



Cardiff
Metropolitan
University

Prifysgol
Metropolitan
Caerdydd

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Professor in Football Performance
School:	Cardiff School of Sport and Health Sciences
Location:	Cyncoed Campus
Salary:	Professorial Scale
Hours:	37 hours per week
Tenure:	Permanent

Applicants for the post of Professor must meet, and continue to meet, Cardiff Metropolitan University's criteria for such appointments.

Role Summary:

The Professor of Football Performance and Coaching will provide strategic leadership in football performance, coach development, applied sport psychology, and performance science. The postholder will lead the strategic development and delivery of new undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in Football Coaching and Performance, strengthen the University's international reputation for research and innovation, and develop impactful partnerships with professional clubs, governing bodies, and international institutions.

The role will contribute significantly to Cardiff Metropolitan University's Strategic Plan 2030 through excellence in teaching, research, enterprise, knowledge exchange, and industry engagement. The Professor will play a pivotal role in developing a football-focused research ecosystem, supporting the establishment of a Football Research Centre or Hub and enhancing international partnerships.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities:

The duties associated with the role have been split into five key sections that reflect the criteria set out in Cardiff Metropolitan University's Procedure for the Award of the Title of Personal Chair.

Strategic Leadership

- Provide academic leadership for Football Coaching and Performance across undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral provision.
- Lead the successful implementation and growth of the BSc Football Coaching and Performance and MSc Football Performance programmes.

- Contribute to School and University strategic planning and growth initiatives.
- Support student recruitment, retention, and internationalisation objectives.
- Enhance Cardiff Met's national and international reputation in football performance, coaching, and applied sport science.

Research and Innovation

- Develop and lead an internationally recognised programme of research in football performance, coaching, coach learning, applied sport psychology, and professional development.
- Produce world-leading and internationally excellent research outputs suitable for REF submission.
- Develop and lead impactful research projects with measurable societal, economic, and sporting impact.
- Secure significant external research funding from UKRI, governing bodies, charities, industry partners, and international funding sources.
- Lead the development of REF-quality Impact Case Studies.
- Supervise and support postgraduate research students (PhD and Professional Doctorate).
- Provide research leadership and mentoring to academic colleagues.

Learning and Teaching

- Develop and deliver high-quality teaching and assessment at undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral levels.
- Lead curriculum design and innovation informed by contemporary research and industry practice.
- Integrate applied learning opportunities, performance analysis, coaching practice, and professional qualifications within programmes.
- Ensure programmes remain aligned with industry requirements and emerging trends in football performance.
- Promote inclusive, flexible, and student-centred learning approaches.

External Engagement and Partnerships

- Develop strategic partnerships with:
 - The Football Association of Wales (FAW)
 - Professional football clubs
 - National governing bodies
 - International universities
 - Industry stakeholders
- Lead knowledge exchange and consultancy activities that generate impact and income.
- Represent Cardiff Metropolitan University nationally and internationally.
- Support the University's engagement with football governing bodies and professional organisations.

Leadership and People Development

- Provide mentorship and professional development support to academic staff.
- Foster interdisciplinary collaboration across coaching, sport science, psychology, performance analysis, and leadership.
- Contribute to academic quality assurance and governance activities.
- Support the development of a positive, high-performance academic culture.

Standard Notification

These guidelines are provided to assist you in the performance of your role. The university is a dynamic organisation; therefore changes may be required from time to time. Any changes will be made in consultation with the post-holder. The Summary of Duties and Responsibilities is not intended to be an exhaustive list of tasks performed. Other associated tasks are likely to be performed as directed by the line manager.

The University is committed to the highest ethical and professional standards of conduct. Therefore, all employees are expected to have due regard for the impact of their personal behaviour and conduct on the University, students, colleagues, business stakeholders and our community. Each employee must demonstrate adherence to our Code of Professional Conduct. In addition, all employees should have particular regard for their responsibilities under Cardiff Metropolitan University's Equalities, Financial, Environmental and Sustainability, People Services and Health and Safety policies and procedures.

Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg / This document is also available in Welsh.



PERSON SPECIFICATION

Job Title: Professor in Football Performance

School/Unit: Cardiff School of Sport & Health Sciences

***Key**

- A - Application form
- I - Interview
- P - Presentation

FACTORS	ESSENTIAL AND DESIRABLE CRITERIA	ASSESSED BY		
		A*	I*	T*
Education and Qualifications (Essential)	Outstanding body of evidence relevant to learning and teaching, research and/or innovation.	✓	✓	
Education and Qualifications (Desirable)	Fellowship or ability to achieve Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy within three years.	✓	✓	
Knowledge (Essential)	Knowledge of UK and international funding structures and mechanisms.	✓	✓	
Knowledge (Desirable)	Knowledge of UK and European governance policies.	✓	✓	
	Knowledge of a range of quality systems and strategic issues in Higher Education.	✓	✓	
Skills and Abilities Relating to Role (Essential)	Ability to supervise students at all levels.	✓		
	Excellent written and verbal communication skills.	✓	✓	
	Ability to work well with colleagues as a mentor, academic leader and team member.	✓	✓	
	Vision and ability to think strategically and to develop long-term outcome-focused strategies.	✓	✓	
	Ability to have impact in your area of specialism outside of university life.	✓	✓	
	Ability to contribute to the academic success and standing of the School/University.	✓	✓	
	A proven track record of securing project funding.	✓	✓	
Successful project management skills, including ability to control expenditure whilst meeting project deliverables.	✓	✓		

Skills and Abilities Relating to Role (Desirable)	Recognised active role in appropriate academic and professional body or association. Experience of assessment including external examining.	✓ ✓		
Experience Paid/Unpaid (Essential)	Recent experience of supervision of academic associates to completion. A distinguished teaching record.	✓ ✓	✓	
Experience Paid/Unpaid (Desirable)	Experience in the development of undergraduate, postgraduate, and employer-focused-/-work-based programmes.	✓		
Other Requirements (Essential)	Effective team worker and manager of collaborative groups, committees and working groups.	✓	✓	
Other Requirements Welsh Language Skills (Desirable)	<u>Listening, Reading, Speaking, Writing</u> A1 - Beginner Can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases in Welsh.	✓	✓	