


**Welcome to
Breakout Option 3;**

**“Developing Club,
School, College and
University Links”**





Introduction

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Manager.***

Today's breakout will cover;

- NLD Schools Charter
 - NLD Website
- Shared learnings for establishing school links
- Ways to start a Schools Programme
 - 6-Step plan
 - Aspects to consider
- Colleges and Universities
- Touch rugby
- Next Steps
- 1-1 support (time permitting)



Schools Link Charter

The schools link programme is focused around increasing rugby participation in Schools.

The programme aims to build links between **local schools and clubs** by increasing rugby provision in **primary and Secondary** schools across the three counties.

Encourage schools to sign up to a short-term rugby programme where Clubs will source coaches and provide equipment to run the sessions/festivals.

Opportunities for clubs to promote rugby and themselves to the pupils / parents to encourage player transition from school to club rugby.



Match funding up to £500 per club

SCHOOLS LINKS PROGRAMME 

Aiming to increase opportunities for primary school pupils to participate in rugby - a sport which develops confidence, resilience, and friendships



LET'S BUILD THE NEXT GENERATION OF RUGBY PLAYERS

HOW IT WILL WORK:

- Schedule two tag rugby festivals into the school games calendar
- Rugby clubs sign up to host the festivals with support from the NLD RFU
- Promote the Schools Links Programme and tag rugby festivals to schools
- Schools which sign up will receive appropriate support from the NLD and their local rugby club to run a tag rugby programme
- Support includes helping teachers access courses and help with sourcing equipment and coaching resources

OUTCOMES:

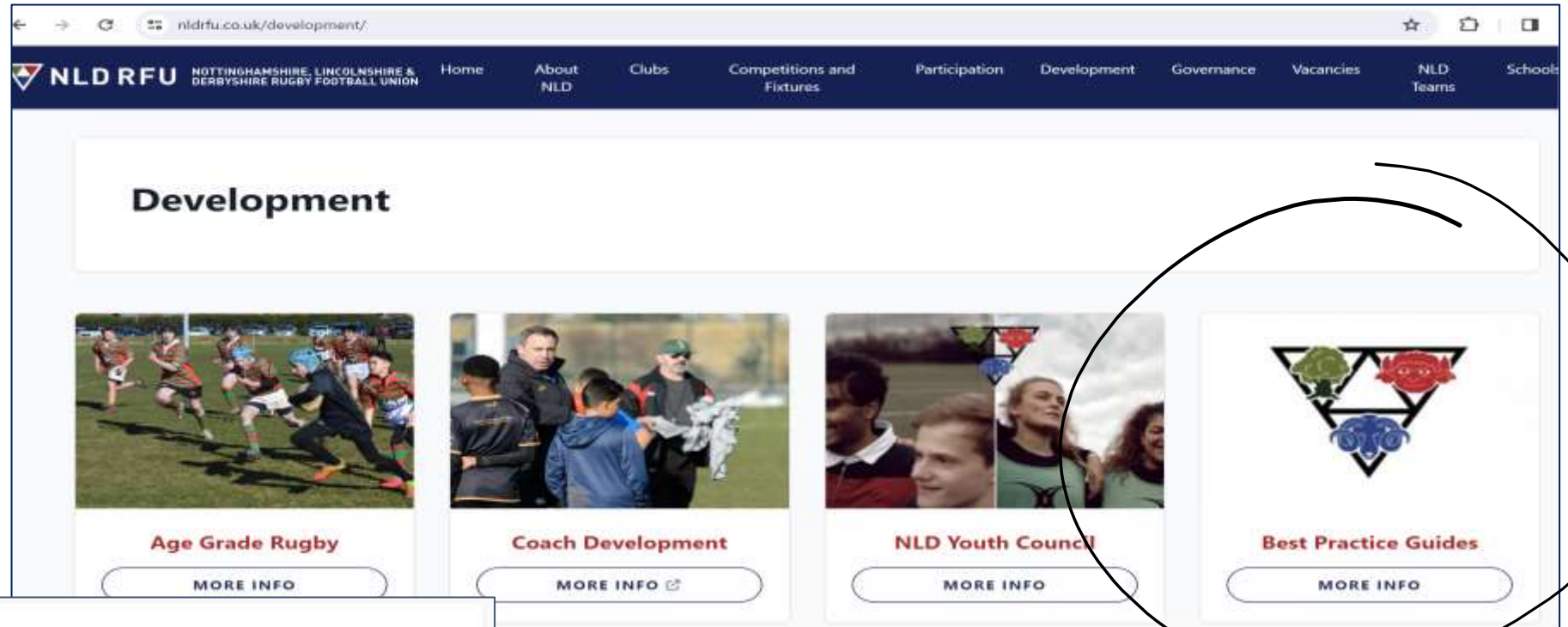
Improved provision of rugby in primary schools and strong relationships between schools and clubs to help pupils transition, achieving a cooperative and supportive rugby community in your area



