

**THE FA YOUTH CUP
SEASON 2026-27
LIST OF EXEMPTIONS**

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

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

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

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

(Crawley Town FC – not applied)

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

AFC Fylde	Forest Green Rovers FC	Sutton United FC
Aldershot Town FC	Gateshead FC	Tamworth FC
Altrincham FC	Harrogate Town AFC	Wealdstone FC
Boreham Wood FC	Hartlepool United FC	Woking FC
Boston United FC	Hornchurch FC	Worthing FC
Carlisle United AFC	Kidderminster Harriers FC	Yeovil Town FC
Eastleigh FC	Solihull Moors FC	
FC Halifax Town	Southend United FC	

(Barrow AFC & Scunthorpe United FC – not applied)

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

AFC Telford United	Ebbsfleet United FC	Merthyr Town FC
AFC Totton	Farnham Town FC	Morecambe FC
Bedford Town FC	Folkestone Invicta FC	Oxford City FC
Billericay Town FC	Hampton & Richmond Borough FC	Radcliffe FC
Brackley Town FC	Harborough Town FC	Salisbury FC
Braintree Town FC	Hebburn Town FC	Scarborough Athletic FC
Buxton FC	Hednesford Town FC	Slough Town FC
Chelmsford City FC	Hemel Hempstead Town FC	South Shields FC
Chesham United FC	Hereford FC	Southport FC
Chester FC	Horsham FC	Spalding United FC
Chorley FC	King's Lynn Town FC	Spennymoor Town FC
Dagenham & Redbridge FC	Macclesfield FC	Tonbridge Angels FC
Darlington FC	Maidenhead United FC	Torquay United FC
Dorking Wanderers FC	Maidstone United FC	Walton & Hersham FC
Dover Athletic FC	Marine FC	Weston Super Mare FC

(Farnborough FC, Truro City FC & Worksop Town FC – not applied)