

At the Priory Academy LSST we were pleased to work with Trishan Patel Coaching and their GOALS intervention programmes which sought to use football as a way to help students adapt behaviours that were negatively impacting on their learning or to help build confidence and also improve social skills.

In a short trial with TPC, they worked with a small group of students in Years 8-10 who had become disaffected with school and were underachieving as a result of their approach to learning. They also worked with a small group of Year 7 students who had struggled with their social interactions and self esteem.

In a short space of time we had students that had proved very hard to reach and had become very disaffected with their learning react really positively to the GOALS programme. Their report cards showed a renewed dedication to learning and greater focus in lessons following the sessions they attended. There were also a number of comments from teachers and support staff about how well certain students had behaved in lessons during their participation in the programme and how different they were from before engaging with the GOALS sessions. The year 7 students also stated they had enjoyed the programme and had begun to feel more confident in their social interactions.

We would highly recommend the GOALS intervention programmes to schools who want to enrich students lives through football and mentoring. Our behaviour students have benefited greatly from learning about self reflection, setting targets and strategically working towards them, how to look after your own mental health. Our social skills students learnt about the value of being kind and respectful, listening and recapping, eye contact, body language, personal space and showing empathy towards others. These are very unique programmes in which students that love sport and football can truly learn life skills from.

Mr I Dinnie
Assistant Headteacher