

**THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
FA CUP, TROPHY, VASE AND YOUTH CUP
SEASON 2017-2018**

ENTRY CRITERIA

FA CUP

Clubs to be automatically accepted subject to the ground conforming to the minimum standard

- Clubs in The FA Premier League, The Football League and in Steps 1, 2, 3 & 4 of The FA National League System.
- Clubs in Step 5 of The FA National League System.
- Clubs relegated to Step 6 of The FA National League System.
- Clubs in Step 6 of The FA National League System finishing in a League position 1-4 of the preceding season.

Clubs to be accepted subject to available places and subject to the ground conforming to the minimum standard

- Clubs playing in Step 6 of The FA National League System finishing in a League position below 4 of the preceding season.
- New entries
Clubs must have participated in the Trophy or Vase in Season 2016-2017.

FA TROPHY

- Entry is restricted to Clubs competing in Steps 1-4 of The FA National League System.

Clubs moving to and from Step 4 will automatically be moved between the Trophy and Vase Competitions accordingly.

FA VASE

- Entry is restricted to Clubs competing in Steps 5-7 of The FA National League System subject to the ground conforming to the minimum standard.

FA YOUTH CUP

Clubs to be accepted subject to the ground conforming to the minimum standard

- Clubs participating in The FA Cup, Trophy or Vase in Season 2017-2018.
- Clubs participating in a recognized Youth League in Season 2017-2018 that is sanctioned by The Association or an affiliated Association.
- Youth Teams representing a Senior Club must be properly integrated within the main structure of the Senior Club.

MINIMUM GROUND STANDARDS

FA CUP

Clubs must have a ground grade which conforms to a "G" grade (appropriate to Step 6) or higher as at 31 March of the preceding season.

FA VASE

Clubs must have a ground grade which conforms to a "H" grade (appropriate to entry to Step 6) or higher as at 31 March of the preceding season.

*Clubs with grounds not conforming to the minimum standards **WILL NOT** be permitted entry by nominating an alternative ground for home ties in FA Competitions*

Clarification on the various ground grades related to The FA National League System can be found under the following link <http://www.thefa.com/my-football/club-leagues/ground-grading>