

On International Women's Day 2023 Barnet Nightingales launches London's largest girls-only football coaching programme

Offering 26 weeks of free football classes, from March to August 2023, the Community Training Programme has been made possible by a partnership with Brent Cross Town

Barnet Nightingales, one of London's leading grassroots girls football clubs, has launched a unique training programme to provide girls with access to free football training, igniting a new generation of female football players.

Brent Cross Town, London's new 180-acre park town which is being delivered by Barnet Council and Related Argent, has partnered with Barnet Nightingales to establish the Community Training Programme, London's largest girls-only training programme.

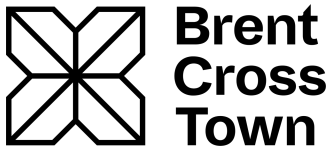
The Community Training Programme offers daily football classes for girls ages 6 to 16 years old, with every session led by a UEFA qualified coach, many of which are female. Players from London City Lionesses, London's first independent professional women's club, will also be joining the Community Training Programme to provide first hand advice and guidance.

Each week until 31 August 2023, Barnet Nightingales will host 10 free football coaching sessions for girls and young women from across London at Barnet Powerleague in Friern Barnet, N10. This completely free coaching programme is open to girls with any level of experience, from those trying football for the first time to skilled and experienced players.

The Barnet Nightingales football club is the second largest club in the London Capital Girls League, the largest girls football league in London, with over 40 clubs, 125 teams and some 2,000 girls playing in the 2022/23 season. Barnet Nightingales was established in 2015 with a mission to develop grassroots girls' football in Barnet and provide a pathway for female players to progress their footballing careers. Barnet Nightingales now has 11 teams and 150 female players aged between 7 and 17 years old.

Brent Cross Town is one of the largest regeneration schemes in Europe. Brent Cross Town's partnership with Barnet Nightingales is the first such partnership with a sports team and its supports reflects the new town's commitment to encourage greater diversity and inclusion in sports and play activities.

Morwenna Hall, Partner, Related Argent, commenting on behalf of Brent Cross Town: *"We are proud to be supporting the Barnet Nightingales and to launch this unique free coaching opportunity for young women and girls across London. I particularly hope this training programme reaches girls in Barnet and inspires them to try football. Through our partnership with Women in Sport, we know there is a real need to champion inclusivity in sport - it can play such a crucial role in improving confidence and enhancing wellbeing, as well as creating the next generation of female athletes. Brent Cross Town is committed to addressing the imbalance in participation, and to providing the support and facilities for girls and women to enjoy and succeed."*



Councillor Barry Rawlings, Leader of Barnet Council, said: *“Brent Cross Town’s sponsorship of the Barnet Nightingale’s Community Training Programme will mean many girls get access to free football training by a UEFA qualified coach in Barnet, no matter what their level of football experience. This is exactly the type of opportunity that I want our regeneration programmes to provide and one of the ways we are creating more opportunities to the community through the Brent Cross Cricklewood regeneration programme.”*

Simon Reid, Chairman of Barnet Nightingales FC and League Secretary of the Capital Girls League, said: *“I have been coaching girls’ football for 17 years and it is brilliant to see it flourish, get a real foothold and prestige which we are working to establish for the long term. From training the Lionesses of the future to camaraderie and teamwork, football is a great way to develop skills, confidence and to have a lot of fun. I hope that our free football coaching sessions will mean many more girls and young women will take the opportunity to give it a go.”*

Diane Culligan, Chairman and Founder of London City Lionesses and Management Committee member of the Capital Girls League, said: *“I would like to think London City Lionesses will be around in 150 years’ time. In order to achieve this, we have to cultivate the next generation of female footballers. The Community Training Programme that has been launched this week fits perfectly with our vision to enable girls, who have never played football before, to have a legitimate and unique pathway to become a Lioness. With the help of our partners, we hope we can inspire initiatives like this one across the whole of London and ultimately the UK so we can help protect and sustain the growth of the women and girls’ game.”*

Lincoln Bron age 10 playing for Barnet Nightingales U10’s Team said: *“I joined the Barnet Nightingales at the beginning of the season and have had so much fun and scored loads of goals. I absolutely love being part of this club and my team is currently top of the league. The best thing about being a Nightingale is all the cool things that we get to do outside of just our regular training and Saturday matches. The coaches take us to play friendly matches, tournaments and nights out to watch the professional girls play. The club and all the coaches are brilliant, and I hope that more girls come out and play football and join our club.”*

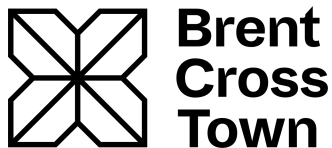
Sarah Gibb, age 8, who recently joined the Community Training Programme, said: *“Wow, this training programme is super cool, I wasn’t sure I’d like football, but this has got me hooked! I’ve learned so many new things and it’s been really fun too. The coaches have been amazing, and I’ve also got to meet some new friends and even been able to play with my school friends. I really look forward to coming back next week.”*

ENDS

Notes to Editor

About Brent Cross Town

Brent Cross Town is the neighbourhood at the heart of the Brent Cross Cricklewood regeneration programme. It is a joint venture between Related Argent and Barnet Council to develop a large-scale mixed-use development including new homes, retail and office space, as well as improved schools and greenspaces in the area. Early work started on site in early 2020 and construction is also underway on the new Brent Cross West station which will open in 2023. Building on the strengths of this diverse part of the city, Brent Cross Town will draw inspiration from the best of London’s long-established neighbourhoods with all their complexity and character.



At its heart, will be a focus on sport, play, health and well-being. The new neighbourhood will provide 6,700 homes, state-of-the-art workspace for over 25,000 people, and pedestrian friendly streets and squares with local shops and restaurants that will complement the offer at Brent Cross Shopping Centre. The community will be supported by first-class public transport infrastructure, a new and improved network of walking and cycle routes and a series of new parks and other amenities. www.brentcrosstown.co.uk @brentcrosstown

Related Argent is making four significant pledges for Brent Cross Town:

- To create the place in London to participate in sport and play: with indoor facilities and 50 acres of parks, Brent Cross Town will provide the best of both traditional and emerging sports, working with leading sports organisations, governing bodies and hero ambassadors to help drive female participation and champion diversity and inclusion.
- To make a new North London town where all can flourish. Brent Cross Town will launch a Flourishing Index which will pioneer the measurement of how individuals and communities flourish in a town centre. Partnering with Manchester University and Buro Happold, this approach represents a landmark moment in designing a development for mental health and wellbeing and demonstrates that Brent Cross Town is at the forefront of people-centred design.
- To be a net zero carbon town by 2030 at the latest. This will be achieved by driving down the embodied carbon in buildings and infrastructure, the carbon used in energy supply and offsetting the remainder. Partnering with Vattenfall, Brent Cross Town will deliver reliable and affordable zero carbon heating to homes, shops and businesses.
- To strengthen existing connections, both locally and into Central London; connecting businesses, customers, friends and family. Brent Cross Town is in an enviable location – 12 minutes to Central London, immediate access to the M1 and 5 major airports within one hour. Locally, new pedestrian and cycle routes will integrate Brent Cross Town with its surrounding communities.

About Related Argent

Related Argent brings together an extraordinary blend of complementary skills, access to global capital and unrivalled technical and delivery experience. The company delivers inclusive growth for all stakeholders by developing, owning and operating for the long-term. Argent, the respected developer with a track record in creating exemplar new pieces of UK cities including King's Cross, joined forces in March 2015 with Related, the most prominent privately-owned real estate firm in the United States with over \$60 billion in assets owned or under development including Hudson Yards on Manhattan's West Side, as well as The Grand LA and Related Santa Clara in California.

The company has an £8bn UK development pipeline in London which includes the delivery of two major regeneration schemes featuring over 8,000 homes, over 3 million sq ft of office space, 50 acres of parks and playfields, as well as retail, leisure, student accommodation and schools, both highly accessible from new and improved public transport connections. It is currently working in a joint venture with Barnet Council on London's 180-acre Brent Cross Town development, with the London Borough of Haringey for the Tottenham Hale redevelopment and its build-to-rent development in King's Cross is currently under construction.

Related Argent's vision is to be a great city builder – for people, planet, and prosperity and its purpose is to improve urban life for all, everyday. This means developing for the long term - astutely, sustainably and with a sense of social purpose. Related Argent is delivering the places, homes, workspace, public space, arts, culture, events and services that our UK cities and town centres need. [Related Argent - UK property developer - Discover Extraordinary \(argentllp.co.uk\)](http://www.relatedargent.co.uk)