

Dear Teacher/Coach,



**Sale Sharks Under 14-16 DPP Nomination 2017-18.**

Sale Sharks Academy are pleased to re-launch our Developing Player Programme (DPP) across the North West for the 2017-18 season. The DPP is a joint initiative run between Sale Sharks Academy, England Rugby and Cheshire and Lancashire CB's and designed to provide a first opportunity for players with the greatest potential to enter the pathway towards the professional game.

The structure of the DPP has undergone changes since the 2016-17 season including the programme delivery windows, the centres for delivery and the coaching/playing curriculum. In 2017-18 the DPP will continue to run 6 centres at u13-15 across the North West: East, Central, West, Manchester, Merseyside and North Lancashire and introduce 2 centres at u16 in Cheshire and Lancashire.

**Players part of the DPP during the 2016-17 season will be invited to be reassessed for the 2017-18 season and therefore don't require re-nomination.**

At this stage in the season we would like to invite nominations for additional u14-16 players. Schools/Clubs can nominate a maximum of 4 players per age grade, whom are either stand out rugby union players or talented athletes from other sports with the ability to excel in the game. The nomination form can be found below, whilst further information and guidance around the nomination process and players to nominate can be found on our [website](#).

All players nominated will be contacted by Sale Sharks and receive invites to attend an assessment session in October. Players selected following assessment will be invited to attend twice monthly sessions with their appropriate age group. The playing curriculum will be designed by Sale Sharks Academy and focus on the individual development of core skill, game understanding and athleticism. Please be assured the programme is designed to interact with and complement the existing school, club and county playing programmes and provide further development opportunity without the conflict of competition.

Finally, the 2017-18 season will also see a greater collaboration with Cheshire and Lancashire County programmes for u15/16 players. Under 15 players will follow the DPP from October- January and conclude with a festival held at Carrington for the Cheshire Centres (East, Central, West) and at Myerscough College for the Lancashire Centres (Manchester, Merseyside, North Lancashire). Following the conclusion of the DPP, County Under 15 squads will then be announced and follow the CB programme from January-March. At u16 players will follow the DPP between October- December and following the conclusion of the DPP, County squads will be announced for the CB programme between January- February. There will therefore be no additional nomination forms required for players to access the County pathway.

Please find the link below to nominate u14-16 players with a **closing date of Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September**. U13 nominations will open on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December with programme delivery between February-April to support longitudinal assessment.

[DPP Nomination Form](#)

Thank you in advance for your support of the DPP next season and if you have any queries please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Regards,

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