



26/27 Unified Licence Requirements

Football Association of Wales *National Academi Licensing Framework*

Licence Type Key

UEFA (Combined – Tier 1)	Mandatory criteria satisfying UEFA Licensing combined with Tier 1 (both Cymru Premier & Adran League)
UEFA Male Only	Mandatory criteria satisfying Male UEFA Licensing (Tier 1 – Cymru Premier)
UEFA Women's Only	Mandatory criteria satisfying Women's UEFA Licensing (Tier 1 – Adran League)
National Academi FAW	Mandatory criteria satisfying National Academi FAW Licensing
Non-Mandatory	Optional National Academi criteria

SECTIONS:

This FAW Licensed Academi Criteria is sectioned in two divided parts:

- **Part A** — Mandatory Criteria: All clubs must fully meet these requirements to hold a National Academi licence (Score 1 Point Per Criterion).
- **Part B** — Sliding scale framework | National Academi Standard (Score 2 Point Per Criterion) | Unique Selling Point (Score 3 Point Per Criterion)

MISSION STATEMENT

The Football Association of Wales (FAW) is committed to a National Player Development structure that gives equal opportunities and choice to players throughout the country. The focus of the programme is the "Player at the Centre". These opportunities will be provided and developed within the National Academi structure and will place the welfare of the player as paramount. To ensure this, all Academies will be expected to adopt and operate the FAW Safeguarding Policy.

Following three seasons of the National Academi categorisation model (2023/24 to 2025/26), the FAW conducted a comprehensive review of the domestic player development pathway between September 2025 and February 2026. This review included both objective data and subjective data analysis, stakeholder surveys across all COMET-registered participants within the National Academi reaching 3,451 stakeholders with 748 completed responses, key stakeholder interviews with all National Academi clubs — including clubs involved in the National Academi during the review period and regional forums assessing the efficiency and outcomes of the pathway for talented players within the three year period.

Six working groups were established connecting the Welsh football ecosystem, which included the contribution of Area associations and Professional EFL Welsh clubs, Cymru Premier General Managers, National Academi Representative Group, FAW Working Group and Women's & Girls football. Each key stakeholder group was established from January 2026, tasked with developing a Roadmap for the future of Welsh youth football and defining short, medium and long-term objectives based on the findings of the review. The FAW communicated this Roadmap to all National Academi clubs, with the Unified Licensing Framework representing Stage 1 of that journey. The 2026/27 season represents a transition year, during which clubs will work towards the full requirements of the Unified Licensing Framework, which comes into effect from the 2027/28 season.



The National Academi structure will undertake to deliver on the following principles:

- Develop a strong reputation for high quality provision
- Support the development of thriving domestic Clubs and football ecosystem
- Drive participation locally through better user experiences and access
- Provide more professional opportunities and remove barriers to progression

To ensure the National Academi structure is fit for purpose, the FAW has introduced a Unified Licensing Process that integrates mandatory UEFA youth development criteria with Tier 1 licensing standards for both male and female pathways. All clubs must meet these minimum requirements as a baseline.

Above this baseline, clubs are empowered to determine their own level of delivery against each criterion, operating on a sliding scale between the minimum standard and unique selling point. This approach is designed to support the long-term sustainability of clubs, giving each Academy the flexibility to be individualised in their delivery and to identify and build on their own unique strengths. The sliding scale has been shaped collaboratively with all 17 National Academi clubs through the working group process replacing the previous Category A, B and C classification system.

SLIDING SCALE – ACADEMY RATING FRAMEWORK

Part A criteria are non-negotiable. Every club must fully satisfy all mandatory requirements as a condition of holding a National Academi licence — there is no flexibility, no discretion and no partial credit. Failure to meet any Part A criterion will result in licence refusal or withdrawal regardless of performance in Part B.

Part B operates as a sliding scale, allowing clubs to determine their own level of delivery against each criterion. Mandatory criteria within Part B must be met at a minimum standard, while optional criteria do not have to be delivered — clubs choose where to invest, enhance and build their unique strengths.

