

## Exciting opportunity for your school to engage with Major League Baseball First Pitch!

Join the MLB First Pitch Programme in 2025!

**What is MLB First Pitch?** A fun way for young people aged 8-12 to learn new striking and fielding skills and play baseball right here in the UK!

**Why Baseball?** It's a chance to try something new, learn new skills, and make friends.

**Easy for Teachers!** No baseball experience? No problem! We make it easy to teach and learn with a 3 hour teacher orientation and training session, either face to face or virtual.

**Already a Hit!** Over 800 schools have benefitted since 2021.

**Be Part of the Excitement!** We are inviting even more schools for 2025 to get involved.

 **MLB**  
**FIRST PITCH™**

**Baseball • Softball**   **YOUTH  
SPORT  
TRUST**

**INSPIRED BY**

 **MLB**  
**WORLDTOUR**  
**LONDON**  
**SERIES™**

## Get Ready to Play Ball with MLB First Pitch!

**Get Your Gear:** Sign up and receive a free equipment and resources pack with bats, balls, bases, and more! Everything you need to get started!

**Over 30 Fun Activities:** Flexible activities suitable for PE lessons lunchtime, or after-school fun. Adaptable for all ages and abilities.

**Festival & Competition Resources:** Everything you need to host your own baseball events.

**Teacher Training:** Free training to help you boost pupils health, wellbeing, and skill development.

**Extra Learning Materials:** Cross-curricular resources and training available to bring baseball into the classroom.

**Join Us:** Contact your local hub school/SGO to sign up and start your baseball journey!

# MLB FIRST PITCH™

Baseball •   YOUTH  
Softball UK SPORT  
TRUST

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 MLB  
WORLDTOUR  
LONDON  
SERIES

# Major League Baseball in the UK

## MLB London Series

Major League Baseball (MLB) is focused on increasing awareness of baseball across the globe with the ultimate goal of making our sport a global passion.

Hosting regular-season games internationally showcases the best of MLB to the world. London has now hosted six MLB games in 2019, 2023 and 2024, through the MLB London Series. With another London Series planned for 2026, there has never been a better time to be a baseball fan in the UK.

## MLB London Series Legacy Programme

Using the MLB London Series as a spark, the London Series Legacy programme was created with an aim to bring the game of baseball into the mainstream in the UK by supporting the growth of the sport and inspiring a new generation of fans.

To achieve this, the Legacy partners, led by MLB and BaseballSoftballUK work to create new playing opportunities for young people, expand and improve clubs, leagues and facilities, and ultimately celebrate and raise the profile of the grassroots game in the UK.

## London Series Legacy and MLB First Pitch

MLB First Pitch sits at the heart of our Legacy programme. MLB and BSUK work together to bring special event opportunities for First Pitch schools and to link First Pitch schools up with their local clubs so they can engage with the baseball community in the UK.



#### **Year 1 – New Hub**

- Introduction to the programme for new hubs.
- Capacity funding provided to support implementation
- Engage a minimum of 10 schools.
- Organise training for teachers and staff (YST tutor).
- Distribute equipment and resources to schools.
- Facilitate monitoring and evaluation data collection of each school in your hub.
- Aspirational: Host a festival for participating schools.
- Aspirational: Provide opportunities for young leader training/leaders supporting festivals – secondary pupils.
- Aspirational: Foster school-to-community club connections.

#### **Year 2 – Retained Hub**

- Introduction to the retained hub offer
- Capacity funding to support implementation
- Engage minimum of 8-10\* (no max) schools involved in previous years
- Engage new/additional schools (optional)
- Promote virtual training for new/additional teachers and staff
- Promote cross curricular virtual training for teachers and staff
- Provide and deliver a festival opportunity (equipment pack provided)
- Provide opportunities for young leader training/leaders supporting festivals – secondary pupils (optional)
- Foster school-to-community club connections
- Facilitate monitoring and evaluation data collection of each school in your hub.
- Aspirational: Host and deliver a championship opportunity

#### **Year 3 –Sustained Hub**

- Embed competition/festival opportunities for baseball as part of ongoing calendar of events
- Provide opportunities for young leader training/leaders supporting festivals – secondary pupils
- Foster school-to-community club connections
- Engagement with BaseballSoftballUK for continued support and development

#### **Year 1 – New Individual School (supported by hub school)**

- Receive training via local hub school.
- Obtain equipment and resource cards.
- Provide First Pitch opportunities (min. 30 pupils).
- Organise an intra-school festival.
- Complete monitoring and evaluation.
- Aspirational: Attend a festival opportunity with other schools
- Aspirational: Link with community clubs for student transitions.

#### **Year 2 – Retained Individual school (supported by hub school)**

- Provide First Pitch participation opportunities (min. 30 pupils)
- Access cross curricular resources (download)
- Cross curricular virtual training for teacher and school staff (central training opportunity)
- Organise an intra school festival
- Complete monitoring and evaluation.
- Attend a festival opportunity with other schools \*\*\*
- Link with community clubs for student transitions. \*\*\*
- Aspirational: Participate in a championship opportunity \*\*\*

#### **Year 3- Sustained Individual school**

- Provide First Pitch participation opportunities (min. 30 pupils)
- Embed cross curricular resources (download)
- Organise an intra school festival
- Attend a festival/championship opportunity with other schools \*\*\*
- Link with community clubs for student transitions

\* Based on average schools retained per hub from last year. We would anticipate that this is c.75% retention depending on no. of schools engaged in year 1.

\*\*\* These areas would not be accessible to an individual school that is not supported by a hub school