



NEWCASTLE  
**EAGLES**  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

# Annual Report 2016



# Facts and Figures 2015-16

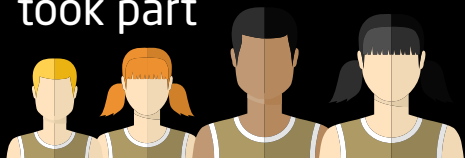
hoops **4** health



schools participated

**6,359**

young people took part

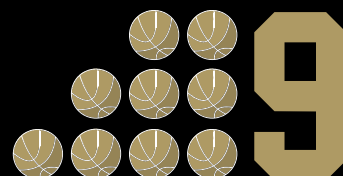


**212**



school tournament teams

change **4** life



extra-curricular school clubs established within the East End of Newcastle

**296**

young people have attended



times or more



**The Percy Hedley Foundation**

**15**

new juniors joined wheelchair basketball

local school, community group and taster sessions delivered by wheelchair basketball coaches

**100**

**49**

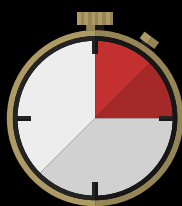
weekly clubs or after school sites

**45**

club teams compete within our junior league

**2**

clubs now delivering



more than **7000** volunteer hours donated this season



**7**

foundation trustees

**9**

full time staff

**40**

part time staff



our clubs cater from 5 years old to senior age groups

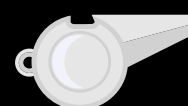


**47**

academy players

**49**

beneficiaries of governing body qualifications



all the BBL squad players deliver Hoops4Health roadshows

**ZERO**  
core-funding

# Introduction



Welcome to our 2015-16 annual report. The year has witnessed another successful programme of delivery across our region with more than eleven thousand young people benefiting from Foundation projects.

A major achievement this season has been the increase of hours delivered by volunteers, from 4,309 in 2014/15 to more than 7,000 in 2015/16.

This report is dedicated to everyone who works with the Eagles to provide a Foundation benefiting young people and adults with health education and basketball qualifications to a dedicated club and competition structure within Northumberland, Tyne and Wear.

The Foundation works as far south as Hartlepool and north to Berwick. The Foundation now offers 49 basketball club sites, benefiting more than 1,500 young people per week. This has been achieved through the hard work of a dedicated group of people who work with partners, funders, schools, universities, colleges and of course families.

The Foundation and Club work tirelessly to provide a structure that is unique in the country and used as a case of best practice, not only with the governing body but also Sport England. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in this work as we strive to leave a legacy for sport in the North East.

We are the current custodians and are working with our younger generation to secure a legacy. Our work is not about a single person but rather the establishment of an Eagles family for basketball in the North East. This is somewhere to work hard, enjoy basketball and make memories to share. After all these are the most valuable experiences we can possibly effect.

**Paul Blake**  
**Chair of the Trustees**

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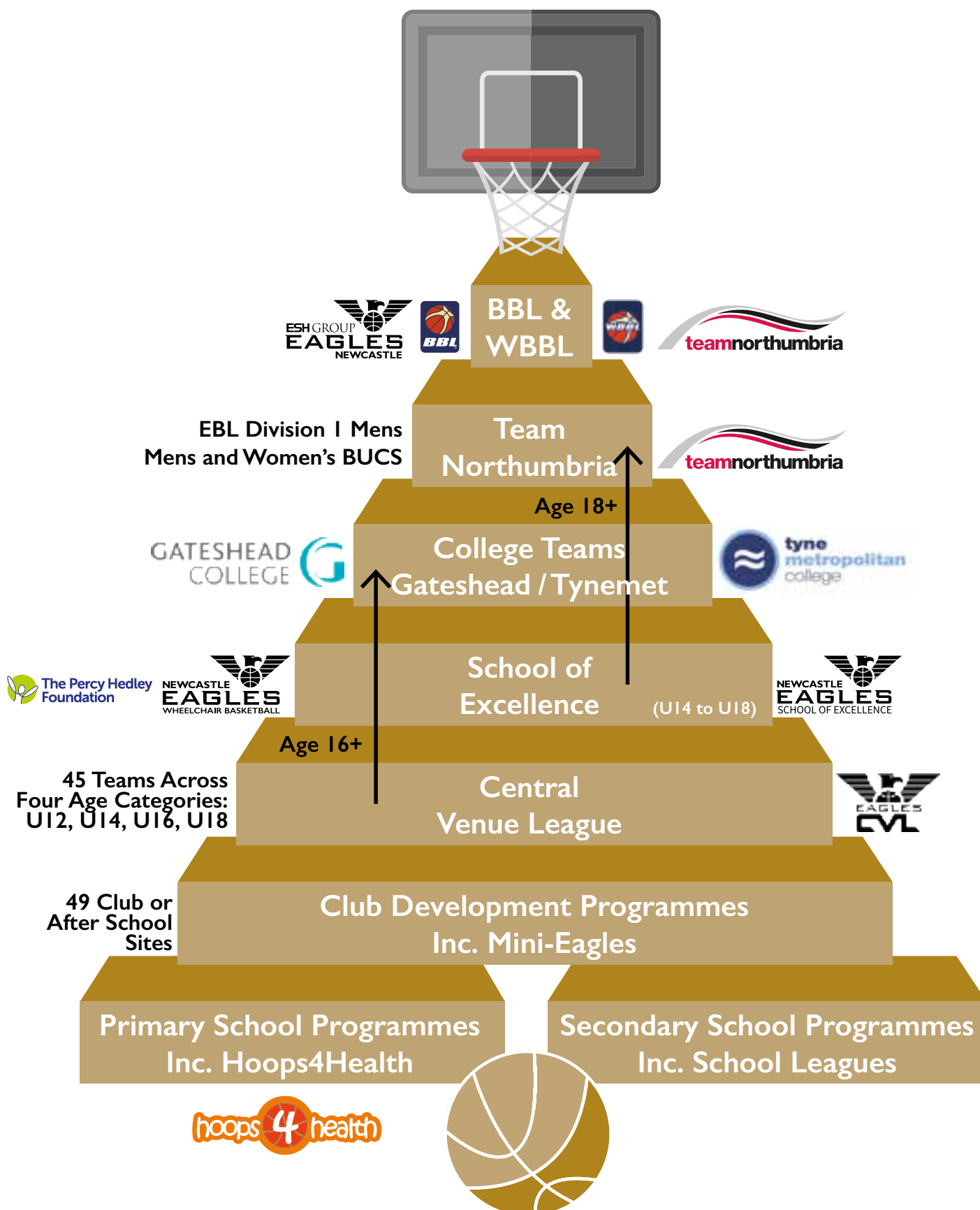
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## Board of Trustees:

Alan Younger, Dave Forrester, Eric Wilson, Jeff King, Malcolm Dix, Paul Blake and Su Cumming; your commitment to the Eagles is much appreciated.

# Foundation Player Pathway





## Primary School Programmes

# Little Dribblers



Little dribblers is a programme devised through the Eagles Community Foundation aimed at introducing basketball to children in Year 1 and 2.