Score	Level	Description
0	Not Met	Requirement not fulfilled
1	PART A Minimum Standard	Meets the mandatory unified licensing baseline
2	PART B National Academi Standard	Exceeds minimum; meets FAW National Academi quality standards
3	PART B Unique Selling Point	Exemplary practice — defined collaboratively by clubs

Section	Weighting	No. of Criteria	Max Score
PART A — MANDATORY			
Sporting	15%	5 (Mandatory)	5
Medical & Performance	25%	2 (Mandatory)	2
Business (Social & Welfare + Legal)	20%	5 (Mandatory)	5
Infrastructure	15%	2 (Mandatory)	2
Personnel	25%	11 (Mandatory)	11
PART B — SLIDING SCALE	Weighting	No. of Criteria	Min – Max Score
Sporting	40%	8 (Mandatory) 5 (Optional)	[16 – 39]
Player Welfare & Medical	25%	4 (Mandatory) 3 (Optional)	[8 – 21]
Personnel	20%	3 (Mandatory) 1 (Optional)	[6 – 12]
Infrastructure	15%	1 (Mandatory) 0 (Optional)	[2 – 3]
TOTAL WEIGHTING	PART A + PART B = 100%		PART A [25] + PART B [32–75] = [57–100]

PART A - SPORTING

Requirement	Mandatory Requirement Details	National Academi Descriptor
Written Youth Development Programme (Art. 19) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must have a written youth development programme approved by the Licensor. Programme must cover: youth development objectives and philosophy; youth sector organisation; personnel and minimum qualifications; infrastructure; financial resources; football education for different age groups; educational initiatives (Laws of the Game, anti-doping, integrity, anti-racism); medical support for youth players; review and feedback process; duration of at least 3 years, maximum 7 years. Must ensure every youth player can follow mandatory school education and no youth player is prevented from continuing their non-football education.	Clubs must provide a written Youth Development Plan this is reflected across: club development philosophy, football philosophy aligned to the Welsh Way National Curriculum, coaching philosophy and club curriculum, player development plans including at least three player reviews annually, and annual timetables for fixtures and training. The coaching programme must operate for a minimum of 32 weeks per year. Academies must provide documents outlining Talent ID philosophy and recruitment framework. The Academy must provide a plan outlining how FAW life-skills development and support dual career progression. In addition to the information outlined under the details column.
Youth Development – Free U6s National Academi - FOR 27/28 Season	Clubs must provide free football development opportunities for children aged under 6, supporting grassroots participation and early player development in line with FAW National Academi programme requirements.	Team entered at U6 that participates in FAW organised activity and has 20% female participants, whereby no player/parent pays to participate. *FAW will provide subsidy to the Club to deliver this provision, based on quality metrics*.
Youth Teams – Men's & Women's / National Academi Girls (Art. 20 Male / Art. 20 Women / Art. 21 Male) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Men's clubs must have at least four youth teams (ages 10–21) plus at least one U10 team or organised U10 activities (UEFA Male). Women's clubs must have at least two women's youth teams (ages 12–21) participating in official competitions (UEFA Women's).	All teams must be entered into FAW National Academi competition. The number of teams permitted at each academy is subject to FAW approval. There must be a minimum of two football training sessions per week totalling no less than 150 minutes, on separate days of the week for all age groups from U12-U19. There must be a minimum of one football training session per week totalling no less than 75 minutes, for all age groups below U11. There must be a minimum of 75 minutes of Goalkeeper training available for each Goalkeeper each week. Session plans must be recorded for every training, with records of attendance. Every training and match contact must have separate Head Coach, Assistant Coach and person providing medical provision.
Support Women's Football (Grade B) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must support Women's football by implementing measures and activities aimed to further develop, professionalise and popularise women's football such as; entering a first and/or youth team in official competitions; providing support to an affiliated women's football club; or organising other women's football initiatives as defined by the licensor	Academies must permit and encourage female player participation. An unlimited number of female players may register and play for an Academy, not included in squad size limits at any age group. Female changing room access with separate shower and toilet facilities must be available at every contact for every age group with female participants.
Player Registration – FIFA One Club Rule (Art. 23 Male / Art. 22 Women) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	All players above the age of 10 (men's) or 12 (women's) must be registered with the UEFA member association or its affiliated league in accordance with FIFA Regulations on the Status	Academies must adhere to FIFA's One Player One Club policy at the relevant age groups. All players must be registered in accordance with FAW Rule 59, and all players participating in Academy League fixtures must be registered in accordance with FAW Rules. Academies must adhere to FAW Academy Player Registration Regulations. Academies will be permitted to register trialling players as per FAW Academy Player Registration

