport, particularly Sport and the provision of Sporting facilities in the local area.

Previously a committee member of the Hyndburn Boys League, John was instrumental in negotiating the merger with the Blackburn boys' league to form the East Lancashire Football Alliance. This is one of the largest leagues in the North West and has received many awards from



the LFA and the FA. The highlight of which was a trip to an England game at Wembley as winners of the Respect campaign.

John is now President of the East Lancashire Alliance football league and is extremely motivated to help Accrington Stanley Community Trust achieve their admirable aims.

Tom O'Neill

Tom joined Accrington Stanley Community Trust as a trustee in April 2018 and brings a key skill set to the organisation. Tom qualified as a solicitor in 2005 after completing his LPC at University of Central Lancashire.

A Partner at Farley's Commercial Law office, Tom specialises in commercial property including acquisitions and disposals, development site preparation and infrastructure, landlord and tenant work, development agreements, option agreements, refinancing transactions and property aspects of corporate transactions.

His clients include developers, a range of business from large companies to small/mid-size companies, individuals and pension trustees.

Tom has a keen passion for sport and is also a director of Accrington Stanley Football Club. He will use his expertise to help develop the Trust further and play a key role in the legalities of the Sports Hub project.

Peter Leatham

Peter was appointed to the board of trustees in July 2020. Born and bred in Bolton with a keen interest in sport, represented Old Boltonians AFC in the LAL for over 25 years as well as being chairman of Eagley Tennis Club for a number of years.

Before taking early retirement at 55 on health grounds worked as a Key Account Director for a major European Building Products manufacturer as well as spending time with TNT and The Guardian in sales roles.

Now Chairman of the recently converted Official Accrington Stanley Supporters Trust and helping deliver a number of projects around the football club, to help benefit the fanbase.

Married for over 38 years with two children and lived in Darwen for all our married life & currently a member at Rossendale Golf Club.

Carl Ellwood

Carl was born in Blackburn but has resided in Hyndburn all his life and is very proud of his home town. He was appointed to the board of trustees in November 2021 with a focus on HR. He attended Accrington Grammar School and then obtained an OND in Business Studies at Accrington and Rossendale College

Carl has spent most of his working life with Lancashire County Council being appointed in 1980 initially dealing with school employees in Hyndburn Schools. Following a number of restructures/reorganisations Carl was Team Leader with responsibility for HR for all the schools in Hyndburn/Ribble Valley and Rossendale and then further restructures resulted in him working HR for the whole of Lancashire County Council dealing with both school and non-school employees. Carl has always had a keen interest in all sports and in particular local grassroots football and in 2004 he was appointed to the role of Secretary at Accrington Girls and Ladies FC which he held for more than 12 years. In 2018 Carl was appointed as Secretary of Accrington Stanley Community Trust Ladies and Girls FC a position he held until 2021.

Carl is fully committed to assisting as a volunteer at Hyndburn parkrun which is a free weekly 5k run attracting both local and parkrun tourists held at Wilsons Playing Field each week. Carl is passionate about giving people an opportunity to participate in sport as well as promoting the brand of Accrington Stanley.

Robert Houseman (Safeguarding and Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Portfolio Holder)

Robert joined the board of Trustees for a second time in May 2022 having previously been a trustee for eight years.

He is currently the Designated Safeguarding Officer, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Officer and Supporter Liaison Officer at Accrington Stanley Football Club.

An Accrington Stanley Supporter all his life, Robert has done numerous paid and unpaid roles at the club, including Director and General Manager.

A qualified Teacher, he also works as a Maths Tutor at a Primary School in Burnley and was previously a Local Authority Education Consultant and Deputy Headteacher in Blackburn.

Robert is keen to promote the work of the Trust, where all participants are encouraged to have fun and succeed in a safe and inclusive environment.



Chris Knagg CFIOSH FIIRSM CFISQEM FCFMI MloD (Health and Safety Portfolio Holder)

Chris joined the board of trustees in July 2022 and has a wealth of health and safety management experience gained from over 30 years of experience in a wide range of business sectors and events.

Chris has lots of experience of managing health and safety in football club and academy settings. A long standing and active member of the Institution of Occupational Safety & Health in the Northwest he is the immediate past chair of the Manchester & Northwest Districts Branch and is the current chair of the IOSH East Lancashire District.

Chris is Managing Director and Principal consultant of a small but very busy health and safety consultancy business. A local lad and Hyndburn resident, he is looking forward to bringing his knowledge and skills to the board and supporting the Trust.



