

## Barclays Game Changers – Teacher Information Pack

### Teachers' guidance

As part of the broader [#LetGirlsPlay](#) campaign, Barclays Game Changers are a team of young female ambassadors aged 12-15 (Y8-10) across England, who believe that all girls should have the same opportunities to play football at school as boys do, and we are on the lookout to recruit more girls to join the movement.

Using their passion for football and allowing every girl the opportunity to access football in schools, we want our Barclays Game Changers to help inspire, engage, and empower other girls, as well as parents, teachers, and key decision makers, to want to make a positive change for girls' football.

Nominations are completed by teachers and submitted to your Strategic Lead for your BGFSP. As their teacher, consider someone who you feel will benefit from being involved in this programme, representative of your school and able to share their experiences to help make positive change.

Teachers' role and responsibilities for this programme are:

- When nominating your Barclays Game Changers, a dedicated contact needs to be assigned to support this young person. This individual needs to be available to support through the programme (this can be a teacher or nominated staff member)
- Communications for this programme will be directed to this staff member as being responsible for managing and reporting on this programme.
- Liaise with the Youth Sport Trust Girls Football team to book onto relevant training sessions, which will last for 1.5 hours, with 8 dates available across February and March 2024
- On-going support for the Game Changer during training, planning and delivery phases of the programme.
- **Nominated teachers must attend** all virtual training sessions with your Barclays Game Changers
- Must be contactable for any safeguarding concerns around training or delivery of activities.
- Work closely with the Strategic Lead and Barclays Game Changers to help write the local action plan, ensuring the school support any activities that may mean missing school.
- Provide updates and speak with the Barclays Game Changers parents/guardians around identified action plans and any commitments included within this.
- Share the news across your school about your Barclays Game Changer, if successfully selected through the nomination process
- Throughout the duration of the programme, The FA and YST may look to compile detailed case studies to share good practice. The YST will gain additional consent from parents/guardians when required.

## Key programme information

As part of the Barclays Game Changers programme, please see below some useful information and frequently asked questions for Teachers.

### How are Barclays Game Changers recruited?

Barclays Game Changers can be nominated by a teacher via your BGFSP strategic lead. The nomination process allows you as a teacher to consider individuals to put forward from your school who you feel will benefit from this ambassador scheme. Think about what they can get from this programme in terms of life skills, personal development and celebrating their achievements. You don't need to nominate someone who is the super sporty one, could you have a young person who is a great role model and inspiring to other young girls in other ways that can really benefit this role to empower others.

Information for those successfully selected will be communicated through the Strategic Lead. Once the young person has completed all the necessary forms and returned them to the Youth Sport Trust, communication regarding training and next steps will be disseminated directly to the nominated teacher and parents.

### How will information be disseminated?

During the nomination process, your BGFSP strategic lead will be your main contact, providing deadlines for submitting nominations and updates on the outcomes.

For those who are successfully selected as Barclays Game Changers, your strategic leads will let the Girls Football Team at the Youth Sports Trust know your Barclays Game Changers name and your contact details, as the nominated lead teacher to support through this programme.

The YST Girls Football team will then contact you directly, providing booking links for you and your Barclays Game Changers to attend. Attendance to training sessions will be managed by the YST Girls Football team. **As the nominated teacher you will attend all live virtual training sessions** with your Barclays Game Changers, to get a sense of what they are learning and how you can further support them within their role over the next few years.

Once your Barclays Game Changers have been trained, it will be between yourself and your BGFSP strategic lead who will work closely with your Barclays Game Changers to outline an action plan of how you can support your Barclays Game Changer to be successful and achieve their action plan.

### When will the virtual training take place?

Virtual live training will be delivered across February and March 2024.

Once your Barclays Game Changer has been selected, you will be sent booking links for you to book onto one of the dates for the training that are taking place,

Timings for the training will take place over lunchtime and just after school.

### Do I need to attend the virtual training?

**Yes.**

As you are the named teacher supporting your Barclays Game Changers through the programme, and to be successful in delivering their action plan, you will need to attend the 90-minute virtual training taking place in March, to get a better insight into what your Barclays Game Changers are learning.

