

ADAM RANDELL: HE'S ONE OF OUR OWN



From Plymstock School to the Premier League?

Plymouth Argyle Football Club are currently enjoying a successful season in Sky Bet League 1. They are second in the division following 37 matches of the regular 46 match season, chasing promotion to the Championship. The Pilgrims are also looking forward to a showpiece occasion at Wembley Stadium, as they contest the Final of the Papa John's Trophy against Bolton Wanderers on the 2nd April.

Midfielder Adam Randell is a former student of Plymstock School and has been instrumental in Plymouth Argyle's success this season. Born in October 2000, Randell joined the club's academy in 2010 and has since established himself as a crucial member of the squad. After signing his first professional contract with Plymouth Argyle in 2018, he has played 76 times for the first team and scored four goals.

I recently asked Adam a few questions about his career so far. He talked about his highlights.

'The highlight of my career so far has been my goal at Sheffield Wednesday, although I have scored better ones since – I think Bristol Rovers away was better. I think the success of my career is due to willingness to learn, always trying to get better and put the effort in to make myself better and take on pieces of information and apply it to my game.

There have been a few people who have inspired me in my career, one of them would be Coops [Michael Cooper, goalkeeper]. He's always been a step ahead of me – he got a pro deal, I got a pro deal, he started playing, I started playing, he went well, I went well. He's been someone to look up to and to keep pushing me to achieve what is possible.

There are loads of inspirations out there, loads of top players that I could name. I just take as much as I can from everyone.

Personally, in my career, I want to play at the highest level – I'd love to play in the Premier League if that is possible. In the immediate future, I want to help Plymouth Argyle to play in the Championship.

The piece of advice I would give to aspiring sportspeople would be; I have always said that you need to get enjoyment from what you are doing. It's hard to be successful if you don't enjoy what you do, because you won't have the willingness to put the effort in to be your best. You have to differentiate between what's positive and what's negative, in terms of influences. You might get given some advice but you need to think about whether that advice is valuable for you. Stay focused if you really want to achieve.'



I also asked Adam a few questions about his time at Plymstock, which provided an insight into his school life:

'My best memories of Plymstock school would be playing rounders, that was always fun. Playing football on the 3G at lunchtime, and getting to fifth period late as a result! There were loads of good things – spending every day with your mates and having a good time.

My favourite subject at school was P.E – quite obvious really!

I wondered if Adam took part in any school clubs/trips?

'I took part in a couple of afterschool clubs, this included anything sport wise I gave it a go. I did all sorts, even trampolining at one point.

I had a few teachers that I liked at Plymstock school. I liked Mr Bellamy, who taught P.E. He always treated us as if we were older than we were – with mutual respect. Mr Taylor, who also taught P.E, knew how to get the best out of me.

Outside of P.E., I really liked Mr Withey, who taught History. He was a good teacher, and really engaging. He was also very funny.

I had loads of good teachers to be fair.'

So when we watch Adam playing for Plymouth Argyle in the Championship, before achieving his ultimate ambition of playing in the Premier League, he will continue to inspire us – and we will remember that he too enjoyed a kickabout on the 3G and Mr Withey's history lessons!

