

# CASE STUDY

## LIVING THE SPORTING LIFE



READ SCHOOL  
DRAX

## Zach, 16.

**“ I support Leeds United, as dad took me to matches when I was younger. I really like the story of Calvin Phillips; I enjoy the way he plays and respect that he is humble and down to earth.**

I applied for the Read/Pontefract Football Partnership because I wanted to step up from grassroots football, and this was the perfect opportunity. I am so grateful for this great chance as I can now challenge myself against tough opposition.

I study PE, Business and History at A Level because I enjoyed them at GCSE, and aim to study Law and Business-in-Sport at university. I previously studied at a local secondary school before moving across to Read. I have to be organised to manage school, football, and homework, and sometimes catch up in my own time.

A typical Monday is training from 9am till 11am then back to school for lessons after break.

A typical Tuesday is double PE then travel to Pontefract at break, train 1pm-2pm, then back to school. The journey is under half an hour.

Lee and Mark at Pontefract have both impressed me with their coaching and development abilities. My great teachers at Read help me with my studies and give me any work I've missed.

At the end of this two-year programme, I hope to have improved my football and look forward to playing in the Men's game, whether as a professional or semi-pro. My ambition is to work as a football agent or move into Contract Law.

My advice to aspiring pupils is to work hard and that Read & Pontefract Collieries Football Programme is a great opportunity to challenge yourself. ”



## Bryan, 18.

“ I’m a keen AC Milan supporter because of their rich history, strong mentality, and the fact some great legends have played there. I like Kaká because of his focused and direct style of dribbling.

I applied for the Read/Pontefract Football Partnership because I wanted to reach higher levels of football, and for a diverse experience whilst achieving academically.

I study Maths, Chemistry and Biology. I chose Maths because I enjoy it and it's in high demand in the workplace, I chose Chemistry because of its interesting attributes and Biology because I am interested in things like the inner functions of organisms!

To manage my workload efficiently, I take advantage of weekends and holidays for extra revision time.

I have had an interesting life. I lived in Italy till I was 10, studying to Year 5 there. I then moved to England for Year 6 and did years 6-11 in Leicester.

I moved here to Read School for Sixth Form.

I am impressed by Greg and Lee at Pontefract because of their great coaching. I am grateful to Mr Matthews and other teachers at Read, and Pontefract staff, for taking us to and from the training sessions.

One day I would like to be able to do something related to Finance, possibly involving risk management (if I'm not a famous footballer by then).

My advice to aspiring football academy students is to go for it but consider the fact that you will need to commit to a more structured lifestyle, planning your study time carefully, and reviewing your diet for peak physical fitness. ”

