

**THE FA YOUTH CUP
SEASON 2025-26
LIST OF EXEMPTIONS**

44 CLUBS EXEMPT TO THIRD ROUND PROPER (*Premier League & EFL Championship*)

AFC Bournemouth	Fulham FC	Preston North End FC
Arsenal FC	Hull City	Queens Park Rangers FC
Aston Villa FC	Ipswich Town FC	Sheffield United FC
Birmingham City FC	Leeds United AFC	Sheffield Wednesday FC
Blackburn Rovers FC	Leicester City FC	Southampton FC
Brentford FC	Liverpool FC	Stoke City FC
Brighton & Hove Albion FC	Manchester City FC	Sunderland AFC
Bristol City FC	Manchester United FC	Swansea City FC
Burnley FC	Middlesbrough FC	Tottenham Hotspur FC
Charlton Athletic FC	Millwall FC	Watford FC
Chelsea FC	Newcastle United FC	West Bromwich Albion FC
Coventry City FC	Norwich City FC	West Ham United FC
Crystal Palace FC	Nottingham Forest FC	Wolverhampton Wanderers FC
Derby County FC	Oxford United FC	Wrexham AFC
Everton FC	Portsmouth FC	

45 CLUBS EXEMPT TO FIRST ROUND PROPER (*EFL 1 & 2*)

AFC Wimbledon	Doncaster Rovers FC	Oldham Athletic FC
Barnet FC	Exeter City FC	Peterborough United FC
Barnsley FC	Fleetwood Town FC	Plymouth Argyle FC
Blackpool FC	Gillingham FC	Port Vale FC
Bolton Wanderers FC	Grimsby Town FC	Reading FC
Bradford City FC	Harrogate Town AFC	Rotherham United FC
Bristol Rovers FC	Huddersfield Town FC	Salford City FC
Bromley FC	Leyton Orient FC	Shrewsbury Town FC
Burton Albion FC	Lincoln City FC	Stevenage FC
Cambridge United FC	Luton Town FC	Stockport County FC
Cardiff City FC	Mansfield Town FC	Swindon Town FC
Cheltenham Town FC	Milton Keynes Dons FC	Tranmere Rovers FC
Chesterfield FC	Newport County AFC	Walsall FC
Colchester United FC	Northampton Town FC	Wigan Athletic FC
Crewe Alexandra FC	Notts County FC	Wycombe Wanderers FC

(Accrington Stanley FC, Barrow AFC & Crawley Town FC – not applied)

22 CLUBS EXEMPT TO SECOND ROUND QUALIFYING (*Step 1 of The FA National League System*)

Aldershot Town FC	Forest Green Rovers FC	Tamworth FC
Altrincham FC	Gateshead FC	Truro City FC
Boreham Wood FC	Hartlepool United FC	Wealdstone FC
Boston United FC	Morecambe FC	Woking FC
Brackley Town FC	Rochdale AFC	Yeovil Town FC
Carlisle United AFC	Solihull Moors FC	York City FC
Eastleigh FC	Southend United FC	
FC Halifax Town	Sutton United FC	

(Braintree Town FC & Scunthorpe United FC – not applied)

44 CLUBS EXEMPT TO FIRST ROUND QUALIFYING (*Step 2 of The FA National League System*)

AFC Fylde	AFC Totton	Bath City FC
AFC Telford United	Alfreton Town FC	Bedford Town FC

Buxton FC
Chelmsford City FC
Chesham United FC
Chester FC
Chippenham Town FC
Chorley FC
Curzon Ashton FC
Dagenham & Redbridge FC
Darlington FC
Dorking Wanderers FC
Dover Athletic FC
Eastbourne Borough FC
Ebbsfleet United FC

Enfield Town FC
Hampton & Richmond Borough FC
Hemel Hempstead Town FC
Hereford FC
Horsham FC
Kidderminster Harriers FC
King's Lynn Town FC
Leamington FC
Macclesfield FC
Maidenhead United FC
Maidstone United FC
Marine FC
Merthyr Town FC

Oxford City FC
Radcliffe FC
Salisbury FC
Scarborough Athletic FC
Slough Town FC
South Shields FC
Southport FC
Spennymoor Town FC
Tonbridge Angels FC
Torquay United FC
Weston Super Mare FC
Worthing FC

(Farnborough FC, Hornchurch FC, Peterborough Sports FC & Worksop Town FC – not applied)