

Wycombe Wanderers are thrilled to confirm that their first-team have returned to their Marlow Road training base, following a series of extensive renovations across the facility over the past few months.

Situated less than three miles from the club's Adams Park stadium on the outskirts of High Wycombe, the training ground has been upgraded with the installation of two brand-new pitches to match the standard of the surface at Adams Park, complete with SiS grass technology, drainage and irrigation.

The training complex has been increased in size to 1,550sqm to accommodate additional office space, improved changing areas, expansive team meeting rooms, a restaurant overlooking the pitches, state of the art strength and conditioning room, pilates studio, multi-faith room, safeguarding spaces and a press conference lounge, as well as performance suites and analysis systems.

The project has been managed by Ardent Sports - a specialist in the delivery of sport infrastructure solutions - who also led on the development of Brentford's new training facility in 2022 and have experience working with Manchester City and Liverpool.

And the club are pleased to pay tribute to Adam Ankers - a season ticket holder and aspiring footballer within Wycombe Wanderers Foundation who died last year after suffering sudden cardiac arrest whilst playing football - by naming the pitches at Marlow Road in his memory, with an official unveiling involving his family to follow later this month.

Wanderers' academy will remain at the Harlington training base which was also used by the first-team throughout the 2024/25 season.

Chief Football Officer Dan Rice commented: "Returning to Marlow Road is a significant step forward for the club and we're really excited to enable the team to benefit from some of the best facilities in the EFL, from the incredibly high standards of the pitches to the wide range of improvements that have been made to their working environment in the building.

"Last year we took the view that Marlow Road didn't meet the standards we wanted to reach and we invested into Harlington to raise the quality of the main pitch and buildings as much as we could. Ultimately, as much as we'd love to accommodate both our first-team and our academy on one site, there were practical challenges in doing so and we have since turned our attentions to developing Marlow Road into a site which meets our expectations to become somewhere that the first-team can call home again.

"There are many benefits to bringing the first-team back to the Wycombe area, particularly when it comes to the players supporting community events in the town, and creating a smoother matchday operation where the players can prepare at Marlow Road before heading to the stadium for the game, and meet supporters on arrival.

## "We want to build a real cohesion and togetherness between the first-team and academy."

## **Dan Rice**

## Chief Football Officer and Interim Chairman

"We want to build a real cohesion and togetherness between the first-team and academy and will ensure there are lots of opportunities for the two to integrate, particularly when it comes to sharing resources, facilities and the expertise from the exceptionally high level of staff that we have brought in across our football department.

"While we appreciate there may feel like a lot of change and new developments around the club, we are always keen to recognise our past and respect the people who have made this club so special on and off the pitch. We wanted to continue the legacy of Adam Ankers, who had dreams of becoming a professional footballer just like the ones he cheered from the terrace at Adams Park, but lost his life in the most tragic of circumstances, and will remain in our thoughts and part of this club as we name the pitches in his memory.

"We're looking forward to seeing the team settle into their new training ground and also plan to invite groups of supporters to look around and see the improvements for themselves. The developments being made across the club demonstrate the level of commitment being made towards our pursuit of taking Wycombe Wanderers to greater things than ever before, and it's really important for us that we can bring fans on that journey."