



# ESSEX

ESSEX ACADEMY AND EMERGING  
PLAYERS PROGRAMME

&  
COUNTY AGE GROUP  
(BOYS U13-18)



# INTRODUCTION

## ESSEX CCC ACADEMY

The Academy programme sits at the top of the player pathway before 2<sup>nd</sup> XI cricket and is aimed at players aged 15 to 18 years old. The Academy players are players that we believe have the abilities and skills to go onto become professional cricketers. The players are selected from the Essex County Age Group (CAG) programme, the Emerging Players Programme (EPP), and our regional EPP (which is formed from our partnership National Counties Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire and Suffolk).

The aim is to develop the next professional players for Essex. Providing a comprehensive and structured programme. The programme shall aim to develop players that are fit, robust and mentally strong enough to cope with the demands and pressures of professional cricket and shall aim to achieve a balance between the Academy Programme, education and personal development. Information on the programme will be presented to Academy players and parents through an induction process, which will outline the Academy Programme, objectives and expectations.

There is a balanced winter training programme incorporating; 1-2-1 sessions on discipline specific skill development, mentoring, Strength & Conditioning, Physio support, sports psychology, nutrition, personal development, PCA workshops, tactical and game-based challenges, open skill development sessions and specific challenges and development sessions on key areas needed to progress as set out in the Talent Development Framework.

Players will have opportunity to play the appropriate match formats to assist with the Player's development, which will reflect a balance of red and white ball cricket.



# INTRODUCTION

## ESSEX CCC EMERGING PLAYERS PROGRAMME

The Emerging Players Programme (EPP) is an elite programme which focuses on the development of players in the Under 14 and 15 age group who we feel have potential to progress towards the Essex Academy Programme. They have an extended training programme throughout the winter and summer, along with a multi-format match programme.

The regional EPP (which is formed from our partnership National Counties Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire and Suffolk) train and play within their own regions and also have the opportunity to train with the Essex EPP on Sundays during the winter phase and Mondays at Billericay CC during the summer months.

Both the Essex and the Regional EPP have a strong history of producing players for the Essex Academy. The current Academy squad is made up of players from both EPP programmes and some have gone onto become professional cricketers such as Noah Thain (Cambridgeshire) and Tymal Mills (Suffolk).

## ESSEX COUNTY AGE GROUP (CAG)

The County Age Group (CAG) will follow a tailored plan following the Academy and EPP model to incorporate 1-2-1's or small group to develop mastery of technique, game based challenges, combat sessions (bat v ball), discipline specific skills sessions, group S&C, psychology and nutrition, Induction, PDP's, parent workshops.





ESSEX

# TALENT PATHWAY STRUCTURE



1st/2nd  
XI

Academy  
U15-U18

Emerging Player Programme  
U13-U15

County Age Group  
U13 - U18

District Cricket  
U10 - U15  
\*U11 & U12 Area Programme\*

Clubs, School & Community Cricket

The image above displays the structure of the talent pathway and provides a visual representation of the journey for players through the talent pathway.



**ESSEX**

# PLAYER ASSESSMENTS

**U13**

Player entry into the Under 13 County Age Group (CAG) begins with district nominations.

Players are nominated by their clubs and schools during the summer and attend district assessments in September/October.

Those identified as having the potential to progress to the county level will be invited to the U13 CAG assessments in January.



**U14**

Player entry into the Under 14 County Age Group (CAG) begins with district nominations.

Players are nominated by their clubs and schools during the summer and attend district assessments in September/October.

Those identified as having the potential to progress will be invited to the U14 CAG assessments in January, along with players who were part of the previous year's U13 CAG.

**U15**

Player entry into the Under 15 County Age Group (CAG) begins with district nominations.

Players are nominated by their clubs and schools during the summer and attend district assessments in September/October.

Those identified as having the potential to progress will be invited to the U15 CAG assessments in January, along with players who were part of the previous year's U14 CAG.



ESSEX

# PLAYER ASSESSMENTS

U16

Player nomination forms will be sent to clubs and schools in November, to put forward for U16 CAG assessments. Once players nominations have been received, players stats will be assessed, and only players who have met a specific threshold will be invited to attend the assessment. Players along with players from the previous year (U15 County Age Group) are invited to attend assessments for the Essex CCC Under 16 squad. Assessments take place in January each year.



U18

Player nomination forms will be sent to clubs and schools in November, to put forward for U18 CAG assessments. Once players nominations have been received, players stats will be assessed, and only players who have met a specific threshold will be invited to attend the assessment. Players along with players from the previous year (U16s and U18s County Age Group) are invited to attend assessments for the Essex CCC Under 18 squad. Assessments take place in January each year.

DEV XI

The Development XI play in the East of England Development Competition and selections are made from the Head scout, Academy Director, Talent Pathway Manager. This offers another point at which players performances can be monitored, with a view to who has the attributes to progress to professional cricket. At times, when appropriate, Essex will use the Development XI for an opportunity to get extra cricket for those within the pathway.