



HAWKS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NETBALL ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

Teacher Information Pack
22 November 2023

Hawks Netball Club

Community Schools Netball Engagement Project

Introduction:

Join us in breaking down barriers and empowering girls and young women in Leicester through our "Community Schools Netball Engagement Project". Our initiative is designed to increase participation in netball among secondary school students facing financial constraints.

Background:

Research indicates that by age 14, girls drop out of sports at twice the rate of boys, facing challenges such as financial limitations, social stigma, and limited access.

We believe that netball can be a transformative force by offering girls an active network of peers, boosting confidence, fostering mental resilience, building relationships, improving body confidence and developing new skills.



Barriers to Participation:

Financial barriers exacerbate the challenges, with performance netball often dominated by participants from high-income households.

City schools, especially, face representation challenges in local competitions due to financial and transportation constraints.

England Netball's membership survey found that the vast majority of their members are from households with more than £150k annual income. Just 5% of EN members live in the bottom 20% of areas of deprivation.

Our Solution:

The "Community Schools Netball Engagement Project" seeks to bridge this gap by providing targeted financial support to a referred cohort of female students in Leicester.

Over the course of a year (January 2024 - January 2025), we aim to identify and empower 10 girls aged 13-15 who face financial constraints hindering their participation in netball.

We hope that with a mixture of funding grants and local fundraising activities by our own club members, we will raise the +£3,000 needed to sponsor these 10 players to provide :

- Weekly Training
- Competition (league matches/tournaments)
- Netball membership/affiliation
- Netball kit



Why Netball?

Netball, beyond being a sport, offers a platform for individual achievement, team camaraderie, and personal growth. It addresses physical, social, and emotional well-being, making it an ideal avenue for girls to overcome various challenges they face.

How You Can Help:

PE teachers, we invite you to nominate girls who embody the spirit of netball and could thrive in our community sponsorship programme. Your support is invaluable in making a positive impact on these young athletes.

22nd November, New College, 4-6pm

We will start this journey with a fun evening of school netball, with a little sprinkling of netball magic to make some lasting memories on the court and empower the next generation of netball stars!

Please find enclosed the planned itinerary for the day below as well as some important information to take away and review after the 22nd November.



22nd November Community Schools Tournament

Itinerary

4:00pm Welcome and registration

4:10pm Fun Group Warm Up

Group 1: New College & Fullhurst

Group 2: Winstanley and Castlemead

4:20pm Tournament Begins

10 minute games, no half time.

2 minutes between games for teams to move off court and new teams to enter.

Fixture schedule:

4:20 - 4:30pm New College V Winstanley

4:32 - 4:42pm Fullhurst V Castlemead

4:44 - 4:54pm New College V Fullhurst

4:55 - 5:15pm - BREAK - England Netball Player photo opportunity/meet and greet

5:15 - 5:25pm Winstanley V Castlemead

5:27 - 5:37pm New College V Castlemead

5:39 - 5:49pm Winstanley V Fullhurst

5:50pm – Winners announced

5:55pm All players leave courts



Further information for schools

About Hawks Netball Club (HNC)

Hawks Netball Club (HNC) is a city-based club in Leicester, providing netball avenues for girls and women aged 5 to adulthood. As a thriving not-for-profit entity with a two-decade legacy, HNC is powered by dedicated volunteers and qualified netball officials. Boasting 4 Level 2 and 2 Level 1 Coaches, 7 Qualified Umpires, and a committed pool of volunteers, HNC operates under a dynamic constitution with representatives across the club from Junior representatives to Parents representatives.

We want to work with PE teachers/netball coaches in city schools to identify those young people that would most benefit from participation in the sport of netball and provide them with training and support to become, and remain, involved in the sport.

We want to target girls who are less able to participate in the sport without support and who would particularly benefit from regular netball training to promote their talent or for their physical and/or emotional health.

Support Offered

The programme will provide financial and coaching support for one year, covering netball-related activities.

Training and Competitive Opportunities

- weekly training by specialist netball coaches
- access to regular league netball competition matches
- access to participation in netball tournaments
- access to opportunities to volunteer in club activities
- access to training for qualifications in the sport (coaching and umpiring)
- annual England Netball Membership
- sport kit (dress, training shirt, hoodie, trainers)



HNC hope to cover the cost of the programme from a mixture of club fundraising/income and by seeking external funding for the residual costs. The total cost of the programme (funding for 10 girls) is £3855.00. Applications for funding support for the programme have been made to Sport England and the National Lottery.

Who can be referred?

We are looking for netball-loving girls who are:

- Aged 13-15 (school Years 9 & 10)
- In receipt of free school meals and/or the Pupil Premium
- Live within a 2-mile radius of the training facility (Fullhurst Community College), and is either;
- A talented athlete that would benefit from the opportunity to work with specialist netball coaches, or;
- A young person who is dedicated to sport and who's physical or emotional health would be promoted by involvement in club netball.

Note: Safe travel to participate at our venues

Weekly training takes place at Fullhurst Community College on a Monday evening at either 6pm or 7pm depending on age. The young person must be able to travel to and from the venue independently either accompanied by, or with the consent of their parent or guardian.

It is not necessary that the young person participates in competitive matches to be involved in the programme, but it should be noted that Leicester Youth Netball League takes place on Thursday evenings at Soar Valley School. Matches are 7pm – 8:15pm. The young person must therefore be able to travel to and from the competition venue independently, either accompanied by, or with the consent of their parent or guardian.



Referral process

PE teachers can nominate suitable candidates by completing a Google application form before 30th November 2023.

To refer a girl that you think is suitable for the programme, please complete and return the [Google application form](#). The application form must state:

- How the young person meets our stated criteria 1-5 above
- Why you consider the young person will benefit from the programme
- That the young person has the support of the school to participate in the programme
- That the young person has the consent and support of their parent(s) to participate in the programme.

Hawks Coaches and Executive Committee will review all nominations and select 10 participants by 18th December 2023.

Implementation Timescales

The program is set to commence in January 2024.

For more details and to make a referral, please complete the form, found here:

<https://forms.gle/9NpZKCiM5RK4d4337>





Join us in making a difference!

Together, let's make a difference in the lives of girls and young women in Leicester and create a thriving community through sports and inclusivity.

Join Hawks Netball Club in supporting the "Community Schools Netball Engagement Project". Every contribution counts towards building a healthier, more inclusive netball community and empowering young females through netball!

Support and Follow Hawks Netball Club:

Website: www.hawksnetballclub.com

Social Media: [hawksncleics](#)

To get involved in Volunteer & Sponsorship Opportunities, contact:

Email: hello@hawksnetballclub.com

**Help us make a positive impact on young lives
and promote a lifelong love for netball!**

