

England Athletics National Awards



Community Partner of The Year: Chelmsford Sports & Athletics Centre

Chelmsford Sport and Athletics Centre which is owned by Chelmsford City council are recognised for their contributions made to athletics development by supporting the growth and retention of athletics as a key priority sport in the local community. An Athletics Development Officer has been employed for over ten years to provide programmes to increase participation levels and sustain numbers locally in Chelmsford. This has helped the club be successful by providing youngsters to transfer into the club. Club athlete Sam Bailey came from their Saturday morning club and developed to be a GB high jumper. The centre has over 150 children between the ages of 4 – 11 years come to take part in athletics initiatives weekly, from UK Athletics' Shine awards, a rainbow system created for 4 – 6years old and England Athletics' 365 scheme, QuadKids, Sportshall and Primary Schools cross country – each event has over 550 children in year 5 and 6 taking part in Essex. This allows top athletes to be selected to join the club's development squad to train with club coaches and transfer into the club when they have turned 11 years and above.

The centre runs an ambassador system for athletes ranked top ten in the UK on Power of Ten to receive free use of the centre to train and in return the athletes gain experience in talking to young children from the sessions at the centre to inspire them to follow in the ambassadors footsteps. The Centre is currently working to be a disability hub with England Athletics