The programme takes place one hour per week over a period of 10 weeks and can be performed on either an indoor surface or an asphalt/concrete surface (weather permitting). Sessions are arranged as a breakfast club, curriculum session or after school. Numbers are kept small during the sessions to ensure the children receive individual attention. Activities contained within the programme are basketball

related but centre upon teaching hand-eye co-ordination, physical movement and co-ordination. Height is irrelevant! Emphasis is on each child having fun within the framework of the exercises and games that are featured. At the end of the ten weeks the participants receive a medal for participating in the programme which was presented by the coach. The school is also provided with two mini size retractable basketball hoops and mini basketballs. This helps to change the culture within the school to embrace basketball from some of the youngest students.

Oakfield Infants has been one of the schools which has really embraced the programme making it part of their yearly extra curricular activities. The sessions run before school as a breakfast club on a Thursday morning. Eagles Community Foundation have been in the school for 2 years delivering Little Dribblers. The success of the programme with the children engaging in the sport has resulted in Oakfield Juniors schools starting an after school club. Both schools were invited to a night at the Newcastle Eagles where they were presented on court with their medals. Newcastle Eagles player Darius Defoe also made an appearance at the school to see the kids in action and congratulate them on their progress.



## Primary School Programmes

# Hoops 4 Health

### INTRODUCTION

The Hoops 4 Health programme has engaged with 99 primary or middle schools over the academic year.

The messages continued on the health themes of Healthy Eating, Fitness and looking after your body, No Smoking and Physical Activity. This year in Gateshead we also included a stereotyping station, working with the young people on issues around hate crime within communities.

The partners involved during the year included:

- Esh Group
- The Gateshead Housing Company
- North Tyneside Council
- Newcastle Council
- Change4Life
- Northumbria Healthcare Trust
- Hospital Volunteer Service

These partners along with the schools themselves have enabled more than 6000 young people to make informed decisions on the health choices as they move in to teenage years and secondary school.

All schools involved within the Hoops4Health programme received a roadshow, followed by four hours of coaching from a community coach or

development officer, a chance to participate within their council tournament with each of the councils the four winners then progressing to the home of the Newcastle Eagles to play on the home court before and at half time of a game.

Hoops 4 Health programmes run across seven local education authorities:

- Durham
- Gateshead
- Newcastle
- North Tyneside
- Northumberland
- South Tyneside
- Sunderland

### PARTICIPATION NUMBERS

#### GATESHEAD

SCHOOL	TOTAL
Crookhill Community	47
Dunston Hill Community	57
Falla Park Community	75
Glynwood Community	30
Greenside	36
Larkspur Community	49
Riverside Primary	50
Ryton Community	100
St Agnes' Catholic	59
St Anne's Catholic	29
St Oswald's RC Vountary Aided	58
St Peter's RC Voluntary Aided	60
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>650</b>

#### DURHAM

SCHOOL	TOTAL
Sacrison Primary	33
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33</b>





## NEWCASTLE

SCHOOL	TOTAL
Arthur's Hill Federation- Westgate Hill	60
Bridgewater Primary School	62
Broadwood Primary School	34
Byker Primary School (Visit 1 of 2)	62
Byker Primary School (Visit 2 of 2)	60
Central Walker CE Primary	41
Farne Primary School	50
Gosforth Central Middle School	120
Gosforth East Middle School	120
Gosforth Junior High Academy	145
Hadrian School	35
Hilton Primary School	104
Mountfield Primary School	46
Newburn Manor	52
St Alban's RC Primary School	26
St Bede's RC Primary School	61
St Catherines Catholic Primary School	50
St Cuthberts	60
St John's Primary School	60
St Lawrence Primary	27
St Lawrence's RC Primary School	26
St Vincent's Primary School (Visit 1 of 2)	26
St Vincent's Primary School (Visit 2 of 2)	25
Stocksfield Avenue Primary School	120
Throckly	60
Tyneview Primary (Visit 1 of 2)	23
Tyneview Primary (Visit 2 of 2)	26
Walkergate	90
Welbeck Primary School	50
West Walker Primary (Visit 1 of 2)	35
West Walker Primary (Visit 2 of 2)	50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,806</b>



## NORTH TYNESIDE

SCHOOL	TOTAL
Balliol	46
Beaconhill	15
Collingwood Primary School	86
Denbigh	60
Grassmere Academy	30
Ivy Road Primary School	40
Percy Hedley Primary	40
Percy Hedley Secondary	18
Preston Grange Primary School	60
Redesdale	67
Richardson Dees	60
Southlands	40
St Bartholomew	56
St Columba's RC	65
Stephenson Memorial	60
Wallsend Jubilee	58
Wellfield Middle School	84
Woodlawn	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>915</b>

## PARTICIPATION NUMBERS CONTINUED...

### NORTHUMBERLAND

SCHOOL	TOTAL
Beaconhill Community Primary School	58
Burnside	60
Cragside COE Cont Primary School	117
Cramlington Shanklea Primary School	120
Eastlea Primary School	112
Hareside Primary School	122
Morpeth Chantry Middle School	120
Morpeth Newminster Middle School	120
Northburn Primary School	87
Ponteland Middle School	155
Richard Coates C of E Middle	120
Seaton Sluice Middle School	90
Stobhillsgate First School	30
Tweedmouth	75
Whytrig Community Middle School	120
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,506</b>

### SOUTH TYNESIDE

SCHOOL	TOTAL
Bede Burn	65
Biddick Hall Junior School	112
Cleadon Village C of E Primary School	120
East Boldon Juniors	62
Forest View Primary School	70
Hadrian Primary	40
Harton Primary School	90
Holy Trinity	54
Laygate Community School	62
Monkton Junior School	26
Ridgeway Primary	50
Simonside Primary School	49
St Aloysius RC VA Junior School	121
St Bedes RC VA Primary School	60
St Oswalds RC VA Primary School	52
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,033</b>

### SUNDERLAND

SCHOOL	TOTAL
East Herrington	59
Farringdon	100
Mill Hill	51
New Silksworth	55
Richard Avenue	120
St Cuthbert's RC Voluntary Aided	30
Sunderland High Junior	34
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>449</b>



**TOTAL PARTICIPANTS:**  
**6,359**





## PROGRAMME OUTLINE

The programme is broken down into five stages which are delivered in schools, regional venues and at the home court of our BBL team.

Every part of the programme is delivered by the Eagles Community Foundation and these stages will be explained in further depth in the following pages.