Teachers will be in loco parentis of Barclays Game Changers during training sessions and teachers will be expected to monitor behaviour on calls and be contactable if any inappropriate behaviours occur.

YST staff will monitor screens and chats, escalating any issues to teachers and safeguarding leads, if required. Any inappropriate comments or behaviour from young people may result in them being removed from the programme.

No pictures, recordings or screenshots will be taken of the virtual training sessions.

As part of the training, there may be additional tasks assigned as takeaway activities and actions which will be supported by logbooks. You can provide guidance and direction to support your Barclays Game Changers to fully complete these tasks pre and post virtual training.

## **What will my Barclays Game Changer be doing?**

This will be decided between you, the Barclays Game Changers and your BGFSP strategic lead. As part of the programme, your Barclays Game Changers can write their own action plan of what they want to achieve over the next academic year. This might start within your school and how they can provide girls football opportunities before looking to help across other primary and secondary schools across the partnership.

You as a teacher can help support them to attend relevant activities or meetings for them to be successful within their role, providing the support from school.

Please ensure that the Barclays Game Changer selected is aware of their commitment to this programme and role up to summer 2024.

## **When will my Barclays Game Changers receive their resource packs?**

Barclays Game Changers will receive their resource packs before training commences. The YST Girls Football team will manage attendance and schedule deliveries so please ensure your contact details and mailing address are up to date on the nomination forms.

## **How much school time will they miss?**

We hope that through effective action planning between yourself, the Barclays Game Changers and strategic lead that this role will take place around the school day. However, there may be occasions where it may be suitable for the Barclays Game Changers to attend events taking place during the day, especially senior leadership meetings where your Barclays Game Changers will be able to share their story and speak to key influencers for why it is important to offer equal access to girls' football. Where this might be necessary, this will need coordinating between the school and the Barclays Game Changer parents/guardian for permissions.

## **What support will I receive to help my Barclays Game Changer?**

As part of this programme, there is a useful information document which provides an outline of your role to support the Barclays Game Changers.

For the training, you must be present with your Barclays Game Changers to gain a better understanding and insight into the role and how you can fully support your Barclays Game Changers to be successful within their role.

## Once the Barclays Game Changers are trained, what next?

As part of the programme, Barclays Game Changers will agree a joint action plan agreed between the Barclays Game Changers, a teacher, and Strategic Lead.

This action plan is managed locally to identify how your Barclays Game Changers can share their story, start to have an impact locally within the secondary school and local community before expanding across your partnership. They can be the voice for girls, provide insight into what girls want from a girls' only football space and support events, festivals or meetings as required. A copy needs to be sent home for the parent/guardian of the Barclays Game Changers to read, agree and sign.

More information is included within the Guidance and Safeguarding brief document for deploying Barclays Game Changers and how to check-in with your progress. Strategic leads will take ownership of these action plans and arranging attendance of their Barclays Game Changers to relevant activities, meetings, and events.

## Benefits of being a Barclays Game Changers

As well as the chance to be a voice in the #LetGirlsPlay campaign, every Barclays Game Changers will receive:

- An exciting online training programme delivered by Youth Sport Trust Tutors to share more about the #LetGirlsPlay campaign, how this campaign can be used to promoting girls football opportunities and how they can develop the skills to empower other young people to speak up and ask for equal opportunities to play.
- A promotional toolkit for the Barclays Game Changers to use and share in schools – including printed posters.
- Barclays Game Changer pin badge
- #LetGirlsPlay branded kit pack
- The opportunity to develop leadership and ambassadorial skills as well as self-confidence and public speaking.
- Regular support and check-ins from the teacher who nominated the young person throughout their time as a Barclays Game Changers (as a minimum we expect the nominated teacher to ensure that the young person is on track and comfortable with what they have been asked to do in their action plan, and that they can share enthusiasm as well as any concerns when needed)

## Safeguarding

- Please ensure that you have fully read and understood the [safeguarding guide](#), if you have any questions or concerns, please email [safeguarding@youthsporttrust.org](mailto:safeguarding@youthsporttrust.org).
- Further information and safeguarding guidance can be found here:
- [England Football Safeguarding](#)
- [YST Safeguarding](#)
- [YST Code of Ethics and Conduct](#)