

Case Study from BBV

Sam Holden, Goalz Centre of Excellence Ltd



Sam Holden from Bolton, Lancashire was supported by Bolton Business Ventures.

With past career experience in football Sam decided he wanted to set up his own business delivering a high standard of coaching that would make a difference to children's lives.

Sam attended a Barclays Get Ready For Business workshop and subsequently received 15 hours of 1-1 support. He was successful with an application to Virgin Start Up for a loan of £45,000.

Goalz Centre of Excellence was launched in July 2014, aiming to bridge the gap between grassroots and elite football.

Sam was initially surprised at how quickly the loan money was made available and this helped him to quickly grow the business and allow him to translate his concept in to reality. Driving the business forward he now employs around twenty members of staff and will soon be extending the Goalz facilities to provide the first 3g football pitch in Bolton.

His future goals are to continue to grow the business and develop indoor centres throughout the United Kingdom where ever there is a need.

Sam believes the advice and support he received from Bolton Business Ventures and Get For Ready Business was invaluable, helping him prepare a viable funding application which allowed him to present his case so that the Start Up loan scheme could understand what he was trying to achieve.

Sam said:

"The support from the programme was invaluable. The proposition would have been the same but the vital help came in finding out how to present our case so that the Start Up loan scheme would understand what we were trying to achieve"