

[www.netballsl.com/team/loughborough-lightning/](http://www.netballsl.com/team/loughborough-lightning/)

[t.stclair@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:t.stclair@lboro.ac.uk)

Loughborough Lightning Netball Club was one of the founding members of the Netball Super League in 2005, and is owned and operated by Loughborough University. Loughborough University was a training centre for England Netball at the time and the likes of Olivia Murphy, Karen Atkinson and Alex Wood were based locally. From a recruitment perspective, the University had the athletes and the training set up so creating a franchise and competing in the proposed Netball Super League was a natural step forward for the University and for the East Midlands region. For a name, something was needed that worked well with Loughborough, and that felt dynamic for the brand of women’s sport. Lightning was suggested and the name Loughborough Lightning was born.

Former Franchise Director, Andy Borrie believes that the process of bidding for a franchise, started about 18 months prior to the commencement of the league in 2005. Loughborough University was the major financial backer for the franchise and solely owned and operated the franchise with heavy support from East Midlands Netball with regards to personnel (i.e. EM regional board, coaches, umpires, table officials). Given the university structure and ethos, the franchise didn’t have any commercial funding outside of those already partnered with the university.

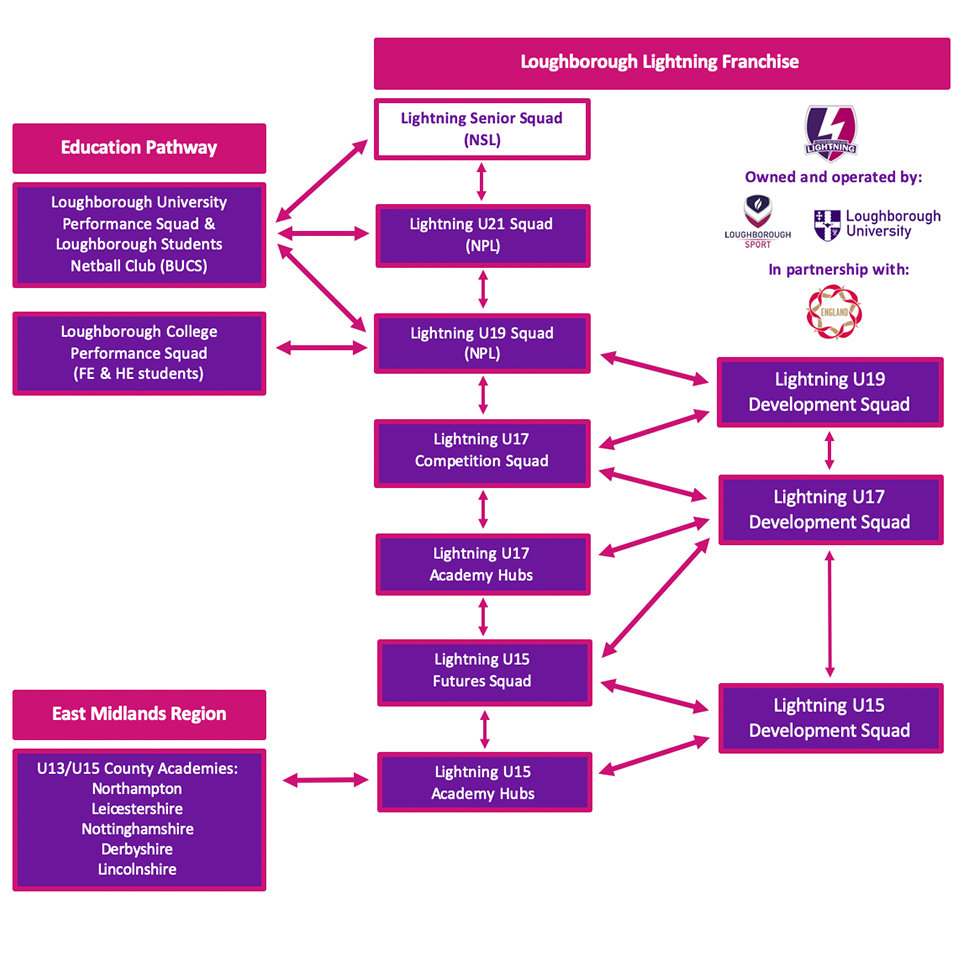
Most of the staffing structure was sourced and covered in-house by the University’s Sport Department. Rosie Port, who was the franchise’s first head coach, and was heavily involved with East Midlands Netball.