### STAGE 1 ROADSHOWS



### STAGE 2 COACHING



### STAGE 3 TOURNAMENTS

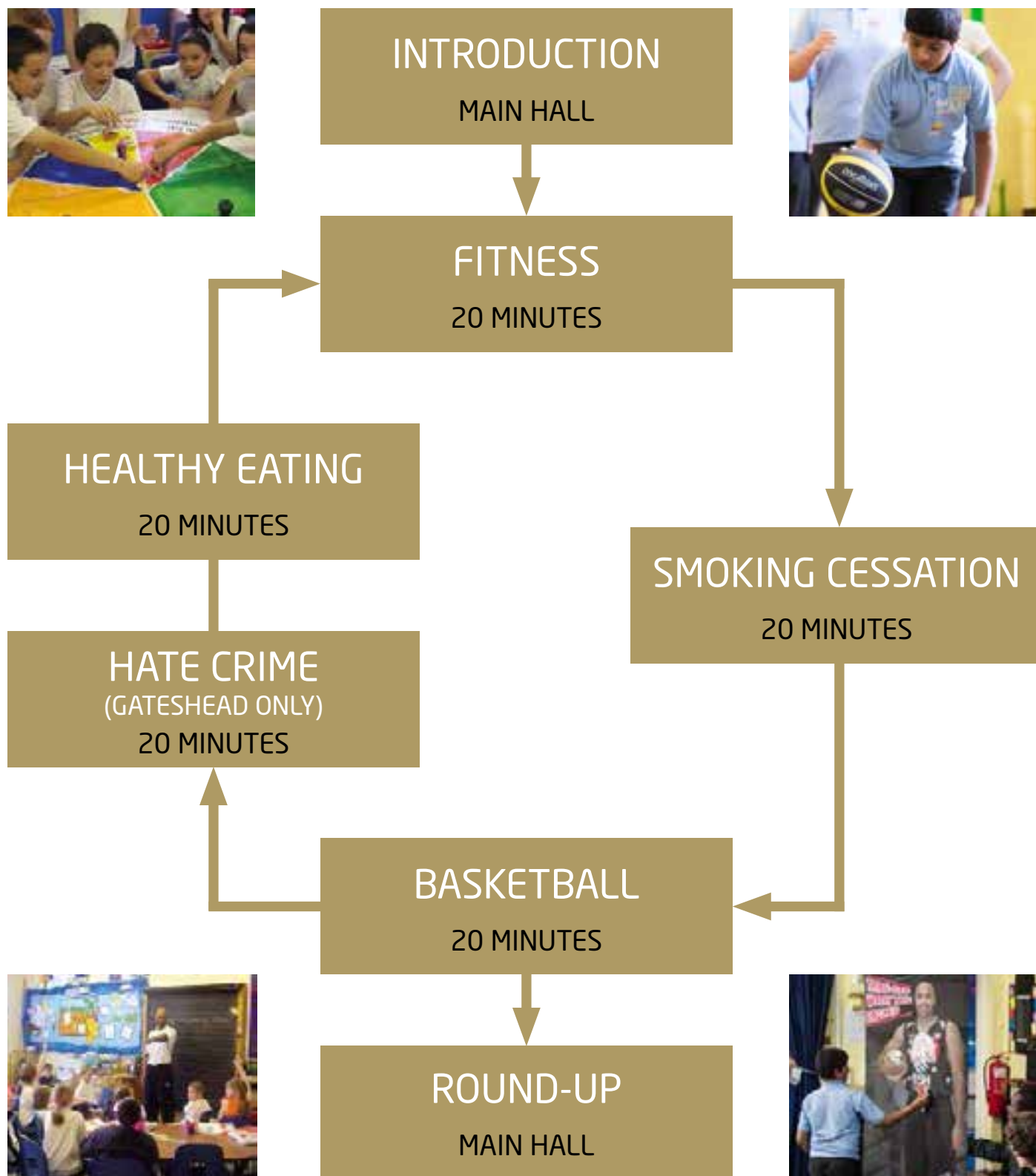


### STAGE 4 TOURNAMENT FINALS



### STAGE 5 CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS FINALS



**STAGE 1 - ROADSHOWS**



**A healthy living roadshow is held within each of the schools and is delivered during an afternoon with four Eagles players in attendance.**

The afternoon starts with an introduction from the Eagles players to all of the young people within the school gym. The players take time to introduce themselves and the healthy living station they will be delivering during the afternoon. The programme itself with the various stages is explained including the opportunity in stage 4 for some of the schools to play at half time on their court in front of a home crowd. All young people are taken through the first station:

## **FITNESS**

The groups are asked to locate certain parts of the human body; heart, lungs, liver and kidneys. Each of the body parts are then discussed as to why it is important to keep them healthy with weekly exercise and hydration. Following that they all participated in a five minute 'boot camp' cardiovascular exercise programme with star jumps, high knees and running on the spot. Immediately afterwards the children are shown how to record their heart rate and the importance of maintaining a healthy heart.

Then we divided the group, rotating them between the remaining stations and players:

## **HEALTHY EATING**

The aim the station was to educate on hidden sugars, healthy snacks and the number of portions of each food group to ensure a healthy eating plan. The young people worked out of the Hoops4Health booklets on 3 different tasks. The first concentrated on the balanced diet, the young people placed food stickers in to the correct food groups, the number of stickers then indicated how much of the food group they should eat per day. The second task tackled hidden sugar in drinks and snacks explaining their daily allowance.

## **NO SMOKING**

The station began with informing the young people of facts on smoking, what it contains, how they are addictive, the cost and why someone might be persuaded to try one. The information was structured

to prepare the young people with information on why not to smoke, what to say if they are asked and how to avoid peer pressure. Finally the young people took part in a fun and interactive 'who wants to breathe clean air' game based on the TV quiz show 'who wants to be a millionaire'.

## **HATE CRIME**

In Gateshead, through a partnership with the Gateshead Housing Company a specific station was delivered to address a recent upward number of hate crime incidents being recorded within the local authority area. Eagles player Scott Martin delivered this station, deliberately because he is American. The station enabled Scott to show how different culturally he was to the young people, challenging them to see how everyone was somehow different and in fact wouldn't life be strange if we were all the same. The class worked through the station learning how many celebrities, inventors and sports people are living with an impairment or condition that you may not be visible, but enabled the young people to reflect on how they shouldn't judge by differences.

## **BASKETBALL**

The young people participated within a basketball station, a fun and interactive session enabling all standards to enjoy the sport. They were introduced to the different types of passing, how to dribble a basketball and how important it is to use both left and right hands within the sport. The game of basketball is shown to be a highly skilled sport both female and males can play regardless of ability, age or social class.

## **ROUND UP**

Following the rotation of the young people across each of the stations they return to the school hall where they started. The players then award any 'outstanding' prizes for those young people who have worked hard during the afternoon. They all then participate in the famous 'clap game' with tickets for the winner and their family to attend an Eagles home game. The competition enables the young people to show their support to fellow pupils as they are encouraged to cheer all those left in the competition.





## STAGE 2 - COACHING

Following the roadshow each of the schools received basketball coaching in preparation for their local authority tournaments.

The Eagles Community Foundation coaches worked with the children in a fun and engaging session to build confidence within the sport. In particular the coach would work with the children on basketball fundamentals of passing, dribbling, shooting and teamwork, working in mixed teams.



## STAGE 3 - TOURNAMENTS

### OVERVIEW

Schools participated in regional tournaments which were held in the following venues:

- **Newcastle**
  - Sport Central - Northumbria University
- **Sunderland**
  - City Space - Sunderland University
- **Gateshead**
  - Gateshead Leisure Centre
- **North Tyneside**
  - Lakeside Sport Centre
- **South Tyneside**
  - Temple Park Leisure Centre
- **Northumberland**
  - Blyth Leisure Centre, Newminster/Chantry, Ponteland Middle, Tweedmouth

The target for participation across all of the six local authority areas was 99 teams equaling 990 young people, the actual figure was 212 teams with a total of 2120 young people.

During the tournaments club exit routes were promoted for continued participation within the sport on a weekly basis.

