

Orange County



Joining





Accelerator School Orange County is a private school focusing on the academic and athletic development of middle and high school soccer players. As part of the Accelerator School network, which includes schools in Metro Raleigh (North Carolina), Metro DC (Maryland), and Malaga (Spain), AS Orange County provides a depth and breadth of talented professionals that embolden our student-athletes to become the best versions of themselves.

Our accredited and NCAA-approved curriculum allows students to be innovative with their education through blended learning practices, online support tools, and face-to-face interactions with our in-person educators. Our highly-qualified coaches understand how strong

foundational skills are paramount to overall development and how to push athletes beyond their comfort zone to raise their skills to the next level.

We foster success by building meaningful relationships, setting high academic and training standards, incorporating community and leadership opportunities that promote real-world involvement, and providing domestic and international opportunities that expose our student-athletes to unique pathways for growth.

We believe our approach creates a more enjoyable educational experience that elevates knowledge, skill, and ingenuity.



Welcome Statement

Accelerator School is proud to provide an exciting learning community where student-athletes can feel part of something more meaningful than what is offered by the traditional, outdated educational system. AS students have the independence to make decisions in a challenging and safe environment while developing a “fail forward” attitude. Our strong student-staff relationships help provide motivation and a mindset to push, to dare, and to achieve. The small class size and training sessions allow students to have their individual needs met and chances to demonstrate growth as new knowledge and skills are acquired.

Join us to find out about the revolution in education and how “school” is being redefined.



Meet Our School Administrator and Head Coach



Joe Pehanich

AS OC School Administrator
and Head Coach

About Joe

A SoCal native, Joe has been coaching/directing soccer in Southern California for over 20 years. He has also honed his skills as an entrepreneur by launching several entities including the LAFC Youth Academy, LAUFA, and JPS Training. His latest contribution to the game is his creation of a training product that is changing the way players view the game: “Heads Up Vest.” Joe and his family currently reside in Anaheim Hills, CA. Joe’s wife, Lauryn, is also heavily involved in the game as the head coach of The University of La Verne Women’s Soccer Team. They have 3 children: Creedence (6 years old) and twins, Adeline and Jones, (4 years old).

Professional Experience

2019-Present | JPS, Technical Director
2020-Present | BOOSTA Training, Director of Soccer
2016-2019 | MLS - LAFC Academy, Head Coach
2014-2016 | FCLA, Director of Coaching
2014-2016 | Santa Monica College, Head Coach
2012-2014 | LAUFA, Academy Technical Director
2001-2011 | Coached in several clubs in SoCal region

Business Founder

2019 - Present | Founder of JPS Training
2019 - Present | Creator & Owner of ‘Heads Up Vest’

Coaching Licenses

USSF “A” License
USSF “Instructors License”
NSCAA “Advanced National” Diploma
M.S. Coaching & Athletic Administration

Academics

During the last 50 years, the world has changed dramatically—the classroom has not. Many educational institutions still rely on teacher-led instruction directed at the masses with little consideration of individual student’s needs. This stagnation became even more evident during the COVID pandemic when students and families suffered because most schools were unprepared to adapt to the need for a new methodology. As a result, children from elementary school through high school suffered measurable learning loss and major academic setbacks.

At Accelerator School, we have proven there is a better way. We are leading the academic revolution in specialty micro-schools that cater to elite athletes by customizing a rigorous educational solution for each of our students. Thanks to our forward-leaning approach, the pandemic caused no interruption to our students’ learning, and they have continued to excel.

Our program is executed with dedicated professionals in the classroom helping student-athletes define their academic goals while fostering relationships that optimize learning. Our flexible and portable curriculum enables student-athletes to take advantage of sporting opportunities as they arise with no fear of negative consequences to their education.



A sample four-year academic plan:

9th Grade

Language Arts 9
Algebra I
Biology
World History
World Language I
Lifetime Fitness

10th Grade

Language Arts 10
Geometry
Chemistry
U.S. History
World Language 2
Healthy Living

11th Grade

Language Arts 11
Algebra II
Physics
Human Geography
World Language 3
Personal Finance

12th Grade

Language Arts 12
Pre-Calculus or Statistics
Environmental Science
Economics
World Language 4
U.S. Government

AS / OC

Soccer Philosophy

Tactical Awareness & Decision-Making

We believe that tactical awareness & decision making is ultimately what separates top players. At AS OC, we aim to instill a firm foundation of conceptual understanding in each one of our students through precise annual planning, and calculated training methods. Our AS training environment allows us to find the perfect blend between mentoring the individual while still addressing collective concepts.

Key Points in Tactical Training

- Positional games, possession games, rondos, situational training, and small sided games are all used to provide realistic repetition in each moment of the game.
- Style of play that revolves around positional dominance and control of the game both defensively and offensively.
- Full field available for training space per session which allows for optimal spacing.
- Attacking concepts, defensive concepts, collective vs individual decision-making.

Technical Attention

At AS OC, we strive to improve every player's ability to manipulate the ball with purpose. We believe that "technique" is the execution of an idea, and that technical and tactical training should be coupled as much as possible. Our holistic methodology allows every AS player to experience consistency in technical repetition with realistic scenarios that translate directly to the game. In addition, we implement functional training periodically for each student, so that they may enhance their skill & technical foundation based on primary position and individual characteristics.

