

BOYS Under 13s - Under 16s | Sussex Cricket Pathway Programme Nominations 2026-2027

Dear Cricket Club, School Representatives & Parents/Guardians

You are receiving this email as you have expressed an interest in the Sussex Cricket Boys Pathway so please find details below to enable you to nominate young players (for **BOYS U13-U16 only** - girls details will be sent separately) for the 2026/2027 Sussex Cricket boys pathway assessments.

LINK TO APPLY:

<https://forms.gle/M45VrMCM6R6iTxb8>

(Details for boys nominations for players aged U8 – U12 have also been sent separately. Please ensure the correct nomination is followed)

Please note that all players need a helmet that has stem guards as per ECB and Sussex Cricket guidelines.

Please note that if selected for assessments the dates below are the only dates we have available. We appreciate some players have commitments with other sports which is why we have given everyone plenty of notice.

To enable us to observe the boys in outdoor conditions Phase 1 assessments will take place at the Blackstone Academy Ground in August & September (Blackstone Lane, BN5 9TA)

Dates and times for the age groups will be:

U16 – Friday 28th August 2 – 5.00 pm
U15 – Friday 28th August 10.00 am – 1.00 pm
U14 – Sunday 16th Sunday 10.00 am – 1.00 pm or 2.00 – 5.00 pm
U13 – Tuesday 18th August 10.00 am – 1.00 pm or 2.00 – 5.00 pm

For those players selected from Phase 1 the next phase of assessments (Phase 2) will also take place at the Blackstone Academy Ground.

Dates and times for the age groups will be:

U16 – Sunday 13th September 10.00 am – 1.00 pm
U15 – Sunday 6th September 1 – 4.00 pm
U14 – Sunday 6th September 10.00 am – 1.00 pm
U13 – Sunday 6th September 3.00 – 6.00 pm

Players invited to attend phase 2 will then be assessed against current county standard players (season 2025/26) at the relevant age group.

Please note these are which age groups players will be in for the 2026/2027 season by their date of birth:

<u>Age Groups by DOB</u> (2026/2027 season)	<u>Team</u>	School year from Sep 2026
1st Sep 2013 - 31st Aug 2014	U13	Y8

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1st Sep 2012 - 31st Aug 2013	U14	Y9
1st Sep 2011 - 31st Aug 2012	U15	Y10
1st Sep 2010 - 31st Aug 2011	U16	Y11

We ask everyone to be aware of the following criteria when nominating players for assessments.

1. Only players who were not on the 2025/2026 Pathway to be nominated
2. Only players regarded as being as good or better than current county age group cricketers (U13 plus who were selected into the final county age group squads)

For example of what players will be assessed on at each age group please review our Talent Development Framework (attached).

3. Players who have contributed to SJCF and club/school matches with regular outstanding performances (4+ wicket hauls and 50+ scores on 3+ occasions)
4. Players of quality who will be fully committed to the programme, with understanding that our focus is to develop future professional cricketers
5. Please note that all players must be available for at least 80% of training sessions and games during the season (dates/times will be advised once selections have been made) For example training may be every Sunday for 2 hours at Hove from November 2026 until March 2027 followed by a summer match (if selected) and training (all players) programme

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please do not nominate players currently involved in our U12 Early Engagement Programme (current season). There is a clear assessment and nomination process in place for those boys.

Assessment for U13 nominations will take place through the previous 10-month period of the Early Engagement Programme. This will include observations during training, matches, and Pathway+ sessions. Prior to the U13 Phase 2 assessment held at Blackstone, boys will either be informed:

- a) Not invited to attend U13 Pathway Phase 2 assessments
- b) Invited to attend U13 Pathway Phase 2 assessments

This will be clearly communicated to all boys.

For guidance on how we assess players at each stage of the pathway, please see attached the Talent Development Framework.

All nominations to be received by **9.00 am on MONDAY 27th JULY 2026** please. After this date & time the form will be closed, and no further nominations will be accepted.

Regards

Sussex Cricket Pathway Team