



# Placement Student Sport and Faith Coach

APPLICATION PACK

Thank you so much for your interest in joining Sportily as a placement student as part of your university studies.

**This information pack provides some background information about Sportily and what being a placement student with us could look like. We recognise that everyone's circumstances and placement requirements are different, so if you're curious to find out more and to discuss what this could look like for you, please get in touch.**

## Introducing Sportily

Fluff it. Duff it. Score it. Smash it. Whatever you do, just give it a go. That's our motto for sport and for life. We're for jumping right in and going on new adventures together, as a team. We are a place for everyone to try different sports, make new friends and explore what life is all about. So we do all sorts of sports and activities, some you'll know, some you might not (heard of Kabaddi?), we hang out, we chat, we eat and we discover new things. What matters is we have a laugh while doing it.

We believe that being more active, like the Christian faith, can change your life forever. And so we're here to get everyone moving and show that things are a lot more fun when we're kicking, diving, riding, rolling, running and jumping around together.

We're passionate about building a network of fun-loving sport and Christian faith groups where everyone is invited to try different sports, make new friends and explore what life is all about.

## Will you join our team?

**If you have questions about Sportily or undertaking an apprenticeship with us, what it might look like, what you'll get out of it and how it might set you up for future employment, please contact us as we'd love to have this conversation with you.**

Sportily believes in the transformative 'power of sport' and active lifestyles and recognises that sport and physical activity are a positive way to build integrated communities and help address societal issues such as poor health and wellbeing, social isolation and loneliness delivering holistically healthier futures for all, whilst also providing opportunities for exploring the Christian faith.

Sportily uses the word 'sport' to encompass all forms of physical activity, which aim at expressing or improving physical fitness, mental wellbeing and the formation of social relationships.

The charity is ecumenical and run in partnership with the Church of England in the region, providing opportunities open to all – ***"Run by Christians, Open to all"***. **You do not need to be a Christian or a member of a Church of England church to work with us, but you do need to be sympathetic to the Christian values and ethos of the organisation, recognizing that exploring and sharing the Christian faith with participants is a core part of what we do.**

Our network of Sportily Sport and Faith Coaches and Leaders lead sports clubs, residential camps, coach a variety of sport teams and providing high quality PE lessons, through partnerships with primary and secondary schools. We play sports and invite people to talk about life and explore the Christian faith if they choose to do so.



### We are striving to see:

- Children and young people's lives, and their communities transformed through sport and physical activity;
- Leadership gifts and vocational calling identified, nurtured and invested in;
- People of all ages, invited to explore and encounter the Christian faith;
- New expressions of church established, for the younger generations, with sport and physical activity at their core.

Within this Sportily is committed to providing the best quality sports coaching and education, with fun and joy being at the heart of all the sessions. 'We bring the energy that gets you moving'

**Sportily is committed to increasing the diversity of participation in sport and physical activity and recruiting and developing a team that reflects the communities we serve.**

**We welcome applications from all sections of the community and particularly encourage applications from women and people from UK Minority Ethnic backgrounds who are currently under-represented in the organisation.**

## Introducing student placements

**Sportily is proud to be able to offer exciting placement opportunities to university students undertaking sports, fitness, sports science, youthwork or theology based degree courses.**

Undertaking a placement with Sportily will not only be a great experience for you and an opportunity to learn new skills within the workplace, but a chance for you to make a tangible difference in the lives of those you encounter through the work of the charity.

Rachel undertook a 12 month, full time placement with us in 2022/23 as part of her BA in Sport and Exercise Science at Nottingham Trent University. Rachel writes:

I have always been passionate about sports, representing my school and local clubs in football, netball and hockey and serving as a School Sports Leader.

Having had previous rewarding experiences delivering holiday club programmes to young children, I was looking for a placement year opportunity where I could further develop my skills in planning and coaching sports activities that contribute towards children and young people developing positive mental and physical wellbeing. Sportily looked like a great fit.

I've really loved my year. Building relationships with the children I've worked with and working alongside such a supportive and encouraging team who have really invested in me in a multitude of ways have been real highlights for me.

I've gained invaluable on the job work experience and been involved in a huge variety of different aspects of sports coaching with children and young people in a faith based context. It's been such a privilege to make a tangible difference in the lives of those I've worked with, whilst having such great fun throughout.

If you're considering a placement year, I would thoroughly recommend Sportily to you.