Strategic Aims

1. Provide a High-Quality Service

Our strategic objectives:

- Ensure all participants receive a positive, enjoyable and safe experience.
- Develop and deliver a quality assurance framework across all programmes and invest in workforce development.
- Measure impact through different techniques and publicise an Impact report annually to all stakeholders.

2. Govern and Lead Effectively

Our strategic objectives:

- Ensure financial sustainability.
- Ensure there is an appropriate governance and leadership structure to support the strategy and deliver the charitable aims and objectives.
- Ensure compliance with relevant legislation and regulation.

3. Deliver Inclusion, Health & Wellbeing, Sport Participation and Education Programmes

Our strategic objectives:

- Provide a variety of inclusive projects that deliver positive change to disadvantaged and disabled people in Hyndburn.
- Build strong relationships with other organisations to make a positive impact on health, well-being and inclusion in our community.
- Instil aspects of health, well-being and inclusion into the culture of our organisation to create a lasting legacy.
- Increase Sport Participation rates in Hyndburn.
- Provide high quality education and expand current provision.

4. Expand and Operate an Excellent Community Sports Hub Facility

Our strategic objectives:

- Work with key stakeholders to further design, develop and build an extension to the indoor areas of the Stanley Sports Hub.
- Provide a core base for the charity to use as its headquarters to deliver our charitable aims and objectives.
- Maintain a sustainable state of the art sports and education facility for the local community, grassroots clubs and voluntary sector organisations.



Strategic Aim 1

Provide a High-Quality Service

Actions:

- 1 - Ensure all staff are receiving adequate CPD and reflection for personal development, to enable them to thrive within our organisation
- 2 - Introduce and deliver a quality assurance framework for staff to adhere to across all strands of work
- 3 - Highlight our services through varied lines of communication whilst being easily accessible to participants, partners and our community
- 4 - Create a comprehensive offer of affordable services
- 5 - Ensure opportunities for all beneficiaries and stakeholders to provide us with detailed analysis of our work and its impact

Outcomes:

- 1 - Provide highly qualified and experienced staff to facilitate our projects
- 2 - Ensure our programmes and staff are unpinned by a strong framework to deliver high quality service
- 3 - Ensure awareness of all services whilst maintaining excellent lines of communication creating opportunities to consult
- 4 - Increase our participation levels in a wider breadth of provision
- 5 - Provide us with situation analysis that will ensure we can evolve and re-align were required through suitable consultation



Strategic Aim 2

Govern and Lead Effectively

Actions:

1. Develop a suitable staffing structure that will meet the needs of the organisation's growth
2. Recruit and retain trustees who will enhance the experience and expertise on our board
3. Align our trustees to a portfolio utilising their skill set and further supporting our staff and programmes
4. Create a framework that will enable us to analyse suitability for new or expansion of programmes
5. Provide a clear reporting system and monthly analysis of financial situation

Outcomes:

1. Provide clear lines of communication and support to staff and the projects they oversee
2. Increase the breadth of skills within the organisations whilst strengthening our network
3. Ensure staff have additional guidance utilising the experience and skill set of the board
4. Ensuring that we use an assessment criteria, therefore enabling us to make correct judgement on suitable growth of Accrington Stanley Community Trust
5. Mitigate financial risk to the organisation



Strategic Aim 3

Deliver Inclusion, Health & Wellbeing, Sport Participation and Education Programmes

Actions:

1. Create an inclusive and high-quality disability programme
2. Expand our social inclusion programmes and projects to reach further into our community
3. Utilise community facilities to provide health, wellbeing and inclusion programmes in Hyndburn
4. Introduce provision targeted at tackling obesity in children and general health issues
5. Appoint a full time Health officer to oversee development of this strand of work
6. Expand Education provision by launching a Traineeship programme
7. Increase Sport Participation rates in Hyndburn by providing more activities.

Outcomes:

1. Ensure staff and resources are of high quality to support delivery
2. Maintain progress and development in all areas of inclusion, health and wellbeing, sport participation and education.
3. Tackle local issues using our highly trained and motivated workforce
4. Ensure we provide high quality provision in schools to educate young people and their families on health
5. Achieve high levels of engagement within our Health projects
6. More opportunities for local people to access vital education provision
7. Higher levels of people in Hyndburn moving from inactive to active status



Strategic Aim 4

Expand and Operate an Excellent Community Sports Hub Facility

Actions:

1. Design, plan and develop a scheme for an expansion of the community sports hub
2. Prepare for new project delivery at the facility and evaluate current projects
3. Develop education opportunities in the facility and improve education in Hyndburn.
4. Operate an excellent community sports hub facility
5. Maintain high levels of use and meet the site development plan requirements at the facility.

