



Herts Youth Inclusive Football



CASE STUDY

PLAYER JOURNEY

BUILDING SUCCESS THROUGH INCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITIES

Andrew Prentice, Inclusive Football Player & FA Level 1 Coach, Bedwell Rangers FC Inclusive.

Andrew Prentice is 19 years old and started football training with Hertfordshire club, Bedwell Rangers FC aged 10 years. Andrew has been a regular player with Herts Youth Inclusive Football for many years, taking part in tournaments, match days, festivals and more recently completing the FA Level 1 Football Coaching Certification.

Andrew comments: "I was very happy when Herts Youth Inclusive Football began, as it provided me with the opportunity to play competitive football. The Football Festivals and Tournaments have helped me to improve my social skills and given me the confidence to speak up more. I had the chance to learn from other coaches and able to work on my team building skills. Herts Youth Inclusive Football has also provided me with some amazing opportunities and more recently I have been able to qualify as an FA Level 1 Coach."

As well as continuing to play football, Andrew now coaches the Bedwell Rangers U12's inclusive team and is able to share ideas and learn from best practice at the various events and tournaments that Herts Youth Inclusive Football run.

In 2019, Andrew took part in a Special Olympics Catalunya competition at Barcelona FC. Players from the Herts Youth Inclusive league were chosen to represent Watford FC Inclusive. Andrew said; *"It was the most memorable event so far and amazing to play football in a different country."*

Herts Youth Inclusive Football makes a huge difference to players of all abilities and aims to continue providing opportunities for competitive, fun football and create pathways so that players can develop further in their football as well as helping them to building on their overall life skills.

Andrew is now taking new inclusive players under his wing and helping others to develop.

