

Gareth Southgate to make sweeping changes to his England U20s squad

GARETH SOUTHGATE will risk going out of the Toulon tournament tonight (Friday) in order to protect his players welfare by making wholesale changes to his England Under-20s side.



Gareth Southgate will not play his full-strength side tonight[GETTY]

Southgate admits he will make at least seven changes for the clash against Colombia in which his side need at least a point to qualify for Sunday's

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The likes of regular starters James Ward-Prowse, Nathaniel Chalobah and Nathan Redmond will all be left on the sidelines because of the punishing schedule in Toulon.

And Southgate, whose side face their third game in five days, believes the gamble is worth taking.

He said: "We have to manage how many minutes they play. The only difficulty of this tournament is the fact there is just one day between the games. You could play two games but to then do a third you will be risking it.

"To ask James and Nathaniel to go again would be asking for trouble really. If they did that, there would be no way they could play on Sunday.

"I was talking to Dan Ashworth and we were talking about what we wanted to do and the fact there is a risk of not playing all your more experienced players and you could end up going out and not getting the game on Sunday.

"But I think we are prepared to take that risk because it is important some people are rested and others play. We have to trust the rest of the group."

