

# South West Junior Chef of the Year 2026



SOUTH WEST  
CHEF OF  
THE YEAR | 2026

Recognising the region's budding young chefs

Young cooks, aged 11-16, are invited to send us their recipe for a main course dish for two, using principally locally-produced ingredients, as their entry for South West Junior Chef of the Year 2026

Our judges will invite selected entrants to prepare their dish, in 90 minutes, at a county final, initially, and the winners in each county will meet at the grand final in the Autumn to compete for the overall title,

All county winners will be supported by one of our judges, who will act as their mentor, helping them to enhance their dish and providing a fantastic opportunity to develop their skills and experience life in a working kitchen.



South West and Devon Junior Chef of the Year 2025, Jessica Klapsia, and head judge, Michael Caines MBE

## Wiltshire County Final

Thursday 2nd July 2.45pm  
Wiltshire College Trowbridge

Entry closing date: Tuesday 26th May 2026



Jessica's winning dish, confit cod fillet with dashi beurre blanc and oyster

The South West Junior Chef final will be held at Exeter College, Devon, on Saturday 10th October 2026. Competitors must be aged 11-16 and still at school in year 11 or below on the date of the South West final.

South West Junior Chef of the Year is sponsored by



Michael Caines



Springboard  
FUTURECHEF

Thanks to our partnership with Springboard FutureChef, our South West finalists will be invited to take part in the FutureChef regional final to compete for a place in their national final in 2027

For more information and to submit your entry, visit: [www.southwestchef.co.uk](http://www.southwestchef.co.uk)

Email: [info@southwestchef.co.uk](mailto:info@southwestchef.co.uk) Tel: 07970 518756

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