Requirement	Mandatory Requirement Details	National Academi Descriptor
	and Transfer of Players. Note: FIFA's one player/one club registration rule covers this requirement — a player may only be registered with one club at a time and all registrations must be recorded through the appropriate national association system.	Regulations. Academies must submit all match day administration including but not limited to Team Sheets and COMET procedures as set out by the FAW Competition Regulations. Academies agree to release players as requested by the Football Association of Wales for National & Regional Activity.

MEDICAL & PERFORMANCE

MEDICAL

Requirement	Mandatory Requirement Details	National Academi Descriptor
First Squad & Youth Player Yearly Medical (Art. 22 Male / Art. 21 Women) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must establish and apply a policy ensuring all players eligible for the first squad undergo a yearly medical examination in accordance with the relevant provisions of the UEFA Medical Regulations. Must also establish and apply a policy ensuring all youth players above the age of 12 undergo a yearly medical examination in line with domestic legislation. (Youth player policy is Grade B.)	Academies must conduct Medical Screening at least once per season for all age groups. Clubs must record maturation measurements per FAW competition policies. The Club must also document injury prevention and management policies and rehabilitation approaches
FAW Concussion Charter UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must sign and apply the principles of the FAW Concussion Charter. Template available from the FAW.	—

BUSINESS

Social & Welfare

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Requirement	Mandatory Requirement Details	National Academi Descriptor
Anti-Racism Policy (Art. 29 Male / Art. 28 Women) (Grade B) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must establish and implement a policy to tackle racism and to guarantee that all policies, programmes and practices are exercised without discrimination of any kind.	—
Equality & Inclusion Policy (Grade B) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must establish and implement a policy to ensure equal rights and opportunities for all people following and contributing to football activities organised by the club.	—
Child & Youth Protection Policy (Art. 30 Male / Art. 29 Women) (Grade B) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must establish and implement a policy to protect, safeguard and ensure the welfare of youth players and ensure they are in a safe environment when participating in activities organised by the club.	Academies must adopt the FAW Safeguarding policy and adhere to all Welfare and Safeguarding Rules and Regulations. All staff must hold a valid enhanced DBS sanctioned by the FAW and have attended the FAW Safeguarding and Child Protection Course. Codes of conduct must be signed by all players and parents/guardians. Player inductions and parents evening must be completed annually for all players. Player exit processes are documented outlining as a minimum; formal protocols regarding player releases and support offered by the club - whereby clubs shall not release players signed during the season prior to the end of the same season, and timing of exam periods is considered in release documents. Academies must ensure insurance matters related to all Academy activities are covered.
Football for All Abilities Policy (Art. 31 Male / Art. 30 Women) (Grade B) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must establish and implement a policy to make following and contributing to football activities accessible and enjoyable for everyone, irrespective of disability or disabling factors.	—

Legal

Requirement	Mandatory Requirement Details	National Academi Descriptor
Declaration re UEFA Competition Participation (Art. 59 Male / Art. 50 Women) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must submit a legally valid declaration confirming: recognition of FIFA, UEFA, member association statutes and CAS jurisdiction; commitment to play only in recognised competitions; obligation to inform the licensor of significant changes; compliance with licensing regulations; accuracy of the reporting perimeter; completeness of all submitted documents; and authorisation for compliance audits.	—

