

Football

Local lads training in Sweden

SIX young north east Fife footballers are training in Sweden this week as part of an exchange network being developed between a local academy and European football schools.

Aged between five and 10, the players — Lyle Robertson, Reece Redpath, Dino Leddie, Jordan Redpath, Gavin Milne and Jonathan Cartwright — are visiting the Swedish Institute of Sport in Boson, Stockholm.

They have been training four times a day under coaches such as the head of Bayern Munich youth department Bjorn Anderson, who has won the European Cup twice, and Patrick Anderson, who played with Barcelona.

During the trip the boys will also be guests at Premier League side Djurgarden's home game.

Fife's AMsoccerschools has partnered with the Svenska Fotbolls Akademin in Stockholm and Fundacion Marcet in Barcelona in an attempt to create an exchange network with football schools throughout Europe that focus on the technical development of young players.

AMsoccerschools director of coaching Austin MacPhee said the school was delighted to have gained the credibility that allowed it to link with such established centres of excellence in Europe.

"In the last month we have had a coach from Fundacion Marcet in Barcelona visit us, American players train with us, and now six young players are training with SVFA at the Olympic Institute in Stockholm with some of Sweden's best young players.

"Some of the players travelling to Sweden have been with us since they were three and four years old and their high level of technical ability at age five and six reflects this."

He added: "We are very excited about the internationalisation of AMsoccerschools and the development of our players."

All in the group were delighted by the world class facilities at Boson on the edge of the Swedish capital, Stockholm.

AMsoccerschools, which has 100 youth footballers throughout Fife attending weekly football coaching, can be contacted through the website www.amsoccerschools.com or 01592 771666.