



# NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC AND ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE

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# All about Rugby

## Newcastle Men's Rugby Union Club

Currently Top 10 in the UK, our Rugby Union Club has 5 teams playing in the BUCS leagues. With a proven pathway into professional rugby, both in the UK and abroad, the club has a great balance and awareness of the commitments of university life.

Men's 1sts

**NORTHERN PREMIERSHIP**

Men's 2nds

**BUCS PREMIERSHIP B**

Men's 3rds

**NORTHERN TIER 1**

Men's 4ths

**NORTHERN TIER 2**

Men's 5ths

**NORTHERN TIER 3**

## High Performance Athletes (contextual offer)

Subject to the course that you have applied to, you may be considered for a lower grade offer due to your Performance Athlete Status. This would be considered by the Director of Rugby and Performance Sport team and will be communicated in your UCAS offer if applicable.

# All about Rugby

## Elite Pathway

Newcastle University Rugby Union is a proven pathway into the professional and semi-professional game, with numerous players going onto Championship, Premiership and International honours.

## Professional Game Contracts/Apearances



Phil Brantingham

- Adam Scott - Redbulls
- Obi Ene – Redbulls
- Phil Brantingham - Saracens
- Jasper McGuire – Doncaster Knights
- Zach Kerr – Doncaster Knights
- Rory Ward – Bedford Blues
- Alfie Johnson - Warrington Wolves
- Lucas Oxley - England Students
- Lukas Edstrom - Sweden
- Harry Clayton - London Scottish
- Bailey Ransom - London Scottish
- Ethan Hulme - England Students & Doncaster Knights
- Ollie Fletcher - Red Bulls



# Director of Rugby

## Darren Fearn - Director of Rugby



### Playing & Coaching Career

Darren is a former professional player for Newcastle Falcons, Sale Sharks & Bedford Blues, he is the current transition coach for Newcastle Red Bulls. In the University game Darren led sides to BUCS Super Rugby runner up, BUCS National 7s Champions and multiple Prem tier titles, as well as well as having huge success as England Students Head Coach. Player development is something Darren is known for in the rugby world, many players progressing into the professional rugby.



# Our Facilities

Newcastle University has invested £32 million into its sporting facilities. Rugby has greatly benefited from this with three 3G artificial pitches, a performance ergo room and medical treatment and rehab space at the historic Cochrane Park Sports Ground, where the pavilion looks over the first team floodlit pitch.

As a member of the Rugby team, you will have a full time Strength and Conditioning programme with access to our modern facilities and equipment.



## Chris Ferriter - Head of Rugby Athletic Performance

Chris Ferriter is a UKSCA Accredited Coach with an MSc in Strength and Conditioning to go alongside eight years of experience working at Newcastle University, City of Sunderland ASC and British Para-Swimming. Chris has worked the full breadth of the athletic development pathway from junior to professional athlete.

Chris has three key pillars that underpin the Athletic Performance Programme:

1. Mitigate injury and build robust players by developing a strong base of athleticism
2. Prepare each player for the demands of Rugby Union specific to their position
3. Enhance individual and team performance through strong interpersonal relationships

# Our University



Newcastle University is a world-leading university and a founding member of the Russell Group, representing the UK's top higher education institutions.

## Why choose us



**World Top 140 university**

(QS World University Rankings 2026)



**Top 20 university in the UK**

(Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2026)



**5 QS Stars for student employability**

(2025)



**Top 5 city for affordability in the UK**

(QS Best Student Cities 2026)



**Strong employer links**

with international businesses including, Siemens RIE, PwC, Dyson, Proctor & Gamble, Accenture



**World Top 50 & UK Top 5 student city**

(QS Best Student Cities 2026)

**RUSSELL GROUP**

**founding member**

# Our City



Voted as one of the UK's greatest student cities, Newcastle is a big city in a small space with a sizeable student population of around 42,000. The city has a proud reputation for sport and is home to several professional sports teams, such as: Newcastle United, Newcastle Falcons and the Newcastle Eagles. Newcastle's reputation for a great nightlife is well-known and with its thriving arts and culture scene too, there's something different to do every day of the week. A combination of the fastest growing rugby programme in the country, a world class education and nationally renowned social life, makes this programme the place to be!

# Information & Links



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Instagram - @nurfc

Twitter - @NewcastleUniRFC

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