INFRASTRUCTURE

Requirement	Mandatory Requirement Details	National Academi Descriptor
Facilities – Availability (Art. 34 Male / Art. 33 Women) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must have facilities available throughout the year. If not the owner, a written contract with the owner(s) is required. It must be guaranteed that the facilities can be used by all the club's teams during the licence season, taking into account the youth development programme.	—
Facilities – Minimum Infrastructure (Art. 35 Male / Art. 34 Women) (Grade B) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	As a minimum, the infrastructure of facilities must fulfil requirements defined by the licensor, including relevant indoor/outdoor facilities; number and size of football pitches; dressing room specifications; a medical room with minimum equipment (defibrillator and first aid kit); floodlighting; and any other requirements identified by the licensor. For women's clubs, additional requirements include a performance gym, separate male/female changing provision, adequate parking and storage.	Academies must meet the following minimum facility requirements: access to floodlit FIFA-standard artificial pitches for the duration of the season whereby pitch access is compliant with FAW Safeguarding Regulations; changing rooms with showers and toilets for each age group; female changing rooms with separate shower/toilet access; a meeting/classroom space with appropriate IT; a medical treatment room with at least one treatment table, secure storage for medical supplies, and a defibrillator, designated spectator area and designated filming position, access for emergency vehicles kept clear at all times.

PERSONNEL

Personnel – Medical & Welfare

Requirement	Mandatory Requirement Details	National Academi Descriptor
Club Doctor (Art. 39 Male / Art. 37 Women) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must appoint at least one doctor responsible for medical support during matches and training, and for doping prevention. The doctor's qualification must be recognised by the appropriate national health authorities and the doctor must be duly registered with the UEFA member association or its affiliated league. For women's clubs: must also be a UKAD Clean Sport Advisor and registered with the league's Chief Medical Officer.	—

Requirement	Mandatory Requirement Details	National Academi Descriptor
Physiotherapist / Sports Therapist (Art. 40 Male / Art. 38 Women) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must appoint at least one physiotherapist responsible for medical treatment and massages for the first squad during training and matches. The qualification must be recognised by the appropriate national health authorities and registered with the UEFA member association or its affiliated league. For women's clubs: a Sports Therapist (full member of The Society of Sports Therapy) is also acceptable; must be registered with the league's Chief Medical Officer.	—
Youth Teams Medical Professional (Art. 41 Male / Women) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must appoint at least one doctor or physiotherapist recognised by the appropriate national health authorities, responsible for the medical care of the youth teams. For women's clubs (UEFA licence): must be a Doctor, Physiotherapist or Sports Therapist registered with the FAW and holding an FAW enhanced DBS certificate.	Academies must appoint a person responsible for Academy Medical provision who holds a Level 4 Intermediate Trauma Medical Management in Football Award. Match Day medical coverage must be provided for all home games by the responsible person or another holding a Level 4 qualification. All other persons delivering medical provisions must hold at least FAW Level 2 First Responder for Sport (FRS).

