

**BREAKING  BOUNDARIES**

# **IMPACT REPORT**

**Interim Report 2025–26**



**BREAKING  
BOUNDARIES IS A  
BOLD NEW INITIATIVE  
TRANSFORMING  
ACCESS TO CRICKET  
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE  
ACROSS SUSSEX.**



## OUR MISSION

**DELIVERED BY THE SUSSEX CRICKET FOUNDATION AND SUPPORTED BY THE ECB, THE PROGRAMME IS ABOUT MORE THAN CRICKET.**

**It's about confidence, opportunity, resilience and community. It's about ensuring every child, regardless of background or circumstance, has the chance to play, grow and thrive through sport.**

Inspired by the pioneering success of Brighton Aldridge Community Academy and its nationally recognised cricket programme, Breaking Boundaries aims to build a connected network of opportunities across the county, ensuring talented young cricketers can thrive while thousands more simply get the chance to play, compete, make friends and fall in love with the game.

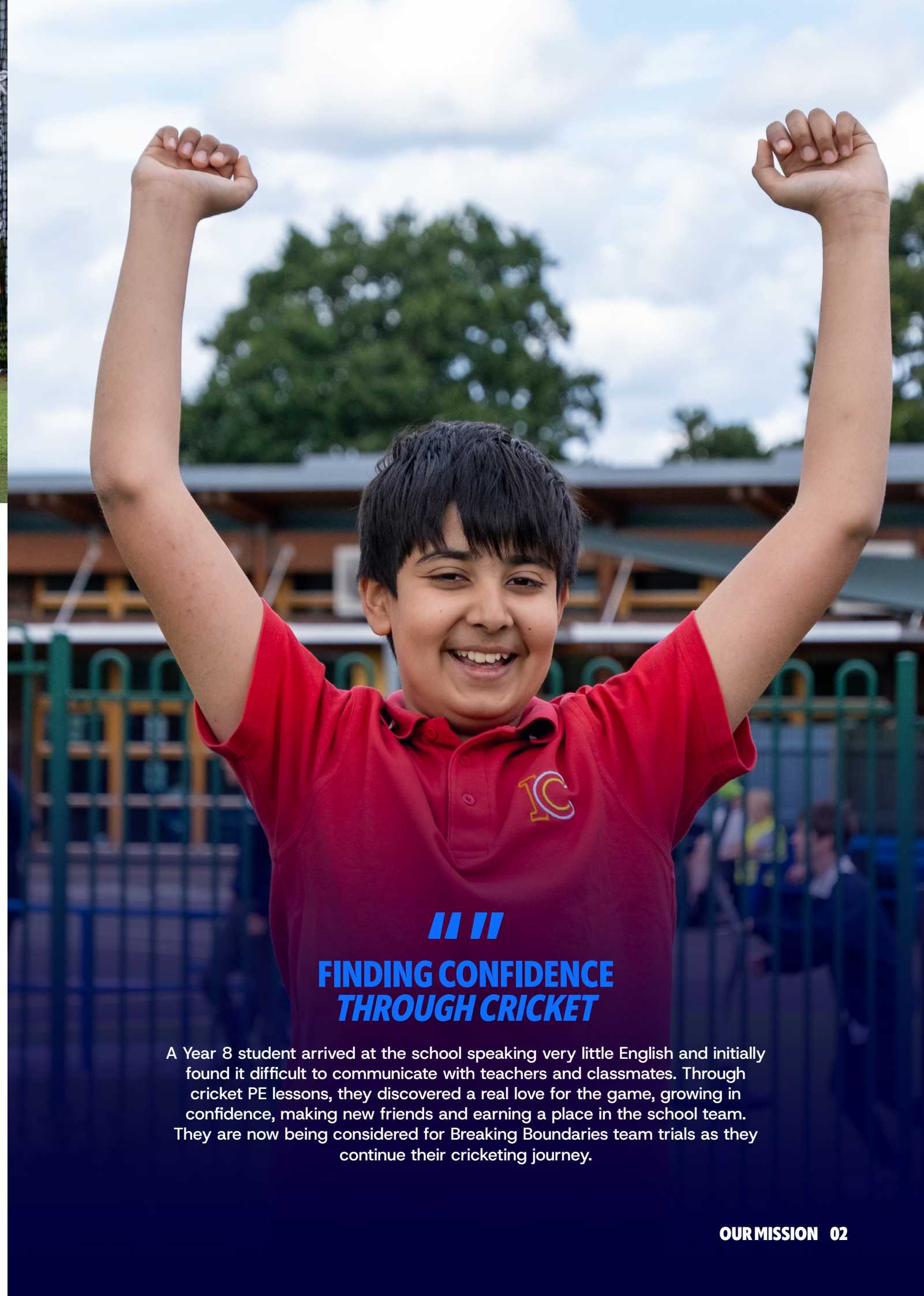
Breaking Boundaries exists to make cricket more accessible, inclusive and inspiring for young people across Sussex.