## What you'll do

You'll work alongside our experienced team of coaches, leaders, apprentices, volunteers and young leaders to deliver a wide range of exciting sports based activities, remembering that we use the word 'sport' to encompass all forms of physical activity, which aim at expressing or improving physical fitness, mental wellbeing and the formation of social relationships.

Your week could include everything from breakfast clubs to holiday camps, afterschool clubs, PE or RE lessons, youth sports clubs, residential trips, active-church sessions, adventure activities, themed school sports days, dance groups, skate groups, group fitness classes, school gym training sessions and community fun sports days.

At Sportily we specialise in inviting children and young people to give it a go, so we use all kinds of 'sports' to get people moving; Handball, Korfbal, Tchoukball, BoingKids, Spikeball, Urban Orienteering, Lyrical Dance, Archery and Bushcraft!

We'll design a weekly programme with you which gives you the widest possible range of opportunities to not only complete your placement, but also to develop a real breadth of skills and experience.

Due to our work taking place in locations across Gloucestershire, access to a car could be beneficial (mileage reimbursed). However this isn't essential and all options can be discussed with you.

## What you'll be like

You'll be someone who brings the energy that gets people moving and approach everything you do with a fantastic sense of fun.

You'll enjoy working hard, but thrive off seeing children and young people enjoying being active, learning new skills, making friends and feeling able to safely talk about life. You'll be passionate, creative, and ambitious, ready to nurture children and young people to live healthy and active lifestyles.

We are looking for someone who loves to use sport to connect with people and is keen to develop their skills as a sports coach working in a Christian faith based setting, delivering sessions in both a school and community context.

## What you'll get out of it

We are proud to provide excellent opportunities for everyone who serves with us as employees and volunteers, investing in training and development and doing all that we can to ensure everyone in our team is able to use fully utilise their gifts, skills and potential.





Through undertaking a student placement with us we offer you a wide breadth of opportunities to get involved in the range of different activities we deliver in both a school and community context. You'll also have the opportunity to shadow, observe and learn from our experienced team of Sports Coaches and engage in reflective practice sessions.

In addition to experience, you'll engage in our ongoing programme of CPD which includes accredited sports training options. If there's a specific training course or further learning you'd like to undertake during the placement, we're always keen to support you in accessing these.

We'll also provide you with Safeguarding, Health and Safety, First Aid, Equality Diversity and Inclusion, Food Hygiene and Data Protection training as part of our core on the job training offer.

Above all else, **you'll gain invaluable real job experience, receive on the job training, open up excellent career opportunities and make a real difference in the lives of children and young people as a supported and valued member of Team Sportily.**

## Key information

Students undertaking a student placement with Sportily are paid at our 'Apprenticeships and Placement Students' wage of £8/hr. This is higher than the Government national minimum wage for apprentices. The number of hours worked can be agreed flexibly to suit your university placement requirements.

Travel undertaken as part of your placement can be reimbursed and we can sometimes help you to find local host accommodation.

If our vision is something that excites you and you believe we would be a good placement fit for you, we would very much like to hear from you.

Please contact us to discuss possibilities and how to apply: [joinus@sportily.org.uk](mailto:joinus@sportily.org.uk).



**Richard Witham**

Head of Sport and Faith





## Role Description and Person Specification

<b>Role Title</b>	<b>Sport and Faith Coach – Placement student</b>
<b>Supervisor</b>	Leadership Development Programme Lead
<b>Key Relationships</b>	Sport and Faith Team coaches, leaders and volunteers in Sportily locations Sportily Leadership and Sport and Faith teams Local schools and charity/community partners
<b>Requirements</b>	This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Check. Sportily will appoint under the Church of England safer recruitment national framework.
<b>Date of issue</b>	April 2025

### Context for this role

As Sportily, we are creating a network of fun-loving sport and activity groups, where all children, young people, and their families can try different sports, make new friends and encounter the Christian faith with others.

*Some evening and weekend working will be required to fulfil this role, however working timetables will be developed in dialogue with you, balanced across the team, with flexibility considered wherever possible.*

*Sportily is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. All post holders and volunteers are expected to share this commitment, to work within the policy and procedures of the relevant safeguarding policy and are required to attend all relevant safeguarding training.*

*This role is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure and Barring check. Appointment will be made under CofE safer recruitment framework.*

### Purpose of this role

To work with other members of our Sport and Faith Team to deliver high quality sport and physical activity based sessions in community, school and outdoor activity settings.