As the franchise was owned and operated by Loughborough University, the franchise did not have a board to control governance. The operating group who oversaw the franchise, was made up of the franchise director, Andrew Borrie (who was also the Deputy Director of Sport for the University), head coach Rosie Port, assistant coach Val Kindred, team manager Jackie Milsom, and representation from East Midlands Netball.

Having a franchise was a huge step forward for netball within the East Midlands region. The relationship between the region and the franchise was paramount in the success of the franchise in the first few years. The inclusion of the Netball Performance League Under 21 and Under 19 squads was a crucial step for performance coaches in the region to take the next step in their coaching journey. Further relationships with regional personnel has led to strong officiating development within the East Midlands region and many years on, we still have the same volunteers who were crucial to forging and fostering the relationship between the region and the franchise. A strong Performance Pathway has been established providing opportunity for netball players from across the region.

The Pathway - 2021

Below is our current performance pathway structure:



A List of the Loughborough Lightning Players and the NSL Squads from the start season are shown below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **LOUGHBOROUGH LIGHTNING PLAYER NUMBERS** | | |
|  |  |  |
| **#** | **2005 - 2006** | **Additional Notes** |
| 1 | Olivia Murphy | C |
| 2 | Karen Atkinson | VC |
|  |  |  |
| 3 | Alex Astle |  |
| 4 | Ama Agbeze |  |
| 5 | Jade Clarke |  |
| 6 | Laura Brown |  |
| 7 | Lisa Stephenson |  |
| 8 | Rebecca James |  |
|  |  |  |
| 9 | Charlotte O'Neill |  |
| 10 | Hannah Reid |  |
| 11 | Jo Munnion |  |
| 12 | Sarah Penny |  |
| 13 | Vicky Percy |  |
|  |  |  |
| 14 | Gemma Wiseman |  |
| 15 | Leanne Badmin |  |
|  |  |  |
| **#** | **2006-2007** | **Additional Notes** |
|  | Olivia Murphy | C |
|  | Alex Astle |  |
|  | Rebecca James |  |
|  | Lisa Stephenson |  |
|  | Charlotte O'Neill |  |
|  | Jade Clarke | VC |
|  | Vicky Percy |  |
|  | Hannah Reid |  |
|  | Sarah Penny |  |
|  | Ama Agbeze |  |
|  |  |  |
| 16 | Kara Luck |  |
| 17 | Natasha Hampshire |  |
| 18 | Verona Tomlin |  |
|  |  |  |
| 19 | Kate Murphy |  |
| 20 | Heather Clark |  |
| 21 | Lauren Doyle |  |
|  |  |  |
| **#** | **2007-2008** | **Additional Notes** |
|  | Olivia Murphy | player coach |
|  | Charlotte O'Neill | C |
|  | Jade Clarke |  |
|  | Rebecca James |  |
|  | Lisa Stephenson |  |
|  | Verona Tomlin |  |
|  | Heather Clark |  |
|  | Alex Astle |  |
|  | Hannah Reid |  |
|  | Vicky Percy |  |
|  | Sarah Penny |  |
|  | Ama Agbeze |  |
|  | Natasha Hampshire |  |
|  | Kara Luck |  |
|  | Lisa Stephenson |  |
