

Hanna

Community Champion (Youth) 2025



School wasn't easy for Hanna – she struggled to stay motivated, found it hard to focus, and didn't feel like she belonged. But everything changed when she found football.

Her journey began in 2019 when she attended her first Premier League Kicks Girls' Football session. With no school team or PE football opportunities, she jumped at the chance to play – and absolutely loved it! Lockdown made it tough to keep up her passion, but when sessions restarted, she returned with enthusiasm, growing in confidence and eventually joining a grassroots club – her first taste of competitive football.

Recognising her potential, the Trust stepped in through the Premier League Kicks Targeted programme, offering one-on-one mentoring. Through this mentoring and a Level 1 Sports Leadership qualification, Hanna discovered a passion for coaching, developing key skills in organisation, communication, and leadership. This new-found confidence led her to apply to college, where she is now studying Sports Science and dreaming of a future in sports coaching.

Since October, Hanna has been making a difference, volunteering at Mini-Kicks and Girls' Football sessions, giving back to the programme that helped shape her journey. She's become a huge hit with the young players, and under the guidance of experienced coaches, she's thriving.

Seeing her dedication, the Trust is now supporting her in earning her FA Introduction to Football Coaching qualification.

With a bright future ahead, she continues to inspire others, proving that with the right support, anything is possible.



“Volunteering on Premier League Kicks has helped me a lot. The lessons really helped me grow, and now I feel confident to use my Sports Leadership qualification in a positive way. I have also benefited from seeing what the team do, which has inspired me to one day go to university to study coaching. I didn't realise how much hard work goes into just a one-hour session! I really enjoy teaching the girls. They are like me in some ways and I see myself in them. Hopefully they look up to me in a positive way and see what is possible despite the challenges. I guess I'm kind of a role model for them!”