



For the Attention of the Head of School

## ENGLAND HOCKEY PERFORMANCE CENTRE PROGRAMME

**Player Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Attendance at:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Performance Centre**

The England Hockey Player Pathway provides a platform for young players to develop their hockey and become the best that they can; with some going on to represent England and Great Britain at Junior and Senior level. The Performance Centre programme is the third tier of the Player Pathway and provides frequent contact time with skilled coaches for the top 14-17 year olds in England. If you are interested in finding out further information about the Player Pathway and Performance Centres please visit the website at [www.englishockey.co.uk/playerpathway](http://www.englishockey.co.uk/playerpathway).

This prestigious programme of training and competition provides an excellent development opportunity for the best 1600 junior players. Whilst our main focus in Performance Centres is to provide an exceptional learning environment that meets each player's needs, we also conduct some talent identification as we select the best players for junior international hockey. Coaches from the U16 and U18 England Squads attend Performance Centre activity to observe players on the programme, and as part of this talent identification process we run a major national event (Futures Cup); which is a four-day annual tournament for the most high potential players in each age group and gender.

Virtually all Performance Centre contact time occurs outside school hours but, on occasion, we are required to hold training days during term time. This is only likely to occur where there are differences in half-term dates across the country.

We understand it is a big commitment from players to reach the top level of hockey and any support the school can provide in allowing selected players to take part in the programme, without unduly impacting their academic work, is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions about the Performance Centre programme or the Player Pathway please don't hesitate to get in contact at [player.pathway@englishockey.co.uk](mailto:player.pathway@englishockey.co.uk).

Yours Faithfully

Ed Barney – Performance Director, England Hockey

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