|  | Kate Murphy |  |
|  |  |  |
| 22 | Jo Harten |  |
|  |  |  |
| **#** | **2008-2009** | **Additional Notes** |
|  | Olivia Murphy | player coach |
|  | Jade Clarke | C |
|  | Lisa Stephenson |  |
|  | Jo Harten |  |
|  | Natasha Hampshire |  |
|  | Hannah Reid |  |
|  | Kara Luck |  |
|  |  |  |
| 23 | Alex Kirk |  |
| 24 | Emma Bliss |  |
|  |  |  |
| 25 | Becky Gentle |  |
| 26 | Katy Rose |  |
| 27 | Sarah-Jane O'Sullivan |  |
|  |  |  |
| 28 | Nia Campbell-Watson |  |
| 29 | Rachel Sharrod |  |
|  |  |  |
| **#** | **2009-2010** | **Additional Notes** |
|  | Jo Harten |  |
|  | Sarah-Jane O'Sullivan |  |
|  | Rebecca James |  |
|  | Alex Kirk |  |
|  | Katy Rose |  |
|  | Becky Gentle |  |
|  | Emma Bliss |  |
|  | Kara Luck |  |
|  | Leanne Badmin |  |
|  |  |  |
| 30 | Layla Guscoth |  |
| 31 | Masego Motaung |  |
| 34 |  |  |
| 32 | Jade Forbes-Wattley |  |
| 33 | Rebecca White |  |
| 34 | Tallisa Haynes |  |
|  |  |  |
| **#** | **2010-2011** | **Additional Notes** |
|  | Olivia Murphy | player coach |
|  | Jo Harten |  |
|  | Tallisa Haynes |  |
|  | Sarah-Jane O'Sullivan |  |
|  | Becky James |  |
|  | Emma bliss |  |
|  | Becky Gentle |  |
|  | Leanne Badmin |  |
|  | Jade Forbes-Wattley |  |
|  |  |  |
| 35 | Afrika Morris |  |
| 36 | Alex Sinclair |  |
| 37 | Michaella McFarlane |  |
| 38 | Nicola Caunt |  |
| 39 | Sophia Candappa |  |
|  |  |  |
| **#** | **2011-2012** | **Additional Notes** |
|  | Leanne Badmin |  |
|  | Rebecca James | C |
|  | Nicola Caunt |  |
|  | Sophia Candappa |  |
|  | Michaella McFarlane |  |
|  | Jade Forbes-Wattley |  |
|  | Afrika Morris |  |
|  | Alex Sinclair |  |
|  |  |  |
| 40 | Jodie Gibson |  |
| 41 | Olivia Mason |  |
|  |  |  |
| 42 | Jenny Montgomery |  |
| 43 | Jordan Moxey |  |
| 44 | Lauren Steadman |  |
|  |  |  |
| 45 | Lucy Adams |  |
|  |  |  |
| **#** | **2012-2013** | **Additional Notes** |
|  | Olivia Mason |  |
|  | Masego Motaung |  |
|  | Sophia Candappa | C |
|  | Afrika Morris |  |
|  | Jade Forbes-Wattley |  |
|  | Lauren Steadman | VC |
|  | Jodie Gibson |  |
|  | Nicola Caunt |  |
|  |  |  |
| 46 | Hannah Joseph |  |
| 47 | Nikita Piggott |  |
| 48 | Vanessa Walker |  |
|  |  |  |
| 49 | Fran Desmond |  |
| 50 | Lauren Massey |  |
|  |  |  |
| 51 | Beth Payne |  |
| 52 | Florence Edwards |  |
| 53 | Rachel Malloy |  |
|  |  |  |
| **#** | **2013-2014** | **Additional Notes** |
|  | Hannah Joseph |  |
|  | Lauren Steadman | C |
|  | Florence Edwards |  |
|  | Lauren Massey |  |
|  | Rebecca James |  |
|  | Nicola Caunt |  |
|  | Olivia Mason |  |
|  | Fran Desmond |  |
|  |  |  |
| 54 | Elizabeth Hayman |  |
| 55 | Jesse Waitapu | C |
| 56 | Moneik Van Rossum |  |
|  |  |  |
| 57 | Holly Sims |  |
| 58 | Rochelle Powell |  |
|  |  |  |
| 59 | Eleanor Durcan |  |
| 60 | Emily Watson |  |
| 61 | Neala Brennan |  |