We are building a county-wide network of State School Cricket Hubs that give children the opportunity to play, learn and develop in

environments where cricket is visible, exciting and genuinely accessible.

Through professional coaching, improved facilities, teacher training and partnerships with local clubs, we are creating pathways that simply haven't existed for many state school students before.

Our mission is not just to develop better cricketers, it's to help develop more confident, resilient and connected young people.



**///**  
**FINDING CONFIDENCE  
THROUGH CRICKET**

A Year 8 student arrived at the school speaking very little English and initially found it difficult to communicate with teachers and classmates. Through cricket PE lessons, they discovered a real love for the game, growing in confidence, making new friends and earning a place in the school team. They are now being considered for Breaking Boundaries team trials as they continue their cricketing journey.





# OUR HUB SCHOOLS

At the heart of Breaking Boundaries is a network of State School Cricket Hubs across Sussex. Each hub is designed to become a centre for cricket within its local community, connecting schools, students, teachers, clubs and families through a joined-up programme of activity.

Each hub will benefit from professional coaching, improved facilities, teacher training and partnerships with local clubs, we are creating pathways that simply haven't existed for many state school students before.



**I AM DELIGHTED THAT OATHALL IS PART OF THIS INITIATIVE TO OPEN UP CRICKET TO YOUNG PEOPLE FROM EVERY BACKGROUND.**

We are already seeing fantastic student engagement with the specialist coaching in PE lessons and after school clubs.

I have no doubt that this will be of benefit to the school and across our wider community. With new nets and pitch facilities on the way, I am confident this project will be genuinely transformational for the sport.

**Toby Houghton, Headteacher**  
Oathall Community College



**THE BREAKING BOUNDARIES PROJECT HAS ELEVATED CRICKET AT ICC, AND WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT THE LASTING IMPACT IT WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE BOTH WITHIN OUR SCHOOL AND ACROSS THE WIDER SUSSEX COMMUNITY.**

**We are incredibly proud to be a flagship school for cricket in Crawley and to work in partnership with Sussex Cricket to provide high-quality opportunities for our students.**

Over the short period of time being a Sussex hub, approximately 1,000 students have benefited from specialist cricket coaching through a structured sequence of lessons, ensuring that every student in Years 7–10 has experienced cricket delivered by expert Sussex Cricket coaches. This has significantly increased engagement, participation, and enthusiasm for the sport across the school.

The project has become embedded within our PE curriculum and wider school culture, helping to create clear pathways for students to continue their involvement beyond curriculum time. We are continuing to strengthen our positive relationship with Sussex Cricket through an expanding programme of lunchtime and after-school clubs,

alongside increased opportunities for both boys and girls to represent the school in competitive district fixtures.

We are particularly pleased with the growth of girls' cricket and the inclusive nature of the programme, which has enabled more young people than ever to access and enjoy the sport. As we look to the future, we see the Breaking Boundaries project continuing to inspire the next generation of cricketers, further increasing participation and helping to establish cricket as a key part of the sporting experience at ICC for many years to come.

**Kim Costin, Head of PE & Tyler Whale, Deputy PE Lead**  
Ifield Community College







**AT THE REGIS SCHOOL, WE FEEL VERY FORTUNATE TO BE PART OF THE BREAKING BOUNDARIES PROJECT, LAUNCHED THIS YEAR BY SUSSEX CRICKET FOUNDATION AND TO HAVE BEEN SELECTED AS ONE OF ITS HUB SCHOOLS.**

**The initiative has provided all our students, regardless of prior experience or sporting ability, the opportunity to pick up a bat and ball and experience cricket in some capacity.**

Introducing as many young people as possible to cricket sits at the heart of the Breaking Boundaries Project and its intended impact. Early indicators at The Regis School suggest that the project is already having a positive effect on both girls and boys, who are keen to explore cricket further in both softball and hardball formats following the additional curriculum sessions it has supported and delivered.

While the project was initially established during the winter months of this academic year, it has gained the greatest momentum during the summer term. With the support of the programme, we have been able to offer three extra-curricular cricket club opportunities per week, tailored to students of varying abilities. These sessions have successfully built on the enthusiasm generated through the project's curriculum delivery, enabling us to further nurture interest and participation in cricket across the school.

**Rhys Thompson, Head of PE**  
The Regis School



We are incredibly grateful for the investments made by the Breaking Boundaries Project in enhancing our cricket facilities. The installation of our brand-new four-lane outdoor cricket nets has had an immediate impact on the quality of provision we can offer our students and the wider community, both during curriculum time and in extra-curricular and after school settings.

In addition, we have been fortunate to receive upgrades from the project to our outdoor cricket pitches, providing an exciting new resource that we are confident will support continued growth for The Regis School students, as well as the wider community, enabling more people to engage with and enjoy the game.

We are excited about what the future holds and look forward to continuing to work closely with Sussex Cricket Foundation and the Breaking Boundaries Project to further develop its impact and grow the game both at our school and across our local community.