### TEAMS TOTALS

- |                          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|
| • <b>Newcastle:</b>      | 49 teams |
| • <b>Sunderland:</b>     | 23 teams |
| • <b>Gateshead:</b>      | 36 teams |
| • <b>North Tyneside:</b> | 33 teams |
| • <b>South Tyneside:</b> | 42 teams |
| • <b>Northumberland:</b> | 29 teams |





## REGIONAL BREAKDOWN

### Gateshead - Gateshead Leisure Centre

- Number of teams: 36
- Number of young people: 360
- Teams progressing to the final:
  - Glynwood Primary
  - St Oswalds
  - Dunston Hill
  - Falla Park

### Newcastle - Sport Central - Northumbria University

- Number of teams: 49
- Number of young people: 490
- Teams progressing to the final:
  - Gosforth East
  - West Walker
  - St Albans
  - Welbeck

### Northumberland - Blyth Leisure Centre, Newminster/Chantry, Ponteland Middle, Tweedmouth

- Number of teams: 29
- Number of young people: 290
- Teams progressing to the final:
  - Tweedmouth
  - Ponteland
  - Burnside
  - Northburn
  - Newminster

### North Tyneside - Lakeside Leisure Centre

- Number of teams: 33
- Number of young people: 330
- Teams progressing to the final:
  - St Bartholomew
  - Stephenson Memorial
  - Preston Grange
  - Redesdale

### South Tyneside - Temple Park Leisure Centre

- Number of teams: 42
- Number of young people: 420
- Teams progressing to the final:
  - St Bedes RC
  - St Alyosious
  - East Boldon
  - Hadrian

### Sunderland - City Space - Sunderland University

- Number of teams: 23
- Number of young people: 230
- Teams progressing to the final:
  - East Herrington
  - Sunderland Junior High
  - St Cuthbert's
  - Mill Hill

TOTAL NUMBER OF TEAMS: **212**

TOTAL NUMBER OF YOUNG PEOPLE: **2,120**

## STAGE 4 - TOURNAMENT FINALS



### GATESHEAD

**The final Hoops4Health tournament took place and it was Gateshead who were on show.**

After a 36 team tournament which took place at the end of February at Gateshead Leisure Centre it was time for the teams to take to the court and see who would be crowned Champions. Last year's winners St. Oswald Primary had fought their way back and were hoping to do what only one school has managed by holding on to their title for a second year. They were joined by Glynwood primary, newcomers Dunston Hill and Falla Park.

In the first semi-final St Oswald took on Falla Park. It proved to be a game full of chances but no team was able to convert and at the end of the match it went to a shootout. At the end of the shootout once again no one could manage to convert their shot and it went to sudden death. After 4 rounds of sudden death St Oswald Primary found the basket. As they started to celebrate Falla Park still had one shot but it rolled around the rim and fell out sending St Oswald to the finals and a chance to defend their crown. In the second semi-final it was newcomers Dunston Hill facing Glynwood who had previous experience of the Hoops4Health tournaments. The experience showed as they approached the halfway point Glynwood scored a short jump shot. They followed this up with two more baskets and went through to the finals with a 6 - 0 victory.

In the final it took Glynwood only 30 seconds to open the scoring. They continued to control the game giving St Oswald's few opportunities to level. They had to wait another 6 minutes but Glynwood found the basket again and then held on to lift the Gateshead Hoops4Health crown with a 4 - 0 victory.

A thank you to Jon Mallen-Beadle and Helen Watson from The Gateshead Housing Company who presented on the evening.



### NORTH TYNESIDE

**In the penultimate Local Authority final it was North Tyneside's turn to take to the court. North Tyneside Basketball Development Officer Shaun Malone was on hand to coordinate the event.**

After a 28 team tournament took place in early February with the four winning schools hoping they would lift the crown.

Last year's winners St Bartholomew were joined by the 2014 - 15 winner Preston Grange. They were joined by newcomers Redesdale and Stephenson Memorial who had previously made it to this point but not lifted the trophy. Semi final 1 witnessed Redesdale face St Bartholomew. St Bartholomew were first off the mark scoring from a short jump shot but Redesdale immediately went down the other end and levelled the score. A minute later they took the lead and it proved to be the winning margin as they made their way into the final 4 - 2.

In semi final 2 it was all Stephenson Memorial as they immediately opened the scoring within the first minute. Two minutes later they followed it up with another basket. Try as they might Preston Grange could not get the ball to fall and Stephenson Memorial put the game out of reach in the last 10 seconds to win 6 - 0.

The final would see a new champion crowned but it would go to the wire as early on both teams scored and the game remained level. As a result it went to a free throw shoot out with Stephenson Memorial scoring one of their two shots to lift the crown over Redesdale. Stephenson Memorial will now progress to the Champion of Champions game in April. On hand for the presentations was Brenda Longstaff, Charity & Volunteer Senior Lead Officer Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and Volunteers from the Hospital Volunteer along with Darren Greco Sports Development Officer for North Tyneside.



## NEWCASTLE

**The Newcastle Hoops 4 Health was the second council of seven regional tournaments to take to the court in front of the largest Newcastle Eagles crowd of the season. But before this took place we had to find out which schools would be competing for the Newcastle Crown.**

On Monday 11th January more than 470 year 5 students from across the city made their way to Sport Central. The court was dressed as if the Eagles were in the building as the 49 teams squared off to find the 4 winners who would fight it out for the crown of Newcastle Hoops4Health Champions. After progressing through round robin competitions the top winner from each court progressed to the play off rounds including the best overall runner up. After the games 4 teams were victorious and have progressed through to the Newcastle finals.

In the first semi final two East end schools took to the court with Welbeck facing West Walker. Both schools are part of the East end Change for Life programme and work closely with Eagles Community Foundation outreach worker Jeanette Murray. Welbeck playing in white were soon behind as West Walker got on the board as the team in blue hit a lovely little jump shot to edge ahead 0-2.

The team in white were pushing all the way as the game flowed from one end to the other and it was Welbeck who tied up the game as the hit the bank shot to make 2-2. But with one minute remaining Welbeck scored again edging ahead 4-2 and pushing themselves into the finals. In the second semi finals Gosforth East and St Albans faced off. Both teams had made it to this point last season before St Albans won and were crowned Newcastle Champions. St Albans, is also part of the East End Change 4 Life programme, the school were keen to repeat and at the half way point they took a 2-0 lead. 30 seconds later they had doubled their score and before the

final whistle had gone had secured a 6-0 victory over Gosforth East.

The final was an amazing game of basketball between Welbeck and St Albans and it was finally decided on a free throw shoot out. The final got under way and it was the challengers Welbeck who surprised St Albans as they scored immediately making it 0-2. The defending champions pushed hard to get an equaliser but against the run of play Welbeck Road doubled their lead with another score making it 0-4. With the game entering its last minute and St Albans still down by 4 it looked like a new champion would be crowned but the team in black had other ideas as they scored twice in the final minute making it 4-4 and the buzzer went with the teams tied up.

So the final went to a 4 player shoot out and it was St Albans two basket hero who had the final say as he hit his free throw sending his teammates into mass celebrations as they held onto their Hoops for Health crown.





## STAGE 4 CONTINUED...



### NORTHUMBERLAND

Five schools from across Northumberland made their way to Sport Central last Friday. Teams came from Tweedmouth Middle, Ponteland Middle, Burnside Primary, Northburn Primary and Newminster Middle.

All of the schools received coaching from Eagles Community Foundation and Education Network sponsored Development Officer Anthony Sampson. The five teams had earned their place through a variety of tournaments across the council with more than 34 teams fighting for the opportunity to make it to the finals. Prior to the Eagles game the teams took to the court and played a round robin event. Each game proved tight with the teams hoping that success would allow them to play at half time of the Eagles match for the Northumberland crown.

