

## PARALYMPIC DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY PROGRAMME: 2021

### Programme Outline

The Paralympic Development Academy Programme aims to create a supportive learning and development environment for athletes displaying early potential in Paralympic events. The programme runs from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and will focus on supporting athletes and coaches through specific technical development squad-based training.

The Paralympic Development Academy will be delivered through specific event squad sessions at the following venues:

Leeds –	Sprints (North) and RaceRunning
Loughborough –	Throws and Jumps
Birmingham –	Endurance
London –	Sprints (South) and Wheelchair Racing

In addition to event specific training days, all selected athletes will be invited to an Induction Day at Loughborough in January 2021.

### Selection process

Places on the 2021 Paralympic Development Academy programme are limited. The purpose of the Selection Panel is to **prioritise athletes who have highlighted the potential to progress onto the Paralympic Futures Academy in the next 1-2 years and the World Class Programme (WCP) in 3-5 years and ultimately to win medals at future Paralympic Games.**

The Panel will make their selection in late November 2020 following the Paralympic Futures Academy selection process.

For developing athletes in the Paralympic Pathway, analysis of performance alone is not an adequate predictor of future success. All the following, as well as any other factors that may be deemed relevant, will be considered by the Panel when assessing an athlete's future potential.

- Athlete's performance profile (should be rising at least equal to or steeper rate than the event trend) and competition history
- Athlete's UK and WPA World Ranking
- Event trends/progression both in the UK and Globally (some events may be targeted for domestic growth)
- Athlete's injury and training history
- Recommendations from Event Lead coaches, Home Countries and NDSO staff



#### REGISTERED OFFICE:

UK Athletics Limited | Athletics House | Alexander Stadium | Walsall Road | Perry Barr | Birmingham | B42 2BE  
Tel: 0121 713 8400 | Fax: 0121 713 8452 | [britishathletics.org.uk](http://britishathletics.org.uk)

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Athletes on the current 2020 Development Academy will have their position on the programme reviewed, based on their 2020 season performances\*, individual circumstances, overall programme engagement and input from Pathways staff.

\*All 2020 Development Academy athletes will retain their place for 2021 due to COVID-19 pandemic which affected the 2020 track and field season.

### **Eligibility**

Only athletes eligible to compete for ParalympicsGB at the Paralympic Games will be considered for inclusion on the Futures Academy programme. Athletes must have a Paralympic National Class and display performances on Power of 10 in a Tokyo Paralympic event.

Athletes with a current illness or injury, or a history of past serious injuries or illnesses will be considered on a case-by-case basis. All athletes invited onto the 2021 programme will be required to complete a medical form and, if deemed necessary by British Athletics' Chief Medical Officer, undergo further examination to assess their medical status. Any falsification on the medical forms may lead to removal from the programme.

### **Appeals**

There shall be no right of appeal to the selection of the 2021 Paralympic Development Academy made by the Selection Panel. The provisions of the British Athletics Selection and Nomination "Fast" Appeals Procedure do not apply.



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