|  |  |  |
| **#** | **2014-2015** | **Additional Notes** |
|  | Florence Edwards |  |
|  | Fran Desmond |  |
|  | Hannah Joseph |  |
|  | Olivia Mason |  |
|  | Lauren Massey |  |
|  | Lauren Steadman |  |
|  | Vanessa Walker |  |
|  |  |  |
| 62 | Maryka Holtzhausen |  |
| 63 | Peace Proscovia |  |
| 64 | Phumza Maweni |  |
| 65 | Rachel Forbes |  |
| 66 | Rachel Henry | C |
|  |  |  |
| 67 | Niamh Cooper |  |
| 68 | Rebekah Airey |  |
| 69 | Sophie Masterson |  |
|  |  |  |
| **#** | **2015-2016** | **Additional Notes** |
|  | Hannah Joseph |  |
|  | Peace Proscovia |  |
|  | Rebekah Airey |  |
|  | Ama Agbeze |  |
|  | Jade Clarke | C |
|  | Lauren Massey |  |
|  | Lauren Steadman |  |
|  | Olivia Mason |  |
|  |  |  |
| 70 | Jo Trip |  |
| 71 | Kadeen Corbin |  |
| 72 | Natalie Panagarry |  |
| 73 | Sasha Corbin |  |
|  |  |  |
| 74 | Rachel Sweet |  |
|  |  |  |
| 75 | Brittany Coleman |  |
| 76 | Hariett Gill |  |
|  |  |  |
| **#** | **2016-2017** | **Additional Notes** |
|  | Peace Proscovia |  |
|  | Jo Trip |  |
|  | Natalie Panagarry | C |
|  | Hannah Joseph |  |
|  | Rebekah Airey |  |
|  | Brittany Coleman |  |
|  | Olivia Mason |  |
|  | Vanessa Walker |  |
|  |  |  |
| 77 | Beth Cobden |  |
| 78 | Ella Clark |  |
| 79 | Ella Gibbons |  |
| 80 | Vicki Oyesola |  |
|  |  |  |
| 81 | Caroline Tarnowski |  |
| 82 | Chloe Essam |  |
| 83 | Rosie Harris |  |
|  |  |  |
| **#** | **2017-2018** | **Additional Notes** |
|  | Natalie Panagarry | C |
|  | Hannah Joseph |  |
|  | Rebekah Airey |  |
|  | Ella Clark |  |
|  | Chloe Essam |  |
|  | Rosie Harris |  |
|  | Vicki Oyesola |  |
|  | Peace Proscovia |  |
|  | Brittany Coleman |  |
|  | Lauren Nicholls (nee Steadman) |  |
|  |  |  |
| 84 | Brie Grierson |  |
| 85 | Shamera Sterling |  |
|  |  |  |
| 86 | Anya Wood |  |
|  |  |  |
| 87 | Suzie Armstrong |  |
|  |  |  |
| **#** | **2018-2019** | **Additional Notes** |
|  | Natalie Panagarry | C |
|  | Hannah Joseph |  |
|  | Ella Clark |  |
|  | Vicki Oyesola |  |
|  | Brittany Coleman |  |
|  | Rosie Harris |  |
|  | Caroline Tarnowski |  |
|  |  |  |
| 88 | Jess Shaw |  |
| 89 | Mary Cholhok |  |
| 90 | Tuaine Keenan |  |
|  |  |  |
| 91 | Lucy Parize |  |
| 92 | Zara Everitt |  |
|  |  |  |
| 93 | Amy Clinton |  |
| 94 | Annabel Roddy |  |
| 95 | Emily Hollingworth |  |
|  |  |  |
| **#** | **2019-2020** | **Additional Notes** |
|  | Natalie Panagarry | C |
|  | Hannah Joseph |  |
|  | Ella Clark |  |
|  | Vicki Oyesola |  |
|  | Mary Cholhok |  |
|  | Jess Shaw |  |
|  | Lucy Parize |  |
|  | Annabel Roddy |  |
|  | Lauren Nicholls (nee Steadman) |  |
|  |  |  |
| 96 | Sam May |  |
|  |  |  |
| 97 | Jasmine Odeogberin |  |
| 98 | Hannah Williams |  |
| 99 | Alice Harvey |  |
| 100 | Beth Gabriel |  |
| 101 | Suzie Liverseidge |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |