



**Job Title:** Apprentice Groundsperson / Sports Turf Operative  
**Reports to:** Head Groundsperson  
**Location:** Bloomfield Road, Blackpool (with travel to the training venue)  
**Hours:** 40 per week – to include evenings & weekends  
**Salary:** Dependant on Experience

**Who we are:**

Blackpool Football Club is an English Professional Association Football Club based in the seaside town of Blackpool, Lancashire.

The club was founded in 1887 and has a very storied history, from being a founding member of the Lancashire League in 1889, rising to the Top-Flight of the Football League (the old First Division) in 1930, to winning the FA Cup in 1953 and being promoted to the Premier League in 2010 (becoming the first Club to gain promotion from every division of the Football League via the play-off system.)

The team are competing in League One, the third tier of the English Football League.

The club have played their home games at Bloomfield Road since 1901.

**About the role:**

We have an exciting opportunity to join our Grounds team, on a two-year apprenticeship course, working towards a Sports Turf Operative Level 2 Certificate. This is a great option for anyone with a keen interest in Sports Turf.

You will be working alongside and supporting the Grounds team to maintain and prepare the playing surfaces to an excellent standard to ensure that games can go ahead on schedule, while learning all aspects of turf management.

The successful post-holder will learn to conduct routine maintenance and servicing of the playing surfaces, learning various techniques and using different machinery to develop and maintain our facilities. On-the-job training will provide practical experience and generous off-the-job training will be provided to ensure completion of the apprenticeship training programme. The Apprentice will work closely with their training provider (college) to set academic targets and to ensure the programme offers a consistent challenge and an enjoyable learning experience.



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On completion of the apprenticeship, the qualified Sports Turf Operative will be in an excellent position to apply for skilled positions in the sports turf industry, both nationally and internationally.

### **Key Responsibilities and Duties:**

- Undertaking routine maintenance work on the Clubs sporting facilities, including pitch surfaces, to recognised national standards.
- Assist the Grounds team to ensure that the pitch and stadium is prepared correctly for fixtures and other events involving the playing surface.
- Safe operation of a range of horticultural equipment and machinery, ensuring all is maintained in accordance with routine operating requirements.
- Undertake general maintenance tasks in relation to the playing surface and surrounding areas.
- Loading, transporting, and storing equipment and materials safely.
- To have a flexible approach to working hours subject to the requirements of the Club.
- As an Apprentice you will, in the main, work alongside our experienced team who will teach you how to do the wide range of jobs associated with maintaining The Club's grounds to the highest standard.
- The role will involve physical work such as mowing, digging, and movement of equipment and materials.
- Additional duties as reasonably requested by the Head Groundsperson.
- To adhere to the Club's Safeguarding Policy at all times.
- To promote a safe and healthy working environment for all players and staff
- To promote a professional image of the club and themselves at all times.
- To contribute to identifying and undertaking initiatives aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.
- To work with and support other team members as required ensuring effective and efficient service is developed and delivered.
- You will be expected to seek ways of updating and improving personal skills, knowledge and understanding relevant to your own job role.

The above job description is not intended to be exhaustive; the duties and responsibilities may therefore vary over time according to the changing needs of the club.



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### **Person Specification:**

We are looking for a motivated individual who has a keen interest in horticulture, who is hardworking, enjoys a challenge, and can work well within a team.

The right person will have a willingness to work outdoors and, in all weathers, and is committed to completing the training course required to gain a recognised industry qualification.



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Bloomfield Road, Seaside Way, Blackpool, Lancashire FY1 6JJ  
W [blackpoolfc.co.uk](http://blackpoolfc.co.uk) E [info@blackpoolfc.co.uk](mailto:info@blackpoolfc.co.uk) T 01253 599745



To apply for the position please submit an application form and a covering letter detailing how you meet the criteria for the role to [HR@Blackpoolfc.co.uk](mailto:HR@Blackpoolfc.co.uk) or Blackpool Football Club, Bloomfield Road, Seaside Way, Blackpool, FY1 6JJ.

As part of your application, please also complete our Diversity Monitoring Form and return it to [HR@Blackpoolfc.co.uk](mailto:HR@Blackpoolfc.co.uk).

The form will be separated from your application on receipt. The information on this form will be used for monitoring purposes only and will play no part in the recruitment process.

We encourage early applicants as we reserve the right to close the application process at any time.

This job will be subject to satisfactory references and DBS procedures.

Closing date for applications is **Friday 29 August 2025**.



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**Safeguarding:** Blackpool Football Club Ltd and the EFL are committed to safeguarding the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to endorse this commitment. Posts advertised may require Enhanced Criminal Record Checks and may include checks against the Barred lists, as such it is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (1974). Therefore, all convictions, including spent convictions that have not been subject to filtering by the DBS should be declared.

**Recruitment checks:** You will also be required to provide details of referees for the previous five years' working history or referees whilst in full time education.

**Equality and Diversity:** Employees must always carry out their duties with due regard to Blackpool Football Club's policies and procedures. The employee must ensure a positive commitment towards equality and diversity treating others fairly and not committing any form of direct or indirect discrimination, victimisation or harassment of any description and to promote positive working relationships between all internal and external stakeholders.

**Inclusion and Anti-Discrimination Mission Statement:** At Blackpool Football Club we aim to provide an enjoyable experience for all supporters and hold inclusion and anti-discrimination at the core of our values. We are committed to creating an environment which welcomes and respects people from all communities, promoting equality and diversity at Bloomfield Road and its associated premises. As a Club we recognise the nine protected characteristics (age, disability, gender re-assignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion and belief, sex and sexual orientation) under the Equality Act 2010 and will play an active role in supporting inclusion and putting an end to discrimination.

The employee must ensure a positive commitment towards equality and diversity by treating others fairly and not committing any form of direct or indirect discrimination, victimisation or harassment of any description and to promote positive working relationships between all internal and external stakeholders.

Blackpool Football Club is an equal opportunities employer.



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