With two schools from their partnership in the event on hand to cheer them on were Marie Anne Dowson, Cramlington School Sport Partnership Manager and Gillian Marsden, Cramlington School Sport Partnership Organiser. Burnside Primary and Ponteland Middle finished at the top of the league which meant they would take to the court for the finals. The final proved as tight as the previous round robin events. Although many shots were taken for both sides nerves seemed to get the better of the teams as Ponteland Middle squeaked out a 2 – 0 victory. At the end of the game presentations were made to all five teams by Representatives from the Wansbeck Hospital Volunteer Service and Lyn McCormack, Northumbria Health Care Trust. The organisations have been long term supporters of the Hoops4Health programme.

### SOUTH TYNESIDE

South Tyneside was the third Hoops4Health Council of 2016 to play at a Newcastle Eagles game and a new champion was looking to be crowned last years winner Bedeburn Primary failed to make it through to the finals.

This year all of the participating schools received coaching from South Tyneside Development Officer and Newcastle Eagles Assistant Coach Ian Macleod. Only one school St Bede's had made it through to the finals from last years finalists. They were joined by St Aloysious, East Boldon and Hadrian. The teams earned their place the tough route after competing in a tournament at Temple Park Leisure Centre with 49 times.

In the first semi finals St Aloysious faced off against East Boldon. The game went end to end but neither team could find the basket. It looked like it was headed to a shoot out but with 3 seconds left on the game clock East Boldon's shot bounced around the rim and in sending the school into the finals at half time and leaving St Aloysious heartbroken. Up next was St Bede's vs. Hadrian. St Bede's stormed out of the gate scoring immediately. As hard as Hadrian tried they could not score and with two minutes remaining St Bede's doubled their score taking them into the final.

In the final it proved to be all St Bede's scoring their first basket after 3 minutes and then doubling that less then 30 seconds later. Another basket with 2 minutes left gave them an insurmountable 6 – 0 lead and victory. All four teams were presented to the Newcastle Eagles fan and received medals but it was St Bede's Primary that was crowned South Tyneside Hoops4Health winners .





## STAGE 5 - CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

### OVERVIEW

The end of the 2015 - 16 Hoops4Health programme closed in style this season with the Champion of Champions event.

A winner from each of the six local authorities came together to play in a round robin event with the top two squaring off for the overall crown.

The year 5 programme had been delivered this season to 99 schools with 220 teams competing. The top six schools were desperate to raise the trophy and the games were hotly contested.

### 2015-16 RESULTS

As the tournament progressed three schools stood out with their results and it was left to the final game to find out who would progress through to finals.

Northumberland's Ponteland Middle just missed out on reaching the finals as they lost in the final pool game 8 - 6 to Stephenson Memorial. While St Bede's primary cruised into the finals not dropping a game. In the final St Bede's jumped out to a lead scoring the first basket. They followed this up with 2 more baskets. Stephenson Memorial tried to find the hoop with several shots just not falling. St Bede's were presented with the Champion of Champions Trophy by Chief Executive Brian Manning from Esh Group.



### CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

1. **St Bede's** - South Tyneside
2. **Stephenson Memorial** - North Tyneside
3. **Ponteland Middle** - Northumberland
4. **Glynwood** - Gateshead
5. **Sunderland High Jr.** - Sunderland
6. **Welbeck** - Newcastle



### SUNDERLAND

With three Hoops4Health still to take centre stage first up was Sunderland. Four schools fought through a tournament with 28 teams back in February at the University of Sunderland, City Space to earn their place in the semi finals.

More than 280 young people from across Sunderland had received a visit from the Newcastle Eagles, coaching and a tournament with the aim of finishing in the top 4 to play at the home of the Newcastle Eagles. The teams included last year's Champion of Champions St Cuthbert's as well as Sunderland High Junior, Mill Hill and East Herrington.

Semi final 1 saw Sunderland High Junior school versus Mill Hill. The school which recently found out it will close at the end of the academic year ran out 8 - 0 winners. The second semi final was closer although St Cuthbert opened the scoring in the first minute Mill Hill struck back 2 minutes later. The score stayed level as the teams went into a shoot out. Again it finished even but in the first round of sudden death East Herrington scored earning their place in the finals.

The finals proved to be all Sunderland High Junior scoring in the first 2 minutes. East Herrington tried to fight their way back into the game but it proved too much when Sunderland High Junior hit a short jump shot to go up 4 - 0. It proved to be the winning margin as the team lifted the Sunderland Hoops4Health Trophy. It was only 2 years removed from when they last were crowned Champions and it was a great way to go out on top. Presentations were made by Brian Manning from Esh Group and Kevin Ludlow facility manager Sunderland University City Space.

## Primary School Programmes

# Change 4 Life



### CHANGE 4 LIFE EAST NEWCASTLE

#### INTRODUCTION

The Change 4 Life programme uses basketball as conduit to promote physical activity and living a healthy lifestyle within a focused area in the East of Newcastle. The funding enables an Eagles Outreach Worker to base themselves within nine primary schools delivering a targeted programme of activity across the academic year.

The work is delivered mainly in these nine targeted primary schools but also has a wider outreach in to the community, parents and partners. The outreach worker is tasked with engaging all of the year groups from reception through to Year 6. The key priority for the outreach worker is engagement as the programme transcends just delivering basketball. The children love seeing the outreach worker attending other events that they are involved in, things like attending their sports day and cheering them on, going to Christmas plays and year 6 leaver's shows, even attending other sports tournaments like tennis and football tournaments all of these things allow the outreach worker to build a good relationship with the children and let them know that you are invested in them.

#### DELIVERY

The delivery involves a variety of programmes the main ones are listed below:

- Nine weekly extra-curricular clubs throughout the year based within each of the schools: Each of these clubs run differently depending on the school and also the needs of the children. What works well in one school may not in another so the success has been to accommodate all the various differences.
- Curriculum coaching received by all young people within the nine schools (reception through to year 6)
- Hoops4Health Healthy Living Roadshows - including the Newcastle Eagles players as role models
- Basketball pre match event at the Newcastle Eagles game including parents and siblings.
- Community Engagement via festivals and school holiday camps
- Children's Activity Booklet – to help educate the young people on key health messages.

Delivery during 2015-16 has exceeded our expectations with the numbers of those benefiting higher than planned. In particular the curriculum sessions have been particularly successful. The number of children who have received curriculum coaching has far exceeded the targets with 918 benefiting.

Working with the younger children in the schools has been especially successful with over a third of the total children coached in curriculum time from year 1 and year 2 classes. This means that children are receiving exposure to physical exercise at a younger age. It also means that the children know the outreach worker from such a young age and have a connection with them.



The extra curricular clubs continue to be popular with children. An additional session was added this year at Walker Technology College. There has been a consistent number attending and the group has played competitive games against other schools. Although the session is not for a team but to engage those transferring from primary to secondary and keep them taking part in regular physical activity the games have helped focus the young people and gain commitment to the programme.

The success of the programme is reflected in the high number of children who regularly attend the extra curricular basketball sessions in the nine primary schools and secondary; 86% of the children attend regularly which means that they are doing physical exercise on a more regular basis. The programme is also successfully because of the willingness of the Outreach Worker to adapt to the needs of the school and especially the children in the targeted nine schools.

## PROJECT OUTCOMES

Number of unique individuals who have attended	341
Number of unique individuals who have attended more than 3 times	296
Number of unique individuals who have taken part in curriculum coaching	918
Number of pre match events	1
Number of individuals taking part	258
Number of healthy living events	14
Number of unique individuals involved including communities and families	565
Dribble dish swish awards programme 565 Outreach worker involved in school and community sessions	565
Courses and volunteers	10
<b>86%</b> of young people demonstrating increased participation in physical activity by attending sessions more than 3 times.	

