

<b>School name</b>	Davenant Foundation School
<b>Partnership name</b>	Davenant Foundation
<b>Local Authority</b>	Essex
<b>Case study title</b>	Badminton – A Model for Grass Roots to Elite Performance




---

## The challenge

### What we wanted to do

---

We wanted to:

- Provide opportunities for young people to access high quality badminton coaching
- Employ a badminton coach to lead the development of this sport through the sports college
- Establish a pathway for talent ID in badminton from grass-roots to performance coaching
- Establish the sports college as a Badminton academy school
- Extend competitive opportunities for young people
- Use specific expertise to support GCSE and A level attainment
- Provide student leadership opportunities as part of the Step into Sport programme.

---

## Meeting the challenge

### What we did

---

We set up a comprehensive OSHL programme to allow access to the badminton for students of all ability levels. Classes take place at lunchtimes and after school at three levels – beginner, intermediate and advanced. Advanced sessions lead to Essex county training. Opportunities are incorporated into coaching sessions to allow movement between groups.

Saturday morning sessions were set up for primary schools. In rotation primary schools send players to the sessions allowing us to identify talent early and either encourage attendance to performance sessions or to ensure players move into a club setting.

Due to a current lack of inter-school competitive opportunities, intra-school tournaments are run throughout the school year. Support was established in curriculum time to maximise use of a badminton specialist, particularly in GCSE and A level lessons. BISI awards were introduced into the curriculum for KS4 and 5 students.

We also ensured support for local secondary schools in GCSE assessment.

The programme is sustained through funding from the specialism and charging for some courses.

---

## Impact

### The difference this has made

---

All courses for OSHL badminton are over-subscribed and there is a waiting list to attend. In one week coaching impacts on approximately 150 children (primary and secondary). Increasing the number of students involved in lunchtime and after school activity has been correlated with reduced behavioural problems around the school at these times.

The programme has so far produced 1 x U19 national squad player; with a number on the fringes of selection. 13 x U11 and 28 x U16 Essex County players.

Essex county squad training is held at the school with 12 players regularly attending.

45+ students have obtained the BISI awards in the first year that they were included within curriculum lessons.

GCSE and A level badminton grades have improved following the input of specialist coaching.

Coaching expertise has extended to working with students with disability.

Recent Community Sports Coach funding will assist in allowing us to employ more coaching support. This will be

---

targeted around the development of competitive opportunities in the local area and providing coaching clinics for local schools unable to fund OSHL learning opportunities for young people.

---

### **Why it worked**

---

Demand for places is due to the high quality delivery raising the profile of badminton throughout the school. The dedication of an ex-world champion coach has served to sustain the interest and success of this programme.

The programme ensures that badminton activities offered cover both participatory and elite performance.

We started small with just a few classes. Once demand grew we were able to extend the provision and therefore the number of children taking part.

Date	May 2007
------	----------

*Building a brighter future for young people through sport*

