

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I trust you have all wintered well and are raring to go for the 2017 cricket season. I am delighted at the levels of interest in our winter coaching programmes and trust that all the children that have taken part in either the Batting Academy, Bowling Academy, Enhancement Course, Preseason Age Group sessions at DPL & Lambeth as well as the Half term holiday courses have enjoyed themselves and developed as individual players.

We have put on more courses than ever before this preseason and we are planning to enhance the in-season training for the 2017 season

We are fortunate to have a very talented pool of club coaches whose joint experience in planning will be able to develop the needs of each child without taking a “one size fits all” approach. Our shift in focus onto the individuals needs this year is a part of a whole club coaching strategy that I will be sharing with you all, via blog posts on the website and in emails passed through your AGMs.

Part of this journey began in our indoor net with over 350 children up to the U13 age groups attending sessions in which they were filmed bowling and batting by one of our club coaches with a view to establishing just how well the fundamental cricketing skill sets are being performed. This is not only intended to assist from a personal development perspective but also to lay the foundation for a club wide coaching best practice methodology including the identification of technical intervention points and clear instruction on the type of drills and practice required to work on these, whilst also allowing us to better plan future intervention sessions.

The children’s videos are currently being assessed against a Spencer specific set of success criteria. When this information is then passed on to the children (and their parents) we hope that this will then illustrate where they will benefit from additional attention during the in-season training sessions (or those “kickabout” sessions in the park).

It’s worth noting that the intention was not to grade or stream players, although during the first week of the season in the younger age groups there will be a basic assessment carried out which is intended to help the individual age groups with this process.

As our Director of Cricket, I will be meeting with age group managers before the start of the season discuss their plans for the summer and will be working with them to add an additional level of session structure, differentiation and further best practice techniques to their programmes to reflect the approach outlined above .

I look forward to presenting the Spencer Coaching Way to you all and to yet an even more successful season this year as we build on all the excellent work we have done together year on year.

Best wishes,

Jonathan