## CASE STUDY

**A pupil at Walkergate School has shown massive improvement this year which has been due largely to his involvement basketball.**

In the past he has had behaviour problems mainly immaturity and "messing around" with his classmates, he also had a low level of fitness and was overweight. He has been involved with basketball in the past but sometimes because of his behaviour in school he was not always allowed to attend.

This year he was allowed to attend basketball again and was told by the school that his behaviour would have to be better if he expected to stay involved. Since returning he has not looked back.

He was chosen for the school basketball team and that seems to have given him confidence. This has led him to becoming involved with more sports and being picked for other sporting teams in the school. All of this has led to improved behaviour in school and to his classmates. Also because of becoming involved with more sports other than basketball this has led to a massive improvement in his fitness levels and also a significant weight loss.

## CASE STUDY

### LINDA WILLIAMSON



Once upon a time, long, long ago (1997) I was asked to go to the school gym to supervise the 6th form being coached by the Eagles and afterwards given a complimentary ticket to watch a game as a thank you. I loved going to the games and got hooked by the sport.

The Metro Jets were the dancers at the time and a friend of mine was asked if her dancing school would be interested in taking over the cheerleader's slot. She was delighted but needed a chaperone for her girls. She knew I went to see the games and asked if I would help look after the dancers. This I did and gradually became involved with Eagles competitions and guest performers on match nights.

At Christmas time the dancers were involved with cabaret so were unable to perform at the games. I organised a group of dancers from my school (Benfield Sports College) to take over the slot, they loved it and eventually took over the role. We set up

after school cheerleading classes to put together many routines and at least four of those girls who began at the Arena as shy eleven year olds have gone on to pursue dance as a career.

Since taking early retirement from teaching I have been able to offer more time to help out with other aspects of Eagles life. Along with my good friend Jennie Magee we work on the Hoops4Health education booklets two mornings a week and assist in the delivery of regional tournaments. The Eagles have become a part of my life and I look at them as a rather large extended family.

You might know me best from match nights as part of the entertainment team I organise the children taking part in competitions, help out with the birthday parties and generally have fun running around.

**Linda**



## Secondary School Programmes

# Coaching Contracts

The aim of the foundation is to spread the game of basketball across Northumberland and Tyne & Wear. This is done through a variety of programmes across a wide range of ages and working with a large number of partners including the Basketball Foundation, Premier League for Sport, Basketball England and Sport England.

A testament to the benefits of basketball and the work of the Eagles Community Foundation is the schools we work with who partner with us to run school teams, clubs and invest in their students and the sport of basketball.

Schools report back that students involved in the basketball programmes have better attendance, discipline, and self-confidence. The Foundation has contracts with primary, middle and secondary schools from 1 hour to 6 hours per week.

Our coaches are also involved in Continuing Professional Development (CPD) with teachers and coaching the school teams in local authority, regional and national competitions. This has resulted in the Eagles Community Foundation coaches doing a substantial amount of hours in schools including coaching their teams in School's leagues and National competitions to deliver projects as well as the schools themselves investing in basketball. The result has been more than 27 schools receiving regular weekly coaching across the 2015 – 16 academic year.

The schools the Foundation have partnered with:

- Heaton Manor, Newcastle
- St Cuthbert's, Newcastle
- Gosforth Central Middle, Newcastle
- St Mary's, Newcastle
- Walker Technology College, Newcastle
- Walbottle, Newcastle
- Cardinal Hume, Gateshead
- King Edward VI, Northumberland
- Prudhoe High, Northumberland
- Cramlington Learning Village, Northumberland
- Chantry Middle, Northumberland
- Newminster Middle, Northumberland
- Bedlington High, Northumberland
- Bede Academy, Northumberland
- St Benet Biscop, Northumberland
- Meadowdale Middle, Northumberland
- Richard Coates Middle, Northumberland
- Ponteland Middle, Northumberland
- Barley Mow Primary, Gateshead
- Oakfield Infants, Gateshead
- Oakfield Juniors, Gateshead
- Westgate Hill Primary, Newcastle
- Ravenswood Primary, Newcastle
- Cragside Primary, Newcastle
- St John's Primary, Newcastle
- Sunderland High, Sunderland
- Preston Grange Primary, North Tyneside
- Richardson Dees Primary, North Tyneside

## CASE STUDY

Heaton Manor School in Newcastle has had a partnership with the foundation for the last 6 years. It started with Newcastle Basketball Development Officer Graham Heath being asked to coach the school team in a local competition.

The partnership grew from there and now more than 6 hours per week are delivered in the form of lunch time sessions and girl's only sessions as well as coaching for all age groups. School teams have entered local and national competitions, reached the final four nationally this year. The programme has had a direct impact on the recruitment and retention of sixth form pupils and the culture within the school has changed through the engagement of basketball.

Through the programme at Heaton Manor one of our up and coming coaches was engaged. At the age of 15, Sam Roxborough played basketball for his school team Heaton Manor Hurricanes. Sam continued his development joining Newcastle East Griffins his local club. His development included playing within regional and national league teams. More importantly Sam showed a passion for coaching. Through Graham Heath at the Newcastle East Griffins club he was mentored while coaching young players at community sessions and in the CVL. Sam's development has included coaching national league and regional teams.

## Secondary School Programmes

# Sportivate



Sportivate is a national participation programme. Sport England provides funding to county sports partnerships which the Eagles Community Foundation bid into.

This season the Eagles Community Foundation were successful in our bid and were able to deliver 32 sessions across Tyne & Wear; 6 middle school sessions, 15 secondary sessions, 3 college sessions, 3 with Northumbria University and 5 disability sessions.

Sportivate targets those who currently take part in no or very little exercise. These sessions are about letting the players play games and have fun with friends. The high quality coaches structure their sessions to make them fun, friendly and interactive this is so the participants enjoy and feel comfortable within the session.

This year we have seen 363 participants take part in the programme of which 271 were Male and 92 Female. We also had 48 participants within the disability sessions; 36 male and 12 female.





## Club Development

# Mini Eagles



The 2015-16 season saw the Eagles Community Foundation invest in delivering a brand new club programme across the region to children under the age of 10 years old.

Although the Foundation's community clubs accept younger children into their under 12 programmes it was assessed that for some children the age gap can be too great.

With the success of the Little Dribblers programme the Foundation hatched the Mini Eagles Club. The sessions are taken by Newcastle Eagles Assistant Coach Dave Forrester at Kingsmeadow Community Comprehensive School on a Sunday morning.

They cater for children as young as 4 up to 10 years old. The Mini Eagles use lower baskets and smaller balls to ensure the children build self confidence, achieve success and have fun.

The success of the mini eagles has extended into holiday camps specifically for under 10's and seen the extension in community clubs to add this age group. Plans are underway to increase opportunities for this age group including a fun rookie league.



## Club Development

# Premier League 4 Sport



Newcastle United Foundation 4 sites were delivered this year and 3 sites with the Foundation of Light.

