

## ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

**Table S1.** Factor coordinates of principal components analysis on the five colour variables measured in common kestrel fledglings.

**Table S2.** Results of the LMM showing sexual differences in body measurements and plumage colouration (mean  $\pm$  standard error) in fledglings after controlling for year and nest. The magnitude of sexual dimorphism was represented as the magnitude of parameter estimates. For this purpose standardized (mean = 0, s.d. = 1) and untransformed (percentages) variables were used. WB = wing blackness; TTB width of terminal tail band; TB = width of tail bars; RB = width of rump bars; RG = rump greyness.

**Figure S1.** Colour sexual dimorphism in common kestrel adults (A) and fledglings (B). Within a female appearance fledglings show dimorphism in size and colouration.

**Figure S2.** Colourimetric variables of fledglings: (a) rump greyness, (b1) width of black terminal tail bands, (b2) width of black superior tail bars, (b3) width of black rump bands and (c) wing blackness.

**Table S1.**

	<b>Factor 1</b>	<b>Factor 2</b>
% wing blackness (WB)	0.601411	-0.336431
Terminal tail band (TTB)	0.138616	0.879887
Tail bar (TB)	0.832919	0.161742
Rump bar (RB)	0.781215	0.306955
% rump greyness (RG)	-0.665666	0.441887
Eigen value	2.13	1.20
Explained variance	0.426	0.241

**Table S2.**

<b>Fledgling trait</b>	<b>Females (n = 324)</b>	<b>Males (n = 337)</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>P</b>
Body mass (g)	217.92 $\pm$ 2.30	196.24 $\pm$ 2.30	1.011	280.1	1, 596	<0.0001
Wing length (mm)	165.31 $\pm$ 1.34	161.74 $\pm$ 1.34	0.407	34.13	1, 596	<0.0001
Tarsus length (mm)	48.91 $\pm$ 0.15	48.44 $\pm$ 0.15	0.368	27.11	1, 596	<0.0001
WB (%)	33.23 $\pm$ 1.63	25.06 $\pm$ 1.63	0.770	141.84	1, 596	<0.0001
TTB (mm)	20.44 $\pm$ 0.52	21.40 $\pm$ 0.52	0.226	14.51	1, 596	0.0002
TB (mm)	6.86 $\pm$ 0.14	5.31 $\pm$ 0.14	1.074	306.86	1, 596	<0.0001
RB (mm)	5.21 $\pm$ 0.28	4.10 $\pm$ 0.28	0.893	285.7	1, 596	<0.0001
RG (%)	1.62 $\pm$ 1.62	20.47 $\pm$ 1.61	1.129	316.57	1, 596	<0.0001

Figure S1.

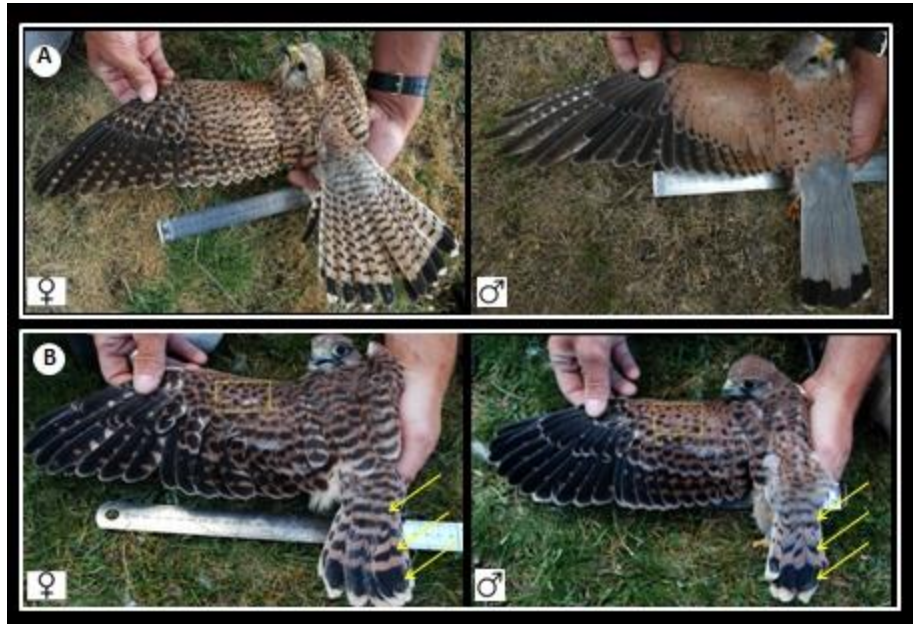


Figure S2.