Working under the direction of the Sport and Faith Leader or Coach in each location, to support the plans in that location that see:

- Children and young people's lives, and their communities transformed through sport and physical activity;
- Leadership gifts and vocational calling identified, nurtured invested in;
- People of all ages, invited to explore and encounter the Christian faith;
- New forms of church established, for the younger generations, with sport and physical activity at their core.

### Location and Dimensions

Working at locations across our Gloucestershire network, with an appropriate base identified with your supervisor.

Weekly working timetable to be agreed in advance with your supervisor.

Ideally having access to a car would be helpful to enable you work visit and work across multiple Sportily locations and mileage for work purposes will be reimbursed as an expense. However if car transport is not an option, then this can be discussed with you and appropriate arrangements explored.

### Responsibilities

Sport and physical activity delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Support the delivery of innovative programmes of sport and physical activity that also contribute to the building of active communities in Sportily locations through involvement in the planning, delivery and leading of sessions</li><li>• Deliver and support the leading of sport, physical activity and faith based lessons and after school sessions</li><li>• Support the delivery of holiday clubs and residential opportunities for children and young people through involvement in the planning and delivery of the programme</li><li>• Be involved in providing opportunities, naturally integrated into the activity of sessions, through which people of all ages can explore the Christian faith and the difference Jesus can make to the challenges and adventures of life, and be invited to respond to the Good News</li><li>• Support the piloting of new ideas for sport and physical activity based work with young people and their families</li><li>• Engage relationally, spiritually, evangelistically and pastorally with participants, sharing the Christian faith and discipling others through words and action</li><li>• Carry out all work within the Sportily seven spaces framework, to support the emergence of contextually relevant new worshipping communities in Sportily locations, primarily focused on younger</li></ul>
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	generations who have had no significant engagement with church, with sport and physical activity at their core
Leadership development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actively contribute to the delivery of the Sportily Leadership Development Programme within locations and across the network</li> <li>Be involved in creating opportunities within sessions for children and young people to grow leadership confidence and capability through sport and physical activity</li> </ul>
Partnership, learning and networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertaking training and development opportunities as agreed with your line manager.</li> <li>Participate in Sportily team meetings, CPD sessions, Learning Community and monitoring and evaluation processes as requested</li> </ul>
Other responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting and communicating the activity programme of Sportily locations so as to increase engagement</li> <li>Work effectively alongside Sportily Sport and Faith Coaches, Leaders and Volunteers to deliver programmes of activity in Sportily locations</li> <li>Support the journey towards financial sustainability for the Sportily network through the promotion of 'paid for' activities and donor opportunities</li> <li>Carry out all activity within a secure health, safety and safeguarding framework, in line with Sportily policies, processes and expectations</li> <li>Be conversant and comply with all Sportily policies and operating practices</li> <li>Undertake other duties as reasonably requested and expected</li> </ul>

Attributes	Essential attributes, desirable where noted
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strongly supportive of Sportily aims and Christian ethos</li> <li>Demonstratable ability lead the delivery of activities</li> <li>Committed to the protection and safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults</li> </ul>
Qualifications and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level 2 Certificate in Coaching (Sport and Physical Activity), or similar qualification (desirable), or willingness to undertake this with us</li> </ul>
Knowledge, experience, skills and abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A proven track record in completing qualifications</li> <li>Basic written and numeracy skills</li> </ul> <p>Experience of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working or volunteering with children and/or young people</li> <li>Working or volunteering in a school environment (<i>desirable</i>)</li> <li>Working with volunteers (<i>desirable</i>)</li> <li>Building effective working relationships with others and working effectively as part of a team (<i>desirable</i>)</li> <li>Strong people skills</li> <li>Planning, organising, prioritising, meeting deadlines and reporting effectively on work undertaken (<i>desirable</i>)</li> </ul>





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicating with a wide variety of audiences (<i>desirable</i>)</li> <li>• Computer literate and conversant with digital communication channels</li> </ul>
Personal qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creative, self-motivated and confident</li> <li>• Demonstrates initiative and perseverance – anticipates situations, problems and opportunities and takes appropriate action</li> <li>• Committed to performing to a high standard at work</li> <li>• Approachable and helpful</li> <li>• Able to operate as a reflective practitioner and to share learning with others</li> <li>• Listens, coaches and gives clear, honest and constructive feedback to others</li> <li>• Confidential, trustworthy, respectful, self-aware, considerate, generous, and patient</li> </ul>