All players had the opportunity to take part in different events this year including:

- Pre match clinic and tournament at the Newcastle Eagles game with players representing Newcastle, Sunderland and Hull
- Regional tournament at Hull with Newcastle and Sunderland teams competing against Hull, Sheffield Wednesday and Middlesbrough
- National finals at English Institute of Sport with Newcastle and Sunderland sending representative teams for both boys and girls at U16s and Newcastle U18 boys. Competition was against teams from across the North including Manchester United, Aston Villa, Leicester and West Bromwich Albion.

The Premier League 4 Sport offers football clubs in the Premier League and Championship a chance to work with other sports in partnership with Basketball England, Sport England and the Football Association.

The goal is to try and get more 14+ boys and girls active across a range of sports which includes basketball. Similar to the Nothing But Net initiative the sessions are more about having fun with friends in a more relaxed environment and again looking at the 3 v 3 version of the game. Throughout the season players also get the chance to get tickets to watch their local football team. Those within the programme who want to move on to a more structured club environment are signposted to their local clubs.

The Newcastle Eagles Community Foundation are in a unique position to have 2 clubs to work with; Newcastle United and Sunderland AFC. In partnership with the

The Sunderland under 16 games did exceptionally well at the National Finals only losing out by one basket in the finals.

The Premier League 4 Sport Regional Awards were held at Hull City Football ground this year. Last year's under 16 girls National Winners representing Newcastle were nominated and won the Highly Commended Team Achievement with Newcastle Eagles Community Foundation's Club Development Manager, Susan Hunter, picking up the Unsung Hero Award.

SITES	WEEKLY PARTICIPATION
Boldon School	38
Gosforth Academy	66
Longbenton Community College	23
Sacred Heart Catholic High	47
St. Mary's Catholic School	36
Sunderland College	19
Whitburn Academy	69
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>298</b>



## Club Development

# Nothing But Net



Nothing but Net (NBN) is a Basketball England initiative to provide satellite clubs across the country. The NBN programme is for both boys and girls and due to Sport England funding is targeted at those 14+. Satellite clubs are a stepping stone to Hub Clubs and have a more relaxed feel to them.

If somebody feels intimidated going along to a basketball club for the first time the satellite clubs are a great place to start. In most cases the satellite club focuses more on the 3 v 3 game and involves lots of games and competition. The programme also involves a Streetball Challenge. Players are asked to log into YouTube and watch videos of streetballers demonstrating skills. They then go to their session and perform what they have been shown in order to win prizes. The Newcastle Eagles Community Foundation continued to deliver the NBN sessions at Emmanuel College and Thorp Academy this year.

For the second year in a row a national competition was held at the English Institute of Sport in Sheffield. This was a 3 v 3 competition and included teams from the Premier League 4 Sport programme. We had representation in both the boys and girls U16 category.



SCHOOL	PARTICIPANTS
Emmanuel College	36
Thorp Academy	21
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57</b>

## Club Development Project Hub



Project Hub went in to its 3rd year of delivery this season. This programme differs from the satellite clubs in that it is more focused on creating sustainable basketball clubs that offer weekly coaching sessions and the chance to play in the Community Foundation Junior Central Venue League. The Basketball Foundation secured a large grant from Sport England to support the delivery which targets 14+ boys and girls.

This years the Newcastle Eagles Community Foundation launched new sites at Hartlepool 6th Form College, St Benet Biscop Catholic High, Oxclose Community Academy and Monkwearmouth Academy.

A new basketball initiative Walking Basketball was also added to the programme. Walking Basketball is aimed at those who have either never played the game before, haven't played in a long time or are coming back from injury/surgery. Similar to the running game the only difference is simply you can't run! Most of the rules of the running game are incorporated and it is a great way to improve fitness levels no matter what age or ability you are. Prior to Christmas a number of the Newcastle Eagles Community Foundation community basketball clubs ran walking basketball tournaments with both parents and players taking to the court. Prior to a Newcastle Eagles game in January club parents and players come together to play in a tournament against each other.

New sessions are being explored as we look to incorporate more Walking Basketball into our programme.



2015-16 CLUB SITES	PARTICIPANTS
St. Cuthbert's Catholic High	28
Hartlepool 6th Form College	14
Newcastle College	57
Cramlington Learning Village	47
St. Benet Biscop Catholic High	25
Oxclose Community Academy	13
Monkwearmouth Academy	8
Benfield Walking Basketball	23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>215</b>



## Club Development

# Community Clubs



**With all of the satellite club delivery community clubs is the next level for those wanting to receive structured coaching sessions and the opportunity to compete against other teams.**

Each of the community clubs have to get to a level of sustainability which is achieved through weekly subs, annual memberships, fundraising and sponsorship. In most cases the community club is based at a school which is ideal for being able to recruit new players to the club. Each of the clubs are tasked with the goal of delivering U12s, U14s, U16s and U18s sessions.

This is dependent on how much facility time is available at the club and what stage the club is at. At each session the target is to have at least 20 players attending. This year has seen the introduction of some U10s session due to the launch of new school programmes aimed at this age group and also the demand from young children.

As mentioned the community club also provides a competitive outlet for players to play in. Each week players get the chance to play in the Eagles Central Venue League which is a development league. Being a development league means that players don't have to be of a certain level to play but that it is inclusive for all abilities. With the continued growth of community clubs and/or sessions this has resonated in a growth within the league.

Each community club has to have a minimum of one level 2 coach to run the sessions. In most cases each club has assistant coaches which are made up of players and parents. All clubs are giving the opportunity for players to gain their level 1 or level 2 coaching badge and also officiating qualifications.

Although all of the community clubs carry the Newcastle Eagles Community Foundation logo they are also giving autonomy to come up with a club name, club logo and colour of strips. Clubs that have been established for a number of years also have a parental committee who support the club with i.e. administration, fundraising, sponsorship opportunities.



## Competition Structure

# Central Venue League

The Newcastle Eagles Community Foundation Central Venue League (CVL) has now been running for 14 years this winter. It started with just one age group competing every week and since then has continued to grow to 4 age groups of U12s, U14s, U16s and U18s.

The league takes place at John Spence Community High School in North Shields with players as young as 6 competing through to 18 year olds. Once players reach the maximum age limit they are then transitioned through into the Tyne Met senior league and women's Durham League. It is planned that next season an U10 age group will be added to the programme.

The league is run on the day by a coordinator with a large pool of referees and table officials for each of the games. This year also saw the introduction of a referees mentor to help with the young officials coming through giving them practical advice on their officiating. The majority of the officials on the day are young and have either come through CVL themselves or are still competing in the older age groups.

This year 44 teams competed across the 2 central venue leagues from junior clubs across Tyne and Wear and Northumberland. The league is split into 2 so that any additional teams can join after the first league is finished. The 2 leagues run over a twelve - fourteen week block.

Each year the league constantly needs to recruit officials to ensure each game has the appropriate



levels of staffing. The foundation therefore has to run courses through the year so that newly qualified officials can replace those who leave the league to go on to university or full time employment.

This year the officiating staff included; Shaun Malone, Anthony Sampson, Claire Harper, Chris Linsley, Rees Cornwall, Joe Drady, Chris Applewhite, Paul Lynn, Reece Williams, Matthew Gray, Jess Weymes, Rafe Clark, Charlotte Clark, Penny Clark and Dan Kovacs. We are proud to say that 10 of these officials have themselves come through the Central Venue League as junior players. For the foundation it is great to see the young players taking on the officiating roles and watch them grow with confidence and experience.