Personnel – Coaching & Technical

Requirement	Mandatory Requirement Details	National Academi Descriptor
Head of Youth Development Programme (Art. 50 Male / Women) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must appoint a qualified Head of Youth Development responsible for the daily business and technical aspects of the youth sector. Must hold: a valid UEFA Elite Youth A coaching licence; a valid UEFA A licence (if licensor is a Pro-level signatory); a valid UEFA B licence (if licensor is not a Pro-level signatory); or a valid UEFA recognition of competence equivalent.	Must appoint a qualified Head of Youth Development responsible for the daily business and technical aspects of the youth sector. Must hold: a valid UEFA Elite Youth A coaching licence.
Youth Team Coaches – Men's (Art. 51 Male): 1 per team; ≥3 head coaches qualified UEFA Male Only	For each mandatory youth team, must appoint at least one qualified coach. At least three youth team head coaches must hold: a valid UEFA Elite Youth A coaching licence; a valid UEFA A licence (Pro-level signatory); a valid UEFA B or UEFA Youth B licence (non-Pro level signatory); or equivalent recognition of competence. All other youth coaches must hold the minimum qualification defined by the UEFA member association. All coaches must be	Academies must appoint Head Coaches holding the UEFA B Licence as a minimum for U12-U19 age groups, and UEFA C Licence as a minimum for U6-U11 age groups, at least three of whom meet the requirements outlined in the 'details' column. To ensure FAW Safeguarding Regulations, two appropriately qualified coaches must work with every group of players and maintain a coach to player ratio of no less than 1:12. Assistant Coaches must hold at least UEFA C for all age groups. All coaches must be duly registered with the FAW and hold a valid FAW First Aid, FAW Safeguarding Awareness & FAW Enhanced DBS.

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Requirement	Mandatory Requirement Details	National Academi Descriptor
	registered with the UEFA member association/affiliated league.	
Youth Team Coaches – Women's (Art. 43 Women): ≥2 qualified coaches UEFA Women's Only	Must appoint at least two qualified coaches responsible for women's youth teams. At least one head youth coach must hold a valid UEFA Youth coaching licence, UEFA B licence, or equivalent recognition of competence. All youth coaches must be registered with the league administration.	Academies must appoint Head Coaches holding the UEFA B Licence as a minimum for U12-U19 age groups, and UEFA C Licence as a minimum for U8-U11 age groups, at least three of whom meet the requirements outlined in the 'details' column. To ensure FAW Safeguarding Regulations, two appropriately qualified coaches must work with every group of players and maintain a coach to player ratio of no less than 1:12. Assistant Coaches must hold at least UEFA C for all age groups. All coaches must be duly registered with the FAW and hold a valid FAW First Aid, FAW Safeguarding Awareness & FAW Enhanced DBS.
Youth Goalkeeper Coach (Art. 52 Male / Women) (Grade B) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must appoint at least one qualified goalkeeper coach for the youth sector. Must hold: the second-highest available valid UEFA goalkeeper licence per the licensor's membership status; a valid domestic goalkeeper licence; or a valid UEFA recognition of competence equivalent.	Academies must appoint a person responsible for Academy Goalkeeper Coaching who holds the UEFA B GK Licence.

Personnel – Governance & Contracts

Requirement	Mandatory Requirement Details	National Academi Descriptor
Written Contracts for All Staff (Art. 54 Male / Art. 45 Women) (Grade B) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	All administrative, technical, medical and security staff or service providers performing any required functions must have written contracts with the club (or another entity within the legal group structure) in accordance with national law. Each coach's contract must be in line with the relevant provisions of the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.	Academies must provide all staff with at least an annual formal appraisal. Codes of conduct must be signed by all staff. Formal induction processes are completed for all staff. Disciplinary and grievance procedures must be received and signed for by all staff. All coaches must be provided with individual coach development plans.
Written Contracts for Service Providers (Art. 55 Male / Art. 46 Women) (Grade B) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	If a function is entrusted to a service provider, a written contract must be in place containing at minimum: defined tasks and responsibilities; and information on the person(s) responsible for the function, including their relevant qualifications.	—

