



# Norlington School Cricket Academy

Unlock Your Potential. Play with Purpose.



ESSEX

## What We Offer

2-hour elite coaching session every Wednesday  
delivered by two ECB Level 2 qualified coaches

Year-round development: indoor  
cricket in winter, competitive  
matches in summer

State-of-the-art training facilities –  
Indoor/ Outdoor nets, S&C suite

Pathway to elite performance – linked with  
Essex Cricket

Regular fixtures in Waltham Forest, Essex  
Cup & London Cup



Open to students from **any** catchment area, For further information please  
contact:

**Mr A. Bygott**

Head of Physical Education & Cricket

**abygott@norlington.school**



Sign up [here](#)





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## Train Where Legends Began. Play Where Futures Are Made.

Norlington School is proud to offer a specialist **Cricket Academy Programme** for talented and ambitious players across Waltham Forest and North East London – **You do not have to live in the catchment area** to apply. Entry is based on performance in a series of **trials held each September**.

Whether your goal is to play county cricket or simply elevate your game, the Norlington Cricket Academy provides the **coaching, fixtures, and facilities** to help you succeed.

Graham Gooch – Former England Test Captain & Norlington alumnus

*“It’s a great privilege to return to Norlington and open this new centre—one that will open countless doors for young cricketers in the area.”*



Jamal Richards –  
**Essex & England U19 Cricketer** and former Norlington student

*“Norlington has an incredible record in school cricket. While I was here, we won everything. This academy means the next generation will have the same opportunities I had.”*





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## Pathway to Excellence

Our programme is designed to support talented players aiming to break into the county setup. Players are regularly observed and encouraged to push for selection with Essex and other first-class academies.

We are proud of our cricketing legacy:

- Graham Gooch, former England Test Captain and Essex legend, is an ex-Norlington student.
- Jamal Richards, current Essex player and Norlington graduate, is one of the brightest young talents in the game today.



## A Winning Tradition

- U12, U13, U14 & U15 Waltham Forest Champions (2024)
- U12 & U13 London Cup Finalists
- Essex Cup Semi-Finalists

Now, with our academy structure fully in place, we are ready to dominate on a bigger stage and support our players in reaching their full potential at the highest level.

## The Past, Present and Future of English Cricket Unite at Norlington School

Former Norlington School student and England Test captain **Graham Gooch** returned to his alma mater to officially open the school's brand-new **Cricket Academy**.



Gooch was joined by fellow Norlington alumnus **Jamal Richards**, 18, a rising star currently playing for **Essex County Cricket Club** and the **England Under-19s**. Together, they inspired a new generation of young cricketers from across **North East London and the Essex Cricket Hub**, who gathered to witness the launch of the academy.

The **Norlington School Cricket Academy** will offer **state-of-the-art facilities**, including a dedicated strength and conditioning suite, specialist cardio equipment, and both outdoor and indoor cricket nets. In partnership with **Leyton Cricket Hub** and with support from **Essex Cricket**, the programme will also benefit from **specialist coaching staff**.

Reflecting on the significance of the occasion, **Graham Gooch** said:

*"I remember playing cricket in the playground next to where the new academy will stand. It's a great privilege, in the same week that England lifted the World Cup, to return to Norlington and open this new centre—one that will open countless doors for young cricketers in the area."*

*"I've returned to this school many times since leaving in the 1960s and have been hugely impressed by how it has evolved. From a cricketing perspective, Norlington has always led the way in developing young talent. This academy will help more students take that next step."*



**Jamal Richards**, fresh from his international tour with England U19s, added:

*"Norlington has an incredible record in school cricket. While I was here, we won everything. The passion for the game runs deep."*

*"It's a real honour to support this new academy. It means those coming up behind me will have the same opportunities that I had."*

*"I'm also grateful to the teachers who helped shape my journey—this is a chance to say thank you."*

**Abhay Bygott**, Head of PE and Master in Charge of Cricket at Norlington, said:

*"As a school, we are incredibly proud of our cricketing heritage—not just with icons like Graham and Jamal, but through many years of strong team success."*

*"Launching our own academy is a natural next step. It will allow us to nurture local talent from across the borough and beyond."*