

Meaningful Learning Experiences

Strategic Commitment	✓	Part of a careers initiative across Greater Manchester
Curriculum Provision	✓	Enriching MFL learning for a whole year group
Employer Partnerships	✓	With the Manchester football club local to the school
Reflective Young People	✓	Self-assessment of all, while identifying NCOP students
Informed Career Choices	✓	Highlighting a football academy – and wider value of MFL

Hyde United FC challenges year 9 students to produce a ‘Spanish Survival Kit’ for players

The teacher brief for the project at Alder Community High School stated: *‘We have recently carried out some student voice with our Y9 pupils and many don’t think that a language is relevant to their future studies or potential career choice – which is still very much uncertain at this stage!’*

Hyde United FC is located 5 minutes from the school. The ‘Sports Rehabilitator’ and lead tutor for the club’s academy provided profiles of key members of staff, describing their roles and typical comments used in conversations with players. Students were challenged to translate these for players who might find themselves transferred or on loan to a club in a Spanish-speaking country.

A 10-minute assembly presentation launched the challenge to all 160 students in year 9 and introduced Stefanie, the sports rehabilitator, along with two academy players, one of whom was from Italy and described the challenge of arriving to play in a foreign country.

Students were given a couple of weeks to complete the challenge. As well as working in groups, they knew their work would be collected by Stefanie, who would review their work and provide informal feedback at an assembly. Some of the classroom resources were adapted by teaching staff to provide ‘scaffolding’ that enabled all students to engage with the challenge.

As an added incentive, students were told that those producing the best work would be invited with family members for a VIP visit to meet the club manager, enjoy a meal and watch a match from the comfort of the directors’ lounge.

Benefits for the Students

- *‘It veers off from what we’re normally doing. It’s something different. Working in groups means ... getting on with people you don’t normally work with’*
- *‘We’ve learned a lot about football. A lot of the phrases that none of us knew. I think it’s really helped us doing something like this’*
- *‘Instead of just having feedback from a Spanish teacher, you have it from someone outside of the school’*
- *‘It was difficult, but it was fun because we got to work with who we wanted to ... I’m not really into football, but it was fun learning the new words’*

Benefits for the School

- The school has a programme of careers activities from year 7 to year 11, mostly delivered through enrichment days and PSHE – but little through curriculum subjects
- *'This wasn't just something a teacher was telling them to do. It was something with real purpose ... It did make some of them buck their ideas up'*
- *'We wanted to give them ownership of the project. With some groups, we had to support more than others to make sure they ... produced something they were proud of'*

Benefits for the Employer

- Manchester has two football clubs with global brands and support. This project raised awareness about the club most local to students and families
- The club is keen to promote its academy programme, which includes college-based study and qualifications, as well as football training
- *'We are very community-based. We offer programmes for under-5s to under-16s every evening. We even have bingo, but we don't have a link with the school'*



Year 9 students were challenged by Hyde United FC to translate key phrases for players moving to clubs in Spanish-speaking countries. They were told their work would be sent to the club, who selected students producing the best work, inviting them for a VIP match-day experience in the director's lounge. Students were put in groups for the challenge, reflected in the high score for *'work well with others on projects'* in the self-assessment scores.