**AT UCKFIELD COLLEGE, THE PROJECT HAS STRONGLY ALIGNED WITH OUR CORE QUALITIES OF ASPIRATION, CONFIDENCE, SELF-REGULATION, RESILIENCE, KINDNESS, AND INTEGRITY.**

**This has been further supported by the excellent work of Jo Towndrow, who has delivered hundreds of hours of curriculum lessons to over 1200 students as well as extra-curricular clubs and fixtures to enhance and strengthen our cricket provision across the school.**

We have also been pleased to host Cricket CPD opportunities for the county, with our department benefitting greatly from Jo's expertise through lesson observations and professional collaboration. With our new facilities continuing to take shape, we feel the programme is in a fantastic position to go from strength to strength over the coming years.

Most importantly, the project has helped to significantly enhance enthusiasm and participation in cricket amongst some of our key target groups, particularly girls, PP, and SEND students. It has complemented our super-curricular offer brilliantly and has created further opportunities for students to engage, develop confidence, and enjoy being active through cricket.

**Luke Sidwell, Curriculum Leader of PE & Outdoor Education**  
Uckfield College



Alongside this, we have seen a clear increase in student participation through expanded entries into both indoor and outdoor boys' and girls' competitions. A part of Uckfield College history was recently made when the U15 girls team played the school's first ever girls hardball game.

The growth in opportunities and confidence amongst students has led to greater engagement across all year groups, culminating in our furthest progression yet in the inaugural Barclays Knight-Stokes Cup. This has been a fantastic reflection of the momentum building around cricket within the school and the positive culture developing across both participation and performance pathways.



# THE NUMBERS *SO FAR...*

Year 1 | Quarters 1 & 2

## CURRICULUM DELIVERY

 **4**  
hub schools delivered in

 **15**  
additional local schools delivered in

 **4,083**  
students coached in curriculum time

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY

 **148**  
boys attending after-school clubs

 **142**  
girls attending after-school clubs

 **169**  
students attending half-term provision

 **62**  
teachers provided with CPD

 **26**  
competitive fixtures completed

## OUR AMBITION BY YEAR 4 OF DELIVERY

 **8**  
hub schools delivered in

 **10,536**  
students coached in curriculum time

 **600**  
students attending after-school clubs & half-term provision

 **40**  
teachers provided with CPD

 **64**  
competitive fixtures completed

 **54**  
students nominated to Sussex Cricket Pathway

## /// **OPENING THE DOORS FOR GIRLS' CRICKET**

Through six weeks of cricket PE lessons with Year 7 girls, one student was identified as having a natural talent for bowling. She began attending the girls-only lunchtime club, encouraged friends to join, and was later selected for the U15 Girls Breaking Boundaries team. Her story shows how the programme is helping girls discover that cricket can be a game for them.



# FRANCHISE TEAMS

Breaking Boundaries is delivered through a network of hub schools across Sussex, ensuring a consistent delivery framework. Each hub operates locally while being supported by the Sussex Cricket Foundation, ensuring quality, safeguarding and consistency across all locations.

Initially, we are running a Year 7/8 and Year 9/10 boys team, and a Year 7–Year 10 girls team out of each hub venue. With four hub franchises confirmed in year one and more on the way, including one based in Brighton & Hove out of the Brighton Aldridge Community Academy.

SUSSEX  
BLITZ

1 CRAWLEY  
Ifield Community College

SUSSEX  
FLARE

2 HAYWARDS HEATH  
Oathall Community College

1

2

3

B BRIGHTON & HOVE  
BACA

4

Sussex  
SURGE

4 BOGNOR REGIS  
The Regis School

Sussex  
EDGE

3 UCKFIELD  
Uckfield College



# OUR PARTNERS

In the first year of the programme we're working with a number of fantastic corporate partners and school partners to deliver this ambitious programme across the county.

Without their vital support, our work would not be possible. We say thank you to all of those people who are helping to transform access to cricket for young people across Sussex.

## CORPORATE PARTNERS



## SCHOOL PARTNERS



## INVESTMENT IN ACTION

At The Regis School a brand-new four-lane outdoor cricket net facility has been installed, having an immediate impact on the quality of provision the school can offer its students.





# GET INVOLVED

## BE PART OF THE CHANGE

Whether you're a young person looking for opportunity, a partner seeking impact, or someone who wants to give back — there's a place for you at Breaking Boundaries.

For further information about the programme please contact our programme lead [matt.parsons@sussexcricket.co.uk](mailto:matt.parsons@sussexcricket.co.uk) or visit our website to find out more:

[breakingboundaries.co.uk](https://breakingboundaries.co.uk)





# BREAKING BOUNDARIES

**Breaking Boundaries x Sussex Cricket Foundation**

The County Ground, Eaton Road, Brighton & Hove, BN3 3AN  
[breakingboundaries.co.uk](http://breakingboundaries.co.uk)