Outcomes:

1. Ensure that any expansion of the sports hub facility is fit for purpose and meets requirements.
2. New and existing provision created and improved to be hosted in the expanded facility
3. Better environment for students to study and more option, resulting in better attainment.
4. Provide a fantastic sports and education facility for the community to use and use as a base for ASCT.
5. Achieve all targets set in the site development plan and ensure the facility is well used by the local community and organisations.



Our Commitment

We will never stand still; we want to grow and improve each year and develop new and existing projects to benefit our community. We started in 2010 with no money and just two members of staff. 12 years on we are delivering over 30 community projects to thousands of local people and created a new £2m community Sports Hub facility which opened in 2020. We are an award-winning charity that makes a positive impact in our community and we want to build on this over the next three years.

As we enter this strategy, we have some very exciting plans, with the expansion of the aforementioned community Sports Hub facility high on our agenda. We also plan to expand our work into areas we haven't delivered before, such as working with veterans via the Royal British Legion and linking up with the new Raza Jamia Masjid Mosque and Community Centre in Accrington to deliver more opportunities and further engage with the BAME community.

We will also continue sponsoring an amazing initiative with Accrington Stanley Football club, who gives away 1200 Adidas first team replica football shirts to all year three primary school children in Hyndburn at a ceremony at the Wham stadium every single year.

Accrington Stanley Football Club is a symbol of civic pride in Accrington. For at least the next three years, as thanks for their support and a source of encouragement for young people to participate in sport, children in the area will be being given their own official Accrington Stanley football shirt to keep and wear with pride.

Alongside new projects and facilities we will also improve and expand current projects such as our Premier League funded Kicks and Primary Stars programmes. We are a unique charity that has the ability to engage with our community and inspire people to lead a positive and enjoyable life. We want the best for everybody we engage with and we are committed to serve our community for the long term.



Enablers

Partners

Funders

As a self-funding charitable organisation, we rely on securing grants from funders who share in our vision of making a difference to our communities. Nationally we will continue to gain funding support through the English Football League Trust and Premier League as one of their Professional Football Club Community Organisations and will monitor other national funding agencies aims and objectives to align ourselves appropriately to maximise our opportunities to gain further national funds. We will work closely with commissioners in our area to maximise the funding available and, where possible, match-fund aligned programmes to offer value for money as well as more activity for our communities.

Building and maintaining our existing relationships with local commissioning groups will form a key area of work for the senior management team to ensure we are continually seen as a go-to organisation which delivers and maximises outcomes to the community.

Programme partners

The delivery of this strategy is dependent upon the skills and co-operation of many programme partners that will help ensure we service the community of Hyndburn appropriately.

We are aware that there are many excellent, skilled and specialist organisations that can help support our delivery including from the public, private and third sector. Understanding the local landscape and programmes already offered to our community will create a sense of togetherness for the local business community allowing programmes to be developed and delivered for the benefit of all. We will continue to consult with our programme partners as well as seek new partnerships that can add value to our offer through additional innovative project ideas.

Sponsors

As a charity we actively seek organisations to support Accrington Stanley Community Trust through sponsorship of themes, projects and bespoke initiatives. We aim to support and deliver partner organisations' Corporate Social Responsibility plans where these are consistent with our mission. Working in partnership with sponsors who are like-minded organisations and have the community and their workforce at the heart of what they do is important to us when creating sustainable relationships that have mutual benefits for both organisations.



Enablers

Facilities

Stanley Sports Hub

The planning and development of an expansion of the community sports hub facility have already begun, with construction work planned for late 2022.

The plans include an extended cafeteria area with views onto the 3G pitch. A large indoor activity space that can host 80 people. 3 additional classroom areas and multiple training and meeting rooms to cater for education, employability, health & wellbeing and local community groups. An outdoor seating area and a balcony will be created to provide fantastic elevated views onto the 3G pitch.

The Stanley Sports Hub has been a roaring success, and after just 18 months of being open, there is a requirement for additional space to meet the needs of the local community. Over 2000 people are using the facility each week, and the extension will allow more people to be educated through from BTEC to degree qualifications, deliver employability and traineeships for people who are unemployed and offer local community groups a great venue to deliver their own projects.

The aims of the sports hub are to increase participation in sport, improve health and exercise levels and provide more opportunities for disabled people to access vital sport and education activities. The sports hub will also host many projects that develop employability skills for people out of work, create new job opportunities, inspire people to become volunteers for local sports organisations, sports clubs and charities, and provide a pathway for gifted and talented young people into elite sport.



Enablers

Accrington Stanley Football Club

Accrington Stanley Football Club (ASFC) takes pride in being a community focused, family friendly organisation. We have a desire to make a positive impact on the town and its people.

