

Press Release – Deans Civil Engineers – Rev B – 24/01/19

## Deans Civil Engineering Renew Uddingston Grammar School Hockey Academy Sponsorship

Uddingston Hockey Club are delighted to announce that our long-term partner Deans Civil Engineering have renewed their sponsorship of the Uddingston Grammar Hockey Academy for a second year.

The hockey academy was only started in 2017 and was the first of its kind in Scotland with a unique partnership between the Hockey Club and Uddingston Grammar School that see's ten first year pupils join each year and opt out of non-core classes to receive 6 hours per week of high level hockey coaching during school hours at the clubs world class hockey facility from the club's Director of Hockey Mick Evans.

Each year during March the academy holds trials that are open to all P7 pupils of the Grammars feeder primary schools and ten pupils are selected to enter the academy with applications now being taken up to the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019. Pupils who apply do not have to have any hockey experience or be members of the hockey club with trials open to all boys and girls.



**Image one** – Mick Evans, Director of Hockey of Uddingston Hockey Club and Uddingston Grammar Hockey Academy players Jack McCulloch, Euan Mair, Christie Robertson, Rhys Silcock, Zoe Todd, Zara Todd, Adam Spalding, Colm Russell, Logan Brennan, Rachel Cahill, Jamie Sagar, Declan Breen, Jay Docherty, Macey Gray and Michael Duffy.

The sponsorship agreement with Deans Civil Engineers has allowed us to support the cost of running the academy and the running costs of the clubs two cars, which is very much appreciated by both the club and the school.

Steven Deans, Managing Director of Deans Civil Engineering commented **“I am delighted to continue our support of this unique initiative and as a long-time supporter of the club it is great to see a local club working in partnership with a local school in this way for the benefit of the community”**.

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Mick Evans, Director of Hockey of Uddingston Hockey Club commented **“As a coach who has been involved in the Australian sports academies this very much is a major step in the right direction in talent identification and development that can only be good for the athlete and the sport”**.

John McKay, Head Teacher of Uddingston Grammar school commented **“Originally parents were hesitant to agree to their children being part of this programme as they would miss some classes but now many are seeing the true benefits of their children being more focused on school work due to the dedication and commitment required to be a member of the academy”**. As Head Teacher I 100% support this initiative and would encourage any parent to seriously consider it for their child if interested in hockey or sport”.



**Image one** – Steven Deans, Managing Director of Deans Civil Engineering, Mick Evans, Director of Hockey of Uddingston Hockey Club and Uddingston Hockey Club community coaches Leigh, Chris, Callum, Maddie and Emma.

The Academy open day and trails have now been confirmed for school year 2019/20 intake with an open day being held at Uddingston Hockey Clubhouse 4pm to 5pm on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March with trials then being held at the hockey club pitch 5pm to 6pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March plus the club will be attending some P7 transition events soon to explain the academy to parents and take questions from parents and pupils.

Should you wish to apply for the academy, make a note of interest or have some queries please email [Uddingstonhc.doh@gmail.com](mailto:Uddingstonhc.doh@gmail.com).

The club would like to thank all our fantastic partners for their ongoing support; however, as a club we are always looking for additional partners to allow us to grow further across the full community.

Should you wish to find out more about any aspect of the club or be interested in supporting the club please contact us at [uddingstonhc@gmail.com](mailto:uddingstonhc@gmail.com).

**Allan McGill**  
 President  
[Uddingstonhc@gmail.com](mailto:Uddingstonhc@gmail.com)

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