



## ESSEX METROPOLITAN NETBALL ASSOCIATION Player Pathway Screening 2025-26

The Jean Brown Arena (Outdoor Courts)  
Redbridge Sports & Leisure Centre  
Forest Road  
Ilford  
IG6 3HD

**Screening sessions for U13s athletes for Essex Met Player Pathway Programme  
2025-2026**

**U13s– Years 6, 7 & 8 will take place on  
Phase 1 Sunday 14 September 2025  
Phase 2 Sunday 28 September 2025**

**Closing date for open nominations Friday 8 August 2025 23.59. Please complete  
link**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfQbZbRWTaXQB8squgEEOXjdYBiICWgB7zyWbT1CCG1zcp7tQ/viewform?usp=dialog>

Welcome to Essex Met County Netball. **Please read all information carefully** and please go to our website <https://www.essexmet.co.uk/Netball/county-academy-pathway/> to read about the Player Development Pathway and England Netball Managing Athlete Loading. We understand that your child may play more than one sport and during the academic year may have exams, but we wanted you as parents, guardians and carers to think about the commitment your child will need when participating on the first step of the England Netball Development Pathway.

We are excited to announce the upcoming Essex Met County Netball Under 13s screening for the new season. To ensure a fair and thorough selection process, this year's screening will take place in two phases.

Please note we **DO NOT offer time slots** all athletes are expected to attend for the day from registration from 09.30am to 3pm approx. finish for both phases.

### **Why a Two-Phase Trial?**

The two-phase approach allows us to assess players in more depth and under a variety of conditions. It ensures that every athlete has a fair opportunity to demonstrate their skills, potential, and teamwork across multiple sessions during the day.

### **Phase 1 will be the initial screening, where all registered players will take part.**

After Day 1 of Phase 1, an email will be sent to all parents and carers to confirm whether your child has been invited to progress to Phase 2.

### **Phase 2 Selection and Confirmation**

If your child is selected for Phase 2:

You will receive an email inviting you to accept or decline the place to take part in phase 2

This is essential so we can offer any unaccepted places to athletes on the reserve list.

**You must reply to confirm your decision by Tuesday 16 September 2025 at 23:59. No late replies will be accepted.**

### **Payment Information**

Please note that only one payment is required for the entire screening process—this covers both Phase 1 and Phase 2, regardless of whether your child progresses. The payment is a non-refundable cost of **£30.00**

### **Final Selection**

After Phase 2, we will be selecting approximately 40 to a maximum of 50 athletes to join the Essex Met County PDP Under 13s programme for the season ahead.

**Selected players will receive an email offering them a place and must accept or decline the offer by Tuesday 30 September 2025 at 23:59.**

No late replies will be accepted, as we need to offer any unclaimed places to athletes on our reserve list.

All athletes who have returned their registration forms will be notified with further details by Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025 23.59.

**Fee is £30**

**No cash expected and NO LATE entries**

**A non-refundable payment must be made vis BACS transfer by Friday 8 August 2025 23.59:**

Account Name	Essex Metropolitan County Squad
Bank	Santander
Sort Code	09-01-55
Account	77525182

***Please use your child's full name as the reference***

**Emergency contacts on the day of screening:**

Michelle Cox 07985 251235 ----- Tracy Howe 07970 458238

More information please email: [essexmetcountynetballcomms@gmail.com](mailto:essexmetcountynetballcomms@gmail.com)

### **Please note**

Playing Kit for screening day – navy blue or black skirt/shorts and white t-shirt. **NO CLUB KIT, No Nike PRO shorts, COUNTY KIT or SCHOOL KIT Allowed**  
(In the case of religious/cultural reasons leggings are permitted)

Training will be held on Sunday afternoons for under 13s - excluding half term.  
Dates to be confirmed in September 2025

There may be a netball Festival in April 2026. Athletes **MUST ATTEND** as part of the Player Pathway Programme.

Please note that all successful athletes **MUST** be registered via England Netball for Season 2025/2026 either via their netball club, school or parent on Engage

Become a Member on Engage

<https://www.Englandnetball.co.uk/membership/become-a-member/junior-member-benefits/>

### **Costs if successful**

The training fee for the year October 2025-May 2026 **is £250**. This includes training facilities, coaching fees, player and parent Psychology sessions, fitness sessions, T-shirt with London Pulse and Essex Met Logo.

## **Important Information -Player Pathway Update**

We want to share some broad updates on plans for the Player Pathway.

### **England Netball**

#### **Vision and Intent**

We all want a Player Pathway that develops and supports the supply of outstanding players into professional domestic and international games, that is made up of a countrywide network of programmes that are accessible to girls from all backgrounds, where the only entry requirement is talent. Achieving this may take time and we will need to continue to make refinements to our pathway model in the coming years.

The changes that have been made to the Netball Super League for next year, with the very best of intentions, are designed to make the game at the top-end even more captivating, to increase audiences, to generate greater commercial revenues, to enable more girls and women to see netball as a professional career and to improve the standards of coaching and support that athletes receive. This in turn will help grow the whole game from the grassroots up. The support the game is able to provide to developing athletes is inextricably linked to the ability of the sport to grow its audience.

Alongside this, we have sought to establish a Player Pathway that balances a number of, sometimes competing, factors.

- the right geographical distribution to enable accessibility
  - the right number of athletes on the Pathway to ensure opportunity, whilst also driving up standards
- by ensuring only the most talented athletes are selected
- an affordable and sustainable cost-model
  - alignment of the pathway to Netball Super League clubs to ensure that athletes have a pathway into the professional game, supported by both 'Professional' and 'professional' coaches

**Essex Met would like to make it very clear we are not a hub.**

**Once accepted onto the England Netball Player Pathway Programme there will be no flexibility to change your county pathway training sessions day/time. The expectation and commitment will be Sundays for under 13s training and any other commitments that Essex Met County Netball provide.**

Essex Met County Netball has a very long history of developing England players through the pathway who have gone onto become England Captains, England selectors and England players. We are a county that develops young players not only to play but also learn how to officiate.

Anyone can apply, no one needs to be nominated, we want to promote the game to all.

Good Luck

Yours in Sport

Michelle Cox  
Head Essex Met County Player Pathway Coach