We recognise that the football club has a privileged and unique position and consequently are able to make a difference in the community in ways that other organisations would struggle.

Sport in general, and football in particular, can be both inspiring and empowering and we always seek to maximise that opportunity.

Since ASFC joined the Football League in 2006, we have had a chance to fulfil those ambitions through the work of Accrington Stanley Community Trust, which now engage with vast numbers across diverse programmes that reach both the youngest and oldest members of the community.

Andy Holt, Chairman of Accrington Stanley Football Club said *"being outside and active was day to day life for me as a young boy growing up. In more recent years there's been less of an emphasis on community sports for children. Accrington Stanley Community Trust deliver some fantastic projects and they are an essential part of our engagement with the community. This is something I hold with huge importance.*

"I want to create a connection with our professional football team. Our roots go right back to 1888 when Accrington were one of the founder members of the Football League. The reformed club was founded in 1968. It is very fitting to mark the 50th anniversary by giving a shirt to every year three primary school pupil in the Hyndburn area. I will be repeating this every year for at least the next five years in the hope it brings us closer to the community. I want it to inspire youths to take pride in their home town club by feeling part of the borough and supporting their local team"

Accrington Stanley Football Club's 10 values will be at the heart of everything we do:

- **Honesty** – we will be fair, truthful and morally upright.
- **Integrity** – we will be steadfast and adhere to high principles and professional standards.
- **Trust** – we will give people confidence in the good qualities of the Club, especially fairness, honour and ability.
- **Commitment** – we will be devoted and dedicated to the club, the players, the fans and our community.
- **Pride** – we will recognize the importance of all the club's efforts and achievement; that have made Lancashire and our club great.
- **Respect** – we will have high regard, recognition and appreciation for everyone we deal with.
- **Quality** – we will strive to have the highest standards we can in everything undertaken by the Club.
- **Value** – we will provide value for money.
- **Success** – we will be driven and focused on achieving individual, collective and club success.
- **Character** – we will be courageous, straight talking and entrepreneurial together with all our other qualities and values that is what will make Accrington Stanley distinctive.



What Our Community Thinks

"The Kicks programme is a unique opportunity for us to engage with young people without them being distant and wary of us, it's been great fun and we now know a lot of the local young people by name and can say hello to them in the streets, barriers have definitely been broken down by the great work done by Accrington Stanley Community Trust."

Police Officer at Hyndburn Police.

"Following our KS1 resilience lessons I've had a full class of little 'I can do it' monsters. The children loved the sessions and even Reception were fully engaged. Staff commented on how great the Accrington Stanley sports coaches were and the rapport they had with the pupils was fantastic."

Teacher at Local Primary School.

"This is the most I have ever seen our pupils really engage with any subject, they have really shown an interest and passion about helping the environment. They have really taken to the lessons and are always asking when Stanley are back in."

Teacher at Local Primary School.

"I first started coming to Kicks as a player and then when I got older, I began volunteering, I've done over 200 hours volunteering now and Accrington Stanley Community Trust have put me onto my FA Level 1. I hope to be a coach when I'm older."

Participant and Volunteer on Premier League Kicks.

"I've really liked playing lots of different games, with dodgeball being my favourite. I think I've got better at PE and the coaches at Accrington Stanley Community Trust are really fun and always make sure we play games. I look forward to my PE lessons!"

Participant on Premier League Primary Stars.

"Whilst studying the BTEC course I have felt well supported by all members of staff within Accrington Stanley Community Trust. I have really enjoyed combining full-time education with football. I have created positive relationships with coaches, tutors and my peers. Quality coaching has helped me improve."

Student at Accrington Stanley Community Trust's Football College.

"It is quite a unique degree as you are provided with plenty of access to content, resources and recorded lectures 24/7 via an online platform, which suits my lifestyle at the moment. Scheduled weekly lectures in a football and sporting environment compliment the online content. In addition to this, support from Accrington Stanley Community Trust mentors and small class sizes allow me to utilise the support network."

Student on Foundation Degree Programme.

"I thoroughly enjoyed my time on Accrington Stanley's NCS programme so much that I decided to join Changemakers because I believe it is too good an opportunity to miss out on. I am most looking forward to putting our plans into action, hopefully helping communities and I hope this encourages others to do the same."

Participant on NCS Programme.

"We used to have a big problem with kids and anti-social behaviour near our homes, we don't have anywhere near as many issues now and the local park is a lot busier than it ever has been since Accrington Stanley Community Trust started delivering diversionary programmes there."

Resident in Hyndburn.