Requirement	Mandatory Requirement Details	National Academi Descriptor
Organisational Chart (Art. 57 Male / Art. 48 Women) (Grade B) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must provide the licensor with an organisational chart clearly identifying key personnel and their hierarchical and functional responsibilities. As a minimum, the chart must cover the general manager/Head of Women's Football, medical doctor, physiotherapist, sustainability officer, and Head of Youth Development. One person may occupy more than one function, provided they have sufficient time, adequate competencies and the necessary qualifications for each function, and no conflict of interest.	Academies must provide an organisational chart showing the Academy staff structure, qualifications, with staff responsibilities for: the Academy Technical Program; Academy Administration and Operations; Head Coaches for all teams; Assistant Coaches for all teams; Academy Goalkeeping coaching; Medical provisions; and Safeguarding/Welfare
Duty of Replacement During the Season (Art. 58 Male / Art. 49 Women) (Grade B) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	If any required staff function becomes vacant during the licence season, the licensee must ensure it is filled within 60 days by a suitably qualified person. In the event of illness or accident, the licensor may grant an extension. The licensor must be promptly notified of any such replacement. An offer of employment within 60 days is acceptable even if the person starts later; a temporary qualified holder should cover the gap in the interim.	Academies must communicate any amendments to staff records or changes in staff to the FAW within no later than 7 days via email, and in accordance with COMET and competition regulations. Staff databases must be kept up to date at all times. The FAW portal must be updated with any changes within no less than 30 days

Part B operates as a sliding scale, allowing clubs to determine their own level of delivery against each criterion. Mandatory criteria within Part B must be met at a minimum standard, while optional criteria do not have to be delivered — clubs choose where to invest, enhance and build their unique strengths.

PART B SPORTING – SLIDING SCALE

Requirement	National Academi Standards (2)	Unique Selling Point (3)
Youth Development – Free U6s National Academi - FOR 27/28 Season	Team entered at U6 that participates in FAW organised activity and has 20% female participants, whereby no player/parent pays to participate. *FAW will provide subsidy to the Club to deliver this provision, based on quality metrics*.	<i>To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academi Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academi standard (2 points).</i>
Youth Teams – Men's & Women's / National Academi Girls (Art. 20 Male / Art. 20 Women / Art. 21 Male) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	There must be a minimum of two football training sessions per week totalling no less than 150 minutes, on separate days of the week for all age groups from U12-U19. There must be a minimum of one football training session per week totalling no less than 75 minutes, for all age groups below U11. There must be a minimum of 75 minutes of Goalkeeper training available for each Goalkeeper each week. Session plans must be recorded for every training, with records of attendance. Every training and match contact must have separate Head Coach, Assistant Coach and person providing medical provision.	<i>To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academi Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academi standard (2 points).</i>
Support Women's Football (Grade B) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Must support Women's football by implementing measures and activities aimed to further develop, professionalise and popularise women's football such as; entering a first and/or youth team in official competitions; providing support to an affiliated women's football club; or organising other women's football initiatives as defined by the licensor Academies must permit and encourage female player participation. An unlimited number of female players may register and play for an Academy, not included in squad size limits at any age group. Female changing room access with separate	<i>To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academi Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academi standard (2 points).</i>

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Requirement	National Academy Standards (2)	Unique Selling Point (3)
	shower and toilet facilities must be available at every contact for every age group with female participants.	
Academy Coaching Duration National Academy	Minimum of 32 weeks per year.	To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academy Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academy standard (2 points).
Performance Reviews National Academy	Clubs must deliver a minimum of two performance reviews per season.	To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academy Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academy standard (2 points).
Parents Evenings National Academy	Clubs must deliver a minimum of one parents evenings per season	To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academy Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academy standard (2 points).
Individual Development Plans National Academy	IDPs in place for all players with evidence of how they are implemented in training and games. Club approach supports the 'maverick' player. Process for individual feedback is documented.	To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academy Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academy standard (2 points).
Filming of Training Sessions National Academy Non-Mandatory	—	To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academy Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academy standard (2 points).
Coach Education Workshops National Academy	Minimum two hours per season of internal coach educational workshops.	To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academy Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academy standard (2 points).

Sport Science, Medical & Athletic Development

Requirement	National Academi Standards (2)	Unique Selling Point (3)
Athletic Development Programme National Academi Non-Mandatory	—	To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academi Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academi standard (2 points).
Sport Science Testing National Academi Non-Mandatory	—	To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academi Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academi standard (2 points).
Biological Maturation Data Recording National Academi Non-Mandatory	—	To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academi Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academi standard (2 points).
Training Load Management National Academi Non-Mandatory	—	To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academi Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academi standard (2 points).

MEDICAL & PLAYER WELFARE

Requirement	National Academi Standards (2)	Unique Selling Point (3)
First Squad & Youth Player Yearly Medical (Art. 22 Male / Art. 21 Women) UEFA Combined – Tier 1	Academies must conduct Medical Screening at least once per season for all age groups. Clubs must record maturation measurements per FAW competition policies. The Club must document injury prevention and management policies and rehabilitation approaches.	To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academi Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academi standard (2 points).



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Daily Wellbeing Monitoring System

National Academi
Non-Mandatory

To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academi Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academi standard (2 points).

FAW Education Training Programme

National Academi

Evidence that the programme is delivered to all age groups annually with records of attendance. Content is supplemented by additional club-delivered education sessions.

To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academi Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academi standard (2 points).

Life-Skills Development Plan

National Academi

Life-skills plan is actively delivered and evidenced, with records of player engagement across all age groups. Plan is reviewed annually.

To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academi Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academi standard (2 points).

Lifestyle Educational Workshops

National Academi

Workshops are structured, planned in advance and records of attendance maintained. Content is tailored to age group and supplemented by additional club-delivered material.

To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academi Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academi standard (2 points).

School Liaison & Academic Progression Monitoring

National Academi
Non-Mandatory

To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academi Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academi standard (2 points).

Psychological Support Document

National Academi
Non-Mandatory

To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academi Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academi standard (2 points).

PERSONNEL

Requirement

National Academi Standards (2)

Unique Selling Point (3)

Youth Team Coaches — Men's (Art. 51 Male): 1 per team; ≥3 head coaches qualified

UEFA Male Only

Head Coaches hold UEFA B Licence minimum for U12–U19 age groups and UEFA C Licence minimum for U6–U11 age groups, at least three of whom meet the requirements in the details column. Two appropriately qualified coaches at every contact; coach to player ratio no less than 1:12. Assistant Coaches hold UEFA C minimum for all age groups. All coaches

To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academi Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academi standard (2 points).

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hold valid FAW First Aid, FAW Safeguarding Awareness and FAW Enhanced DBS.

Youth Team Coaches — Women's (Art. 43 Women): ≥2 qualified coaches UEFA Women's Only

Head Coaches hold UEFA B Licence minimum for U12–U19 age groups and UEFA C Licence minimum for U8–U11 age groups, at least three of whom meet the requirements in the detail's column. Two appropriately qualified coaches at every contact; coach to player ratio no less than 1:12. Assistant Coaches hold UEFA C minimum for all age groups. All coaches hold valid FAW First Aid, FAW Safeguarding Awareness and FAW Enhanced DBS.

To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academy Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academy standard (2 points).

Youth Goalkeeper Coach (Art. 52 Male / Women) (Grade B) UEFA Combined – Tier 1

Academies must appoint a person responsible for Academy Goalkeeper Coaching who holds the UEFA B GK Licence. A timetable of Goalkeeper Coach presence must be documented and made available for inspection.

To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academy Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academy standard (2 points).

Sport Science & High- Performance Staff National Academy Non-Mandatory

—

To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academy Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academy standard (2 points).

INFRASTRUCTURE

Requirement

National Academy Standards (2)

Unique Selling Point (3)

Facilities — Minimum Infrastructure (Art. 35 Male / Art. 34 Women) (Grade B) UEFA Combined – Tier 1

All minimum infrastructure requirements are met and evidenced. Facilities are held under lease, ownership or hire agreement for at least the duration of the licensing period. Adequate insurance documentation provided for all facilities.

To be awarded 3 points for this criterion, evidence must be presented at the club's National Academy Configuration Meeting demonstrating that provision exceeds the National Academy standard (2 points).