



GAA School's Participation Officer, Derry GAA

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael is Ireland's leading sporting and cultural organisation with membership approaching one million people and in excess of 500,000 playing participants at all levels. Inspired by its amateur status and supported by the voluntary efforts of all its members, the GAA devotes its entire resources to the development of Gaelic Games and Culture nationally and in local communities.

The GAA, in conjunction with Ulster GAA and Derry GAA, are now welcoming applications for the role of **GAA Schools Participation Officer to deliver within St Patrick's College, Maghera, County Derry.**

Role/Purpose

The job holder will be responsible for the delivery of games development player participation and retention programmes within the secondary school setting. The role will focus on growing playing numbers and supporting coaches with the delivery of programmes in areas where our games need support and attention.

Reports/Accountable to:

The Participation Officer will report to the County Head of Games. In addition, they will have a day-to-day operational reporting relationship with the school and be responsible for the daily tasks of the service level agreement.

Working Relationships:

- Club Chair, Coaching Officer, Other Club volunteers
- County Coaching Officer and members of County Coaching and Games Development Committee and Steering Committee
- Primary and Post-Primary school Principals and Teachers
- Games Development Staff within the County
- Local sports partnerships/3rd party service providers

Principal Accountabilities

Operations

- Implement an annual work programme to support the delivery of the county games development plan focused on player and coach participation and retention within the club, community and school setting;
- Establish key relations with clubs and schools to support growth and engagement across all Gaelic Games; Camogie, LGFA, Handball and Rounder;
- Report on the implementation of the project(s) on a regular basis, and particularly ensure that data relating to the implementation of the project(s) is available on a monthly basis through the use of the GAA Games Development Activity Management System (AMS);

School Support

- Deliver GAA Future Leaders Programme
- Coordinate all fixtures and venues for school competitions



- Coach the Coaches through a coach and referee development programme
- Work with Local Feeder Primary Schools
- Create Interclass Competitions (Super Games)
- Provide Gaelic Coaching and coordinate High-Performance Support Services from Derry GAA
- Open lines of communication with County squads to ensure a coordinated approach and manage high-performing players load.

Stakeholder Management

- Work closely with the relevant Coaching and Games Development Committees at County level
- Work effectively with all key stakeholders (Province, County, Clubs, Schools, Third, etc) to grow participation and increase retention rates including LGFA, Camogie, GAA Handball and Rounders;

Other

- Complete any other duties as may reasonably be assigned by the County Head of Games

Success Measures

On an annual basis, key performance indicators are set in conjunction with the County Head of Games and the Games Development Coordinator; key metrics will include (and can be modified on an annual basis):

- Report monthly on the delivery of games development programmes to the County Head of Games and Games Development Coordinator
- Grow the number of primary schools participating in the 5 STAR Programme
- Adherence to IT Systems
- Identify and grow the number of Club School Link Coaches
- Grow the number of children participating in Super Games in schools and clubs by organising participation opportunities.
- Grow the number of volunteers engaged in coach and referee education

<p>Growth & Retention (Clubs and Schools)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of players transitioning from child to youth to adult - No. of children participating in Nursery - No. of children participating in Cúl Camps - No. of games played child, youth, and adults (formal and informal) - No. of teams at child, youth and adult levels 	<p>Active Coaching & Refereeing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of coaches engaging in coach education - No. of qualified active coaches transitioning through each stage of the pathway - No. of active referees
<p>Active Clubs and Schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of active Club Coaching Officers - No. of self-sufficient clubs accredited through Club Compás - No. of Club School Links - No. of accredited GAA 5 STAR Primary Schools - No. of children transitioning from schools' programmes to clubs 	<p>Player Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of players at each grade transition through each stage of the pathway - No. of clubs engaged - No. of teams fielded at each grade - No. of qualified active coaches transitioning through each stage of the pathway



Essential Criteria:

- At least 3 years' experience of working in the GAA or similar sporting organisation (Voluntary or Professional Capacity);
- Relevant third-level qualification (minimum Level 5 RQF);
- Foundation Level or Introduction to Coaching Gaelic Games Coaching Qualification.
- Exceptional interpersonal and influencing skills;
- Excellent administrative and IT skills with a strong working knowledge of IT-related packages and systems;
- Excellent communication and presentation skills (verbal and written);
- Excellent relationship and conflict management skills; ability to be flexible and handle challenging situations;
- Ability to work independently on own initiative and perform as part of a team;
- Ability to effectively manage multiple projects and deadlines; hands-on approach to getting things done with a demonstrable ability to work well under pressure;
- Clear and detailed knowledge of the GAA's coaching schemes and initiatives;

Desirable Criteria:

- Award 1 GAA Coaching Qualification;
- Experience of coaching and development in Gaelic games.

Other Requirements:

- The role holder must have access to a form of transport which will enable them to fulfil their responsibilities in full.
- Ability to work and attend evening and weekend meetings/activities in addition to normal day-to-day activities.

Please note this role is subject to AccessNI Vetting.

Candidates interested in the above role should apply by completing and submitting an application form to humanresources.ulster@gaa.ie by 5 pm Wednesday 6th December 2023.

The GAA is an equal opportunities employer.