

GIRLS' RUGBY GROWS AT REDCAR RUFC



Redcar RUFC now have U13 and U15 girls' teams following their involvement in the CBRE All Schools programme, with both teams playing their first matches in Spring 2019.

Becoming a link club in 2013, Redcar RUFC have worked with CBRE All Schools Redcar Academy, Outwood High School, Byesdales School and Rye Hills School to develop rugby within the curriculum and extra-curriculum timetable.

Through teacher training, specialist coaching at the schools, and Inner Warrior camps and taster days at the club, the club now sees over 30 girls training regularly each Sunday morning at the club.

It's not just the strong club link which has enabled girls' rugby to grow in the Redcar area, the commitment and passion from teachers and club volunteers has meant that the girls receive a positive rugby experience both in school and at the club.

During the summer the club are also getting involved in NatWest Rugby Force to improve the changing facilities for the girls, ensuring they feel welcome both on and off the pitch.

Said Liam Turner, Redcar RUFC, 'the CBRE All Schools programme has been instrumental in the creation and development of the girls section at Redcar Rugby Club. Through the opportunities provided, we've been able to grow our girls' teams quickly by showing how fun and inclusive rugby is. It's really great to see the girls forging new friendships with others from different schools at the club.'



SCHOOL GAMES SUCCESS FOR CHISWICK RFC AND CBRE ALL SCHOOLS



Students take part in a Canterbury Kit Design workshop



Following the design process, students take to the pitch at a Six Nations game to unveil their custom shirts

Chiswick RFC is set to host the next London Youth Games borough qualifiers, helping to provide sporting opportunities to students from the Hammersmith and Fulham area. Headed up by West London Free School's rugby lead, Andy Norton, both the school and club will be working together to provide a fun festival of rugby for U13 girls as part of the London Youth Games programme.

Joining the CBRE All Schools programme in September 2018, West London Free School have worked with Chiswick RFC and the local England Rugby Delivery team to grow the game in the school, both in curriculum and extra-curricular time.

Alongside teacher training to support quality delivery and kit and equipment provision, the school have also been training up older students through the Young Match Officials Scheme who now referee at inter-school festivals at the club.

As an added benefit, the club have seen over 10 students this season transition to continue their rugby activity at the club during the weekends. The school now also hold their curricular rugby lessons on the club's AGP (artificial grass pitch) further helping students to develop familiarity with the club, encouraging more to play.

Said Rupert Deane RFU Community Rugby Coach 'the club and school have worked hard to develop rugby in the school, and a key to this has been due to the enthusiastic SLT and different members of staff sharing the responsibility for different elements of the programme. This means that it's not fully left to one teacher to take on the work load.'

Said Andrew Norton, West London Free School Director of Sport, 'the CBRE All Schools Program has given our students a fantastic opportunity to get involved in rugby which they would not otherwise have had. The support from the RFU has been great, and the pupils absolutely loved designing our school's bespoke Canterbury playing kit, giving them immense proudness when they wear them!'



RUGBY GROWS IN EAST LONDON



Dagenham RFC have grown a full U14s team through their partnership with CBRE All Schools, Eastbrook School, Sydney Russell and Eastbury School

Becoming part of the programme in 2012, volunteers from Dagenham RFC, along with school staff have grown rugby both in curriculum and extra-curricular lessons, inspiring students to get stuck in.

Through the provision of kit and equipment, teacher training and some hard work from school staff, club volunteers and RFU support, rugby is now fully embedded in the school, with many students now also representing the club.

As part of the work to encourage the students to continue their rugby at Dagenham RFC, the club has hosted a series of inter-school festivals. Through these the students are introduced to the club, and treated to a chicken and chips supper after. This along with the fact their P.E Teacher, Chris Sullivan, now also coaches at the club at the weekends, provides a welcoming and familiar environment for the students.

Said Adrian Boyce, England Rugby Community Rugby Coach, 'the hard work of the schools and club have supported to make rugby sustainable in this area. The CBRE All Schools programme has provided students from an area of high deprivation opportunities to engage with a new sport, of which they have really gotten involved in. It's great to see how welcoming the club have been, especially by providing the students with meals post training. The schools involved have really embraced Rugby's Core Values, and as a result have seen behaviour improve across the board.'

In addition to this, the school and club have linked up with Barking and Dagenham College further broadening the impact of the programme's reach. Through the provision of funding from the club, college students are put through their England Rugby refereeing and coaching courses, enabling them to gain an extra qualification. In turn, they support the club and school by refereeing fixtures, and supporting with the organisation of the festivals. Many of these students too now also play at the club.

RUGBY FLOURISHES IN ROCHDALE



Rugby in the Rochdale area has seen huge growth following a partnership between Oulder Hill Community High School and Rochdale RUFC.

In a traditionally football and rugby league area, rugby union is now an integral part of both the boys and girls curriculum at years 7 through to 9, with many of the students choosing to be assessed in it as part of their PE GCSE. Due to demand being so high, the school now also boasts a rugby team in each year group who take part in after school rugby activity.

The key to this success has been the support and effort from club volunteers, as well as staff from across the school, not just those in the P.E department. From organising and playing fixtures with other schools, to running transition events at the club, they have worked hard to ensure there is an appropriate rugby opportunity for all the students. With just a fence separating them, the school also use the club pitches to run their rugby sessions, helping to introduce and integrate the students into the club environment.

However, it's not just the students who have had the fun. Many of the staff regularly take part in the staff touch rugby team. One staff member now also actively volunteers at the club, providing a friendly face for new students who choose to carry on their rugby there.

Said Harry Bardsley, Head of PE at Oulder Hill Community High School, 'We are very proud of the success we have had through the CBRE All Schools programme. It's provided us with a fantastic opportunity to develop participation rates in rugby within our school and also the surrounding area. Not only has it helped our students to develop their physical skills, through its core values rugby has supported their social and moral development.'

Having started the programme in 2013, many of the students who have already transitioned to the club in the early stages, are now playing adult rugby highlighting the legacy this work has had already.

