

CURTAIN RAISER

The two schools playing a curtain raiser today are new to rugby, having become part of the RFU's All Schools programme, which has established rugby in an additional 750 state secondary schools.



OASIS ACADEMY COULSDON

A predominately football playing school, Oasis Academy Coulsdon, has seen rugby and its values become a fundamental part of Academy life for both male and female students.

In the three years since joining All Schools every single student has taken part in some form of rugby in lessons, with many attending after school rugby clubs, over 100 having enjoyed the after club this academic year. Students are taken annually on an inspiring Twickenham tour. All five PE staff are now Level 2 trained and links to local rugby clubs have seen huge support, in particular from Old Caterhamians RFC. Among students joining clubs are two now in Harlequins Developing Players Programme.

Colours: Green/Navy Blue.

Coaches/Staff: Niall Attenborough, Ryan Gordon, Joshua Savage, Elizabeth Berkeley, Russel Taylor.

Players: Moses Bisatu, Teddy Cook, Thomas Booth, Calvin Brider, Jayden Smith, David Smith-Batista, Reiley Dodson, Alexander Whiter, Luke Woolford, Alfie Wood-Thatcher, Cian Toner, Harrison Stevens, Noah Emery, Tyler Blake, Samuel Cordner.



ROKEBY SCHOOL

Rokeby School, a specialist mathematics and languages school in the borough of Newham, has good links with Barking RFC, erstwhile home to the likes of Jason Leonard, through the All Schools programme and benefits from regular coaching and outreach from the club.

Rokeby School's own values go hand in hand with the core values of rugby and this has meant a natural affinity between school and club. In 2015, Rokeby School received the England Rugby Gold Standard Award and were early participants in the Stonewall UK Rainbow Laces campaign. They have continued to excel in the recruitment of new young players in both school and club rugby.

Colours: Black & Gold

Coaches/Staff: Kynan Ball, Jo Doyle, Charlotte Robinson, Amanda Gurruchaga, Tracy Ward.

Players: Kennedy Ohenhen Felix, Joseph Kanuhi, Md Irfan Alam, Luqman Adam, Joseph Gibson-Ngare, Haytham Abdullahi, Ramiah James, Delexson Kantharuban, Edgar Lungubu, Romarion Heaven, Hassan Khan, Hussain Miah, Onesi Daiyan, Nirlaw Rony, Sachin Pathmanathan.