FA Girls' Talent Development

Our mission statement

To allow players opportunities to access appropriate levels of coaching and support throughout the talent pathway, enabling the programme to reach our ultimate goal in producing elite English female players to compete on the world stage.

IMPORTANT PLAYER INFORMATION – FA GIRLS’ CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

Any new registered players within The FA Girls’ Centre of Excellence programme must qualify to play for England from the 2011-12 season (existing players registered with the Centre prior to 2011-2012 season may remain for their duration of time).

Any player that is not part of The FA Girls' Centre of Excellence programme will not be eligible for Elite Performance Camps or International squad selection.

The FA Girls’ Centres of Excellence for 2011-12 are:

Arsenal jbayer@arsenal.co.uk
Aston Villa martin.harrison@avfc.co.uk
Birmingham City heather.cowan@blueyonder.co.uk
Blackburn Rovers gdonnelly@rovers.co.uk
Brighton & Hove Albion Michelle.Lawrence@bhafc.co.uk
Bristol Academy daniel.tanhai@filton.ac.uk
Cambridge danielle.quelch@hotmail.co.uk
Chelsea robert.udberg@chelseafc.com
Colchester United kanderson@cucst.org.uk
Derby County simon.carnall@dcfc.co.uk
Devon FA matthew.hodgson@devonfa.com
Everton andy.spence@evertonfc.com
Gillingham lbiles@priestfield.com
Hampshire FA Martina.Heath@HampshireFA.com
Leeds United gary.waddington@leedsunited.com
Leicester City chloe.jones@lcfc.co.uk
Lincoln Ladies info@lincolnladiesfc.co.uk
Liverpool kevin.quigley@live.co.uk
Manchester United emma.fletcher@manutd.co.uk
Middlesex FA stuart.allen@middlesexfa.com
Millwall & Lewisham paulanthonypalmer@gmail.com
MK Dons charlene.ward@mkdons.com
North Yorkshire gail@gailcolling-orangehome.co.uk
Norwich City emma.fletcher@ncfc-canaries.co.uk
Oxford United rblackmore@oufc.co.uk
Sheffield United helen.mitchell1889@gmail.com
Somerset FA aaron.clements@somersetfa.com
Sporting Club Albion neill.hornby@albionfoundation.co.uk
Stoke City liam.peart@stokecityfc.com
In 2011 the FA completed a comprehensive 18-month consultation and review into our talent development programmes for girls and based on these findings restructured the pathway. As part of this, The FA committed to an ongoing review of this new structure and to communicate by March 2012 if there were to be any modifications.

- Subject to the continuation of both FA and external funding, the existing 30 FA Girls’ Centres of Excellence, that fulfil their FA Licence agreement and meet the strict criteria going forward will retain their FA licence until the end of the 2013-14 season
- A 31st FA Girls’ Centre of Excellence licence will be available to an organisation in the north east of the country that can meet the strict criteria. This is to run a brand new Centre to start at the beginning of the 2012-13 season to service the geographical need of talented players, particularly in Sunderland and Newcastle, that cannot access the existing nearest FA Girls’ Centre of Excellence programme
In 2014 The FA will reopen the application process for these 31 FA Girls’ Centre of Excellence licences to all organisations that wish to apply. This timescale has been agreed to dovetail into the plans to explore the introduction of a second tier of The FA WSL in 2014, ensuring that the whole talent pathway of women’s football is developed in parallel.

- Funding will be also be available to develop eight more FA Girls’ Player Development Centres for the 2012-13 season. This will offer more support to more grassroots players who show future potential for our game. This will be developed further in conjunction with the County FAs and their local partners.