Not only is the league heavily reliant on officials but also requires coaching staff to guide the teams through their games each week. The vast majority of the coaches on a Saturday are there in a voluntary capacity giving their free time back to basketball and the young players. The coaches that can be seen from the Eagles Community Foundation community clubs at the league week in and week out include:

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| • Corinne Vaughan | • Daniel Langley   |
| • Sam Roxborough  | • Dan Kovacs       |
| • James Anderson  | • Gavin Wright     |
| • Greg Falcus     | • Anthony Sampson  |
| • Ryan Lathbury   | • Chris Applewhite |
| • Lee Farrell     | • Alistair Langley |
| • Tom Usher       | • Shaun Malone.    |

Out of these coaches 10 have also come through the Eagles Community Foundation player pathway.







## Competition Structure

# CVL All Stars



Each year a Central Venue League Allstar Game takes place prior to a Newcastle Eagles home game at Sports Central. Coaches get to select a number of players from their team to become an Allstar. Similar to the format at the league teams compete in the Eagles team colours black or white at U12s, U14s, U16s and U18s. Each of the teams are made up of 12 players giving 96 players the chance to become an Allstar. A commemorative t-shirt is given to all of the players which they wear during the event. A demonstration game is then played during the half-time in front of the home crowd.

This year the top 2 U12 teams from the first Central Venue League were giving the opportunity to compete in the u12s Mini Basketball north competition at Leeds Beckett University. Representing the league this year was South Tyneside Basketball Club and North Shields Basketball Club. This was a great opportunity for players and coaches to see the level of under 12 players from around the north and get the experience of travelling on the road to games. Both clubs took with them supporters to cheer them on throughout the day.

## U12



## U14



## U16



## U18





## Competition Structure

# Veteran League

For the last 5 year the Eagles Community Foundation has provided the platform for men and women players to continue to display their skills and talents in friendly, competitive environment. Whilst the majority of teams hail from the Tynemet Local League all players are welcome to enter the league.

Promoting well-being and activity for the over-age athlete the league is a benchmark for all over-age sports enthusiasts. Players over the age of 35 are eligible to take part in the league which has seen a few former Newcastle Eagles players re-emerge.

The league has been a great success besides offering an alternative competition during the off season it has also provided an opportunity for the slightly older player to continue taking part in the sport.

## CASE STUDY

### NIALL CALVERT

Niall Calvert is a 17 year Old Volunteer Coach for the Eagles Community Foundation's Cramlington Vikings Basketball Club.

Niall is one of many volunteer coaches who have developed through the Eagles pathway of basketball. This starts with either the Hoops 4 Health programme in the Primary Schools, or taster/after school sessions.

This is where Niall started off then progressed through Secondary school basketball at Cramlington Learning Village, where he got to play at Lunchtime and after school sessions ran by the foundation. Also playing in the Northumberland Schools Leagues along the way.

After those first tasters of basketball in Primary school he joined the Cramlington Vikings Basketball Club, and started Playing for the U/12 team at the Eagles Central Venue league on Saturday mornings. Niall continued playing through the age groups up to U/18s where he is still playing today.

It was around two years ago Niall approached the Eagles Community Foundation about how keen he was to become a coach. He then put a lot of hard work in, giving up his free time to help the U/12s through to U-16s age groups at the Wednesday night sessions.

Recently Niall successfully completed his Level 2 coaching Award ran by The Eagles Community Foundation. It has been great to see a young person develop not only through



playing, but especially as a young coach who is helping other young people. Seeing Niall gain confidence over the years has been of great satisfaction to the Foundation coaches.

## Further Education Academies

# Gateshead College



The basketball academy at Gateshead College is fast growing into one of the most reputable in the country, for 16-19 year olds in further education.

In addition to a stellar reputation for academic delivery, rated 'outstanding' by OFSTED in 2015, the College also boasts a sports academy lead by International and professional standard coaches. The basketball academy is a particular example, being lead by Head Coach and the foundation's South Tyneside Development Officer Ian Macleod, who has a wealth of experience built up in his role as Assistant Coach of the Newcastle Eagles, and a 5 year stint as a coach within the England Junior national team programme.

Coach Macleod said; "I believe the programme and provision for development we are able to offer here is amongst the best in the country. The combination of individual development, off-court education and support, and on-court coaching coupled with the standard of academics, really sets us out from the others in the area."



Having coached at every level of the Eagles organisation, Ian is well placed to advise and direct the players of the future, as they undertake their own journeys. The players receive up to 8 hours of on-court coaching per week, in addition to weekly educational sessions targeted specifically at young basketball players. "We educate the players on how to become a great student-athlete, and all the tools necessary to become successful."

2016 has been a great year for the Academy. Not only did the team finish as the highest placed North East team in Basketball England's 'Academy Basketball League' (ABL) with a 5th place finish, but individually has seen two of the College's most promising players join Coach Macleod, and step up to train with the Eagles senior team, Aaron Wilson and Sean Murphy. Both players have come through the Eagles Community Foundation and School of Excellence programme and are ones to watch for the future once they complete their final year at College.

The academy's promising season in its inaugural year in the ABL is hoped to be a springboard as recruitment commences for 2016-17 places. The College hopes to attract not only the best students, but the most dedicated athletes to enroll on programmes ranging from Btech and A-levels, to foundation degree.





**GATESHEAD  
COLLEGE**  
EDUCATION  
WITH  
EMPLOYMENT  
EDGE



**WORK HARD.  
PLAY HARDER.**



## Further Education Academies

# TyneMet College



## North East Sports Academy at TyneMet College

The North East Sport Academy (NESA) Basketball Academy is committed to coaching players of all abilities in a welcoming, supportive environment that encourages confidence, performance and personal development.

The NESA basketball Academy is structured to support players at any level of the game. High level, expert coaching and competition experience are combined in a professional sports setting. Our longstanding partnership with Newcastle Eagles Basketball team enhances learning – encouraging performance, determination and team work, whilst enabling players to master their skills for success. The North East Sports Academy (NESA) is focused on developing young talent and sporting ambition alongside academic studies. Students can study any course at any campus site and enjoy the benefits of being part of NESA.

As a NESA Basketball Academy Athlete students benefit from:

- Subsidised training and playing kit
- Up to 10 hours of training and competitive matches each week in superb onsite purpose-built facilities.
- Individually tailored strength and conditioning programmes as well as use of our state-of-the-art sports science and testing lab and rehabilitation support
- Free unlimited access to the flex fitness gym
- Opportunity to gain basketball-specific coaching and officiating qualifications
- Plus many more.

The first team focused on creating elite level by playing as the College entered the Academy Basketball League (ABL) whilst the our second team which solely focused on developing Basketball at a partici-



pation level represented the College in the AOC Sport North East Division 1.

Tyne Met College Academy is run by Head Coach Shaun Malone as part of a dual role that he shares with the Eagles Community Foundation where he is Development Officer for the North Tyneside area. Shaun who is a previous student at Tyne Metropolitan College progressing from a level 2 qualification through to a Foundation Degree was also part of the Newcastle Eagles School of Excellence as well as the NESA Basketball Academy in its first year of existence under Coach Steutel. Shaun's personal experience of life as a student at Tyne Metropolitan College as well as his understanding of the importance of being a student athlete encourages him to work closely with curriculum staff to ensure that all of his NESA learners are most importantly achieving in their academic studies as well as progressing on the Basketball court.

This academic year has been a huge success on and off the court for all involved in the NESA Basketball Academy. The academy has seen many learners be progressing into higher education and apprenