

Sub-Contracting Rationale and Fees and Charges Policy

Purpose

League Football Education (LFE) is funded by the Department for Education (DfE) and sub-contracts some of the education provision. This document is a requirement of the DfE and details the reasons for subcontracting and the fees and charges that apply to the 2026/27 academic year.

Sub-contracting Rationale (supported by the Board)

League Football Education (LFE) is a niche provider of education to football clubs and their communities within The English Football League (EFL). As an apprenticeship provider we work with 64 professional football clubs to deliver the Sporting Excellence Professional Apprenticeship Standard in addition to this work, we also work with and subcontract to 12 Football Club Charities (FCC's) to deliver a 16-19 vocational Study Programme.

As a niche provider, we deliver just two programmes on a national basis to clubs and the communities that are part of The EFL. Whilst there are a very small number of clubs who get promoted or relegated from The EFL, LFE continue to work with these clubs and in the case of promotion, we also work alongside the Premier League to run out our programmes once these clubs 'leave' The EFL.

The FCC's that are affiliated to their clubs actively represent the interests of their towns and cities, coming together on a local and national level to further engage with their local communities. Many of the FCC's we work with are in deprived areas of the country and are very well served in inspiring hard to reach, disengaged school leavers by the power of football and the brand of the club itself.

LFE and the FCC's provide an alternative format of education for learners who do not wish to attend a school sixth form or a traditional college environment. Not only are they engaged by the football programme, together with small class sizes and individual support provided by the teachers. This environment prepares them very well for work and/or higher education. Some of our recent learner feedback details how life changing the programme has been for them, giving them a sense of pride and inspiring them to engage with education whilst ultimately providing a steppingstone for their next stage in life.

Our mission is:

'To provide exceptional education and support, inspiring young people to thrive within football and in life.'

LFE only work with FCC's that can provide a high-quality teaching and learning environment and we only consider working with or continue to work with FCC's that have the same educational ethos as ourselves. The Study Programme is not funding driven, it is primarily to offer an alternative pathway to those school leavers who find themselves struggling to engage in a traditional setting, and in line with our mission, we want to inspire learners to continue with their education and help them reach their full potential in life. LFE is not seeking to continuously grow the Study Programme; instead LFE will work with the EFL and EFL in the Community, serving the needs of the local FCC's together with their communities. LFE reserve the right to prevent learners from enrolling if it is deemed to be an unsuitable programme for the learner.

The subcontracted element of the Apprenticeship Programme is to deliver a small amount of the core knowledge required by the Apprenticeship Standard for these elite football players, however, for the 16-19 Study Programme, (detailed below) the model is for the main aim and the EEP to be delivered by the teachers and coaches within the FCC's.

Fees and charges

The registration cost of the main aim qualification equates to an average £255 per learner which is paid for by LFE. Following this, LFE retains a management fee of 18.1% and in exchange for this fee, LFE provide all of the following:

- Full time Programme Manager and local Regional Officers – access to a dedicated member of staff from LFE who will provide support, guidance, monitoring and quality assurance of the programme. This includes face to face visits at the FCC locations, administering Initial and Diagnostic Assessments and supporting learner progress reviews, every term. Regional Officers also carry out regular Programme Review Meetings (PRM) which is an opportunity for LFE and FCC staff to formally review the programme at various stages of the academic year.
- Accounts for all learners on our bespoke online learning platform (EMS). This houses all learners work, tutors' assessments and tracking, attendance registers, learner progress reviews, induction resources and teaching resources and behaviour tracking.
- BKSBS software which is utilised to carry out initial assessments, diagnostics, learning styles and dyslexia checks for learners upon entering the programme, together with a new free writing English initial assessment.
- Access to Microsoft Office 365 Education accounts for all students and staff.
- LFE undertake all the onboarding tasks and are responsible for the ILR returns.
- LFE register all learners with the awarding bodies and carry out the IV and SV processes.
- LFE write bespoke assignments for the main aim and provide all teaching materials and resources.
- LFE undertake teaching & learning observations and quality visits, utilising experienced quality consultants to carry these out. Bespoke support is offered when it has been highlighted that teaching practice needs improvement, with Regional Officers also supporting the development of staff and programmes throughout the learner journey.
- At least 3 x Staff CPD events per year for all tutors, together with ongoing bespoke support.
- Publications – detailed guides to provide parents and learners with all of the information about the programme, including progression opportunities.
- LFE employ careers advisors to ensure unbiased and impartial IAG to ensure they are prepared for their next steps, whether this be further or higher education, volunteering or employment.
- Learner bursaries processing and administration is all carried out by LFE.
- Enabling and providing peer support networks between the FCC's that LFE work with, strongly promoting the use of sharing best practice across all areas of the programme
- English and maths teaching provision, employing specialists to work across multiple sites, with limited class sizes, all of whom are recruited and employed by LFE.
- LFE employs a dedicated quality assurance team, providing well-justified and swift intervention where required, maximising the opportunities to promote the learner voice and enabling well-targeted continuous improvement.

Payment Terms

Payments are made within 30 days of the date of the invoice, as per the details within the contract, so long as the invoice is accepted and not in query.

This policy is reviewed annually and agreed by the Board.

This policy is published on our website www.lfe.org.uk