

Marcus Rashford

Marcus Rashford is a famous footballer. As well as scoring lots of goals for his team, Marcus is known for speaking up about things that he cares about. He has also worked with an organisation that helps to bring meals to people who might not otherwise have anything to eat.



Early Life

Marcus was born on 31st October 1997. When he was seven, he joined the Manchester United academy system. When Marcus talks about his childhood, he explains that his family didn't always have enough food to eat. As a result, when he was 11 years old, Marcus's mum asked if he could join a programme that would help him to progress while playing football. Although children aren't usually allowed to join until they've turned 12, Marcus was allowed to join a year early. He talks about how this decision meant that he was able to go to a place where he was eating the right foods and given the best chance to be successful.

Football Career

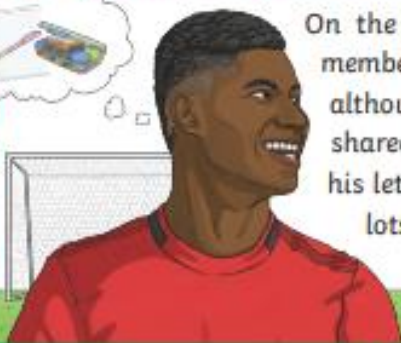
In February 2016, Marcus played his first game with Manchester United's first team. In this first match, Marcus scored two goals. Just a few months later, in May 2016, he played in his first game for the national football team for England.



Did You Know...?

Marcus was the youngest player to score a goal in their first match for England.

An Important Letter



On the 15th June 2020, Marcus wrote an open letter to members of the UK government. An open letter means that although the letter was written to specific people, it was shared in a place where anyone could see it. Marcus shared his letter on a social media platform where it was read by lots of different people.



In the letter, Marcus spoke about how his mum worked hard to make sure that their family had food on the table. He said that this was sometimes difficult and that his family often had to rely on the kindness of others to stop them from being hungry. He also said that he's worried that this is still happening to lots of families around the UK.

Marcus was worried about a decision to stop an important scheme when the school summer holidays started. The scheme helped to provide meals to children who are in school. Marcus asked MPs to work together and change the decision.

The next day, the decision was made to keep the scheme going. Later, the Queen awarded Marcus with an MBE (Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) for his help with this.

While Marcus was happy with the change to the school meals decision, he says that he will keep using his voice to make sure that no child has to go without food.



Questions

1. Which of the following is Marcus **not** famous for? Tick one.

- playing football
- scoring lots of goals
- playing basketball
- speaking up about things that he cares about

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.

- Marcus played his first game for the national football team for England.
- Marcus joined a programme when he was 11.
- Marcus wrote an open letter to members of the UK government.
- Marcus played his first game with Manchester United's first team.

3. Draw **four** lines and complete each sentence.

Marcus was the youngest player ever to...	for the national football team for England.
Marcus says that he will keep using his voice to...	score a goal in their first match for England.
In his first match for Manchester United's first team, Marcus...	make sure that no child goes without food.
In May 2016, Marcus played in his first game...	scored two goals.

4. How old was Marcus when he joined the Manchester United academy system? Tick one.

- 7
- 8
- 11
- 12

5. Why was it unusual that Marcus joined the programme when he was 11?

6. Where did Marcus share his open letter?

7. Explain how the layout of the text helps you to understand it.

8. Do you think that Marcus is a good role model? Explain your answer.