NLD Website – Development – Best Practice Guides

Where to find more information

- Development
- Best Practices
- Club School links



Best Practice Guides



Get Inspired: How to get into Rugby Union

[MORE INFO](#)



Recruitment and Retention

[MORE INFO](#)



Rugby Values

[MORE INFO](#)



Club School Links

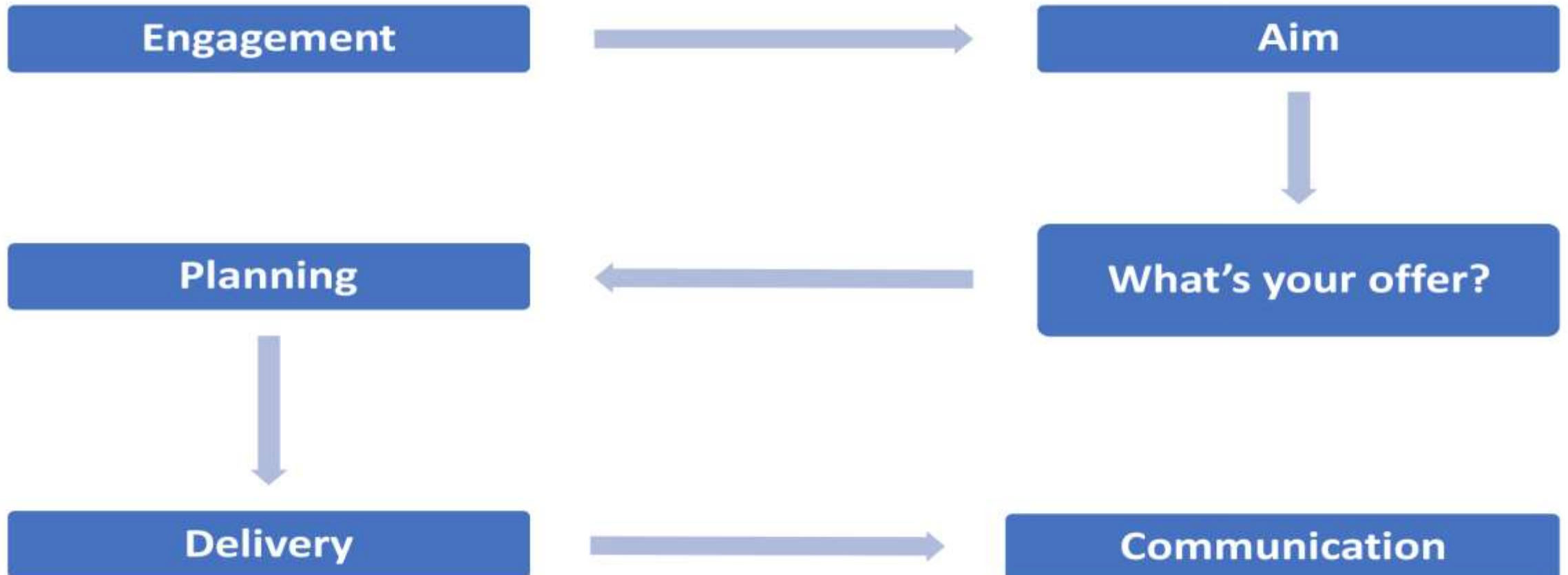
[MORE INFO](#)

Shared learnings for establishing school links

- Think / talk in academic language – Term timelines, Year groups & timetable
- Be as flexible as possible in the coaching offer
- Build relationships and confidence
- Start small and build a Programme
 - Focus on specific Year groups and rotate
 - Always end with a festival

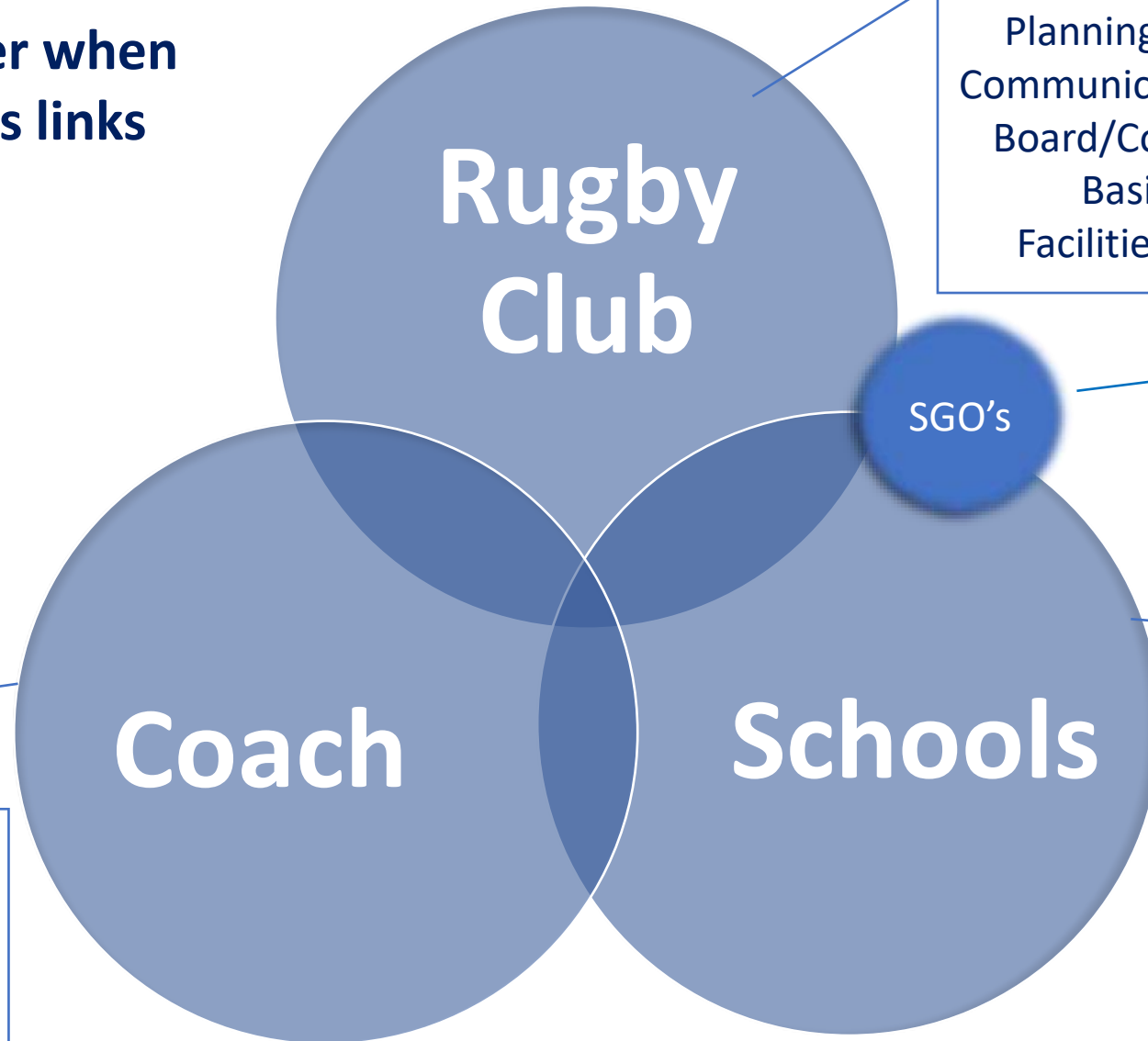


DEVELOPING A NEW LINK: SIX-STEP ACTION PLAN



Aspects to consider when developing Schools links programme

Period specific (term)
coaching programme
focussed on inter-
school festivals



Planning, Coordination & Communication (**Aim & Offer**)
Board/Committee support
Basic Equipment
Facilities (in School day)