Providing Cultural Experience & Competition

We will seek to measure ourselves against the best competition we can find. To do so, we will need to travel and will do so cost-effectively. For us, that means going to where the talent density is greatest and playing multiple games while there. Our destinations include the best of the US, Europe, and South America.



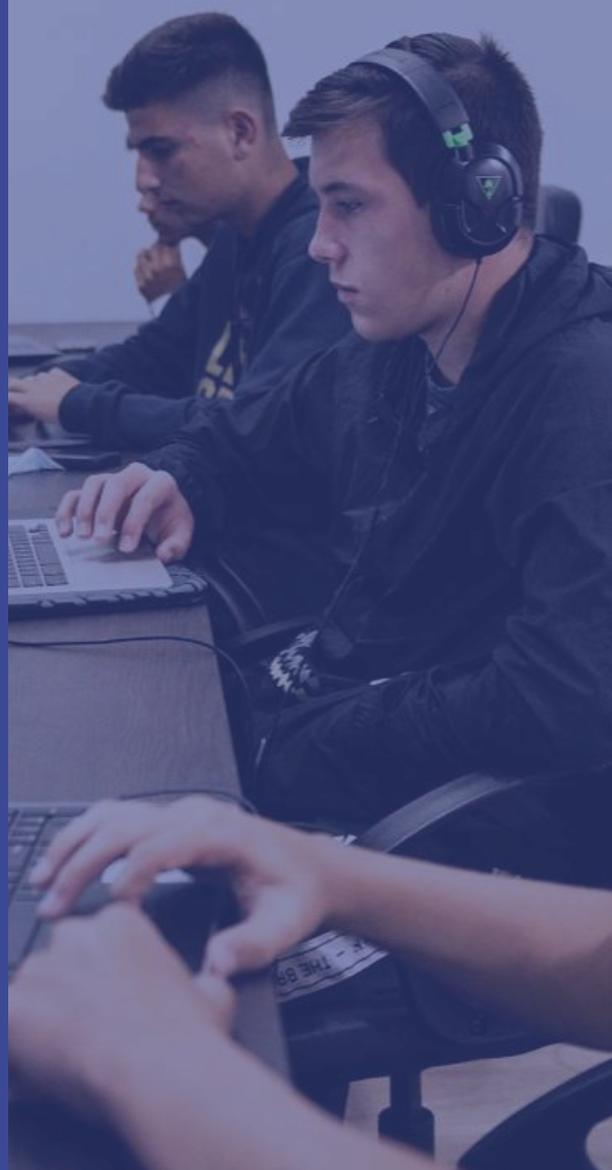
Typical Day at AS/OC

- **9:00 AM** —  Training
- **10:30 AM** —  Shower and Snack
- **11:00 AM** —  Morning Meeting and Academic Period 1
- **12:05 PM** —  Academic Period 2
- **1:00 PM** —  Lunch
- **1:30 PM** —  Academic Period 3
- **2:20 PM** —  Academic Period 4
- **3:10 PM** —  Academic Period 5
- **3:45 PM** —  End-of-Day Routine and Dismissal



College Acceptance List

- Duke University
- Brown University
- Cornell University
- Auburn University
- Northeastern University
- Oberlin College
- Middlebury College
- Wesleyan University
- Amherst College
- Barnard College
- University of Alabama
- Norfolk State University
- Fashion Institute of Technology
- Texas A&M
- Florida Atlantic University
- Tufts University
- University of Georgia
- Georgia State University
- Oregon State University
- University of South Carolina
- Nevada State College
- Northwest Vista College
- University of Arkansas
- University of the South



International Travel

At Accelerator School we believe international travel provides an ideal lifelong learning experience. A variety of destinations, durations, and levels of cultural immersion are offered, which allows families to choose the experience that is right for them. A wide variety of activities exposes students to local culture, traditions, food, and more.

International trips are used as an additional means to measure and adjust each players' individualized development plan and for student-athletes to experience various coaching techniques from around the globe. Players are tested in the world's top soccer environments: Argentina, Uruguay, the United Kingdom, and Spain. Accelerator School's flexible 21st century curriculum allows students to travel the world without leaving their education behind.





Testimonials

“We have a rising 8th grader at home. With the pandemic knocking at our door and schools shifting to full-time online programs, we found it challenging for our middle schooler to enjoy academics. He is also an athlete, so not being able to play soccer during lockdown threw him off a bit. We were constantly looking for a school that would have a combined program of accelerated academics and soccer. We consider ourselves lucky to have found the Accelerator School, and there’s been no looking back since then. Our son is thriving in academics and has shown tremendous improvements in soccer skills and execution. We are very happy with our decision and will continue to use the school’s services and guidance for our child.”

“I have two daughters at the Accelerator School. I can’t say enough about how the school has worked to ensure their success. Both girls are flourishing despite struggling in their previous schools. The individualized attention, ongoing guidance, and nurturing environment have not only boosted their academic scores but their confidence as well. The soccer training has also been hugely beneficial: stronger kicks, faster plays, and more strategic playing. I’m confident that this can be attributed to the great training in addition to practicing with a talented and like-minded group of boys and girls. My husband said it best when he said that the school is more than a school—it’s like a team. Parents, teachers, coaches, and students work together for one common goal: each student’s athletic and academic future.”



Candidates are evaluated on academic and athletic ability.

For more information, visit our website:
www.acceleratorschool.com
or email us at
info@acceleratorschool.com

Be part
of the
academic
revolution!

