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5<sup>th</sup> October 2023



Dear Torpoint Town Council,

I am writing to you on behalf of Torpoint Community College (the College) to request your support for our proposed project of building a 3G All Weather Football Turf Pitch (FTP) on our grounds, behind the YMCA Sports Hall. This project is a collaborative effort between the College, Torpoint Town Council, Plymouth YMCA, Torpoint and Rame Active Community Network and the Cornwall FA, and aims to provide a state-of-the-art facility for the benefit of our students' and the wider community. Our aim is to commence the building of the facility in autumn 2024 ready to open for the commencement of the academic year in September 2025.

The project has been an aspiration in the local community for many years, as there is a lack of suitable sporting facilities in Torpoint and the Rame Peninsula. Currently, our students and local clubs have to rely on grass pitches that are often unusable due to poor weather conditions, or travel long distances to access other FTPs. This limits the opportunities for physical activity, health and well-being, social inclusion and talent development in our area.

The proposed 3G FTP would address these issues by offering a high-quality surface that can be used year-round, irrespective of the weather, for a variety of sports and activities. The facility would be located on the sports field behind the YMCA Sports Centre, whilst designs have yet to be finalised it would have a 73m x 46m main pitch size and an approximate site footprint of 84m x 58m, plus lighting for evening use. The facility would be used by the College (and other local schools) during term time, and by the local community on evenings, weekends and during the holiday periods.

The project has already received positive feedback from various stakeholders, including local football clubs, the local parish councils, community groups, Argyle Community Trust, Cornwall FA and the Football Foundation. The Football Foundation has indicated they would support a funding bid for a 9v9 3G FTP in Torpoint, as it would meet their criteria for sustainability, demand and impact. The project would also align with the Cornwall FA's strategic plan to increase participation and retention in football, especially among under-represented groups such as women and girls, and disabled people.

The total cost of the project is estimated to be up to £800,000, which includes the construction, maintenance and contingency costs. We are seeking £80,000 from the Torpoint Council as a contribution towards this amount, match funding what the College is putting directly into the project, and an additional £70,000 should we encounter any unforeseen challenges in securing the other funds. We understand a financial commitment of up to £150,000 is significant, but we believe that this is a worthwhile investment that would bring significant benefits to Torpoint and the Rame Peninsula in terms of health, education, social cohesion and economic development. The remaining funds would be sourced from other grants and donations including the Football Foundation, Cornwall FA and the Torpoint and Rame Active Community Network.

As well as the request for financial support we would welcome your continued support through securing financial commitment from the Parish Councils of the Rame Peninsula and also with other community groups or grant opportunities that may arise over the next year (such as Community Infrastructure Levy opportunity), as we look to deliver this much needed facility in our community.

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Please consider our request and support for this project with the commitment of up to £150,000 from the summer 2024. Further details on the project including a frequently asked questions document can be found on our website (<https://www.torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk/3g-ftp-2025/>). I am happy to provide you with more details and answer any questions you may have. Please contact me at your earliest convenience to arrange a meeting or a site visit.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Plumb', written in a cursive style.

Dr Jeremy Plumb  
Headteacher  
Torpoint Community College