



## Applications open for England age group squads

**Author:** Paul Stimpson

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Applications are now open for the England age group squads for the 2020/21 season.

There are three squads in the England Performance Pathway: The England Junior Squad is the upper tier youth training programme, targeted at players who are in the Cadet (under-15) or Junior (under-18) age categories, while the England Hopes & England Aspire squads are predominately aimed at players aged 14 and under. England Hopes is our introductory training programme, while England Aspire is the next level within the pathway.

The online application is the first stage of the selection process, after which shortlisted candidates will be invited to assessment days designed to measure players' technical, tactical, mental and physical attributes and abilities. The selection panel will then invite players to join the squads for the 2020/21 season.

Athletes in the squads need to clearly demonstrate key traits in their character which are vital for performance. These include:

- Commitment
- Resilience –need to have a “never say die” attitude
- Problem solver –players who continually search to find a way in any situation
- Ability to concentrate and focus in demanding and challenging situations
- Positive attitude and determination to be better
- Willingness and openness to learning
- Strong work ethic –willing to push their capabilities and work in the “Ugly Zone”
- Self-reliance
- A team player

[Click here for more information, to download selection criteria and to apply](#)

The deadline for applications is April 30 and invitations will be sent out to the assessment days on May 8. The England Junior Squad assessment days are on June 13 and 14, while the Hopes & Aspire assessment days are on June 27 and 28. The squad selections will be confirmed by July 24.

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