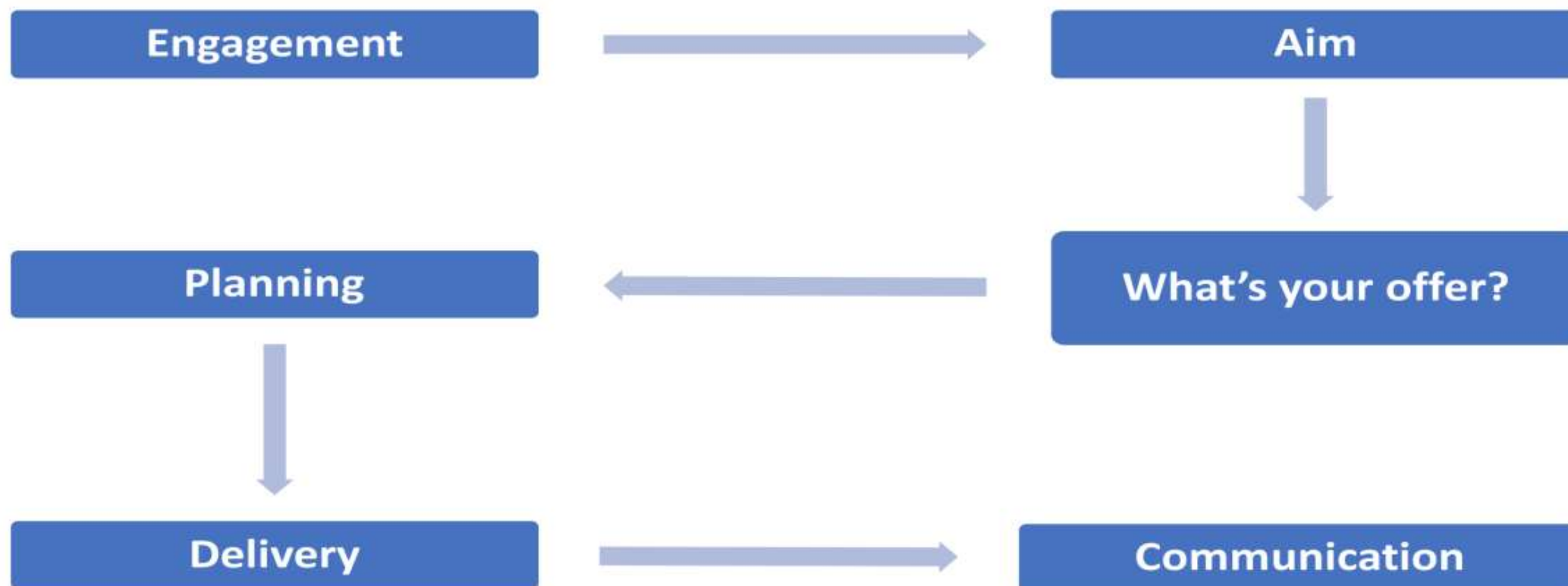
SGO's
School Games Organisers
(**Coordination Support**)

Engagement
Primary/Secondary
Target Year groups
Boys/Girls/Mixed
Format (tag/touch/contact)
Delivery (Curriculum, After School or Lunchtime)
Funding?

Delivery - Paid/Volunteer
Employed/Contract
DBS & PI Insurance
RFU Coaching awards
Availability

Activity - Small groups develop a plan! 10 Mins + 5 mins feedback

DEVELOPING A NEW LINK: SIX-STEP ACTION PLAN





**England
Rugby**

UNIVERSITIES

The most important Uni players are your members who have come through Age grade rugby!

- Make it someone's responsibility to Keep in contact (Colts Manager)
- Elect a player to coordinate peer group comms
- Invite players back to the club during holiday periods – presidents match etc
- Touch base when they finish Uni, support with finding a local job through your membership



LEAVING UNIVERSITY
NOT RUGBY

SIGN UP VIA [ENGLANDRUGBY.COM/UNISIGNUP](https://www.englandrugby.com/unisignup)

LEAVING UNIVERSITY.
NOT RUGBY.



Player retention (from Uni to Club)

Ensure your club information is accurate on [FINDRUGBY.COM](https://www.findrugby.com)

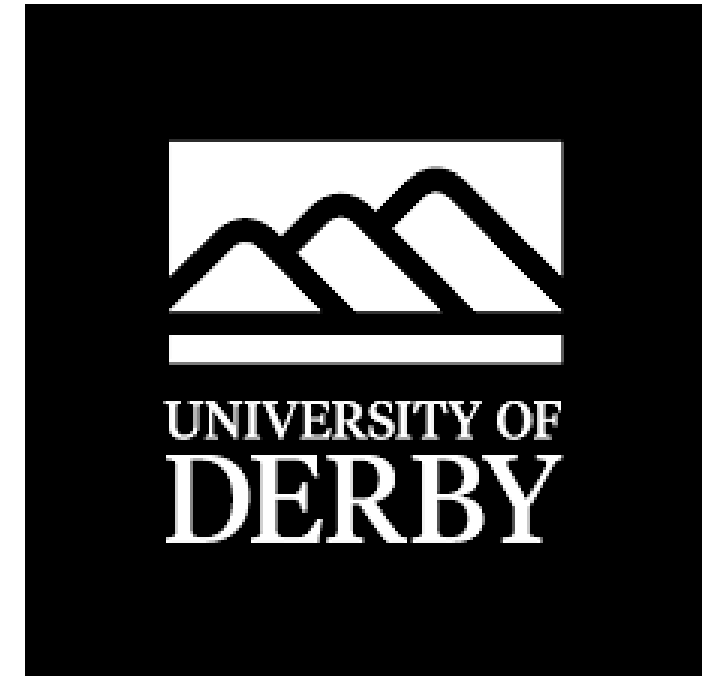
CLUB UNIVERSITY LINKS

KEY FACTORS FOR SUCCESS

- Limit your expectations regarding quality of players and availability.
- Remember the University is a club probably the largest adult clubs in the 3 counties and has a full playing Programme
- Be realistic - Consider travel time to your club
- What is your clubs welcome experience like?
- Raise awareness through a social media campaign – flyers don't do it.
- Is your Website vibrant and up to date.
- Facebook as above
- Appropriate social events
- Stash and more stash!!



**University of
Nottingham Sport**



Further education (FE Colleges)



Club / College link

Club Link Guidance

- Age Grade to adult on and off field guidance.
- College Partner Framework
- The above are available via – richardmarelli@me.com

Background

- Partnership with AoC Sport to deliver competition/playing offer.
- 80 colleges playing across League and cup Programme
- 17 use Touch Union as part of enrichment.
- Girl's game growing now 40 teams playing across various levels.

England Colleges

- National CB for college rugby, keen to collaborate.

College Club Partnerships

- Derby RFC and Derby College Link – great example of what we want to grow and develop.

Tag & Touch rugby training



- The RFU plan to launch non-contact rugby in schools to offer an alternative format of the game and avoid any safety concerns of teachers, children, and parents.
- Touch rugby promotes the opportunity of mixed sport that is intuitive and easy to run.
- RFU potential to run Touch/Tag training sessions in May/June so that teachers are prepared to coach in schools from September 2024.
- Touch training sessions for teachers in Nottinghamshire ahead of the Touch World Cup, to be held 15-21st July 2024 hosted at the University of Nottingham's Highfields Sports Complex
- Once training dates are confirmed, the Schools Links team will promote to the Schools Games Organisers throughout Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, and Derbyshire.

What 3 things will you take away from today's breakout?



School links



University
players



FE College



Primary




Secondary



Future lifeblood
of the club



Create a plan



Thank-you
We hope you've enjoyed
the session.

If you want anymore information
or to apply for Schools links
funding please contact me on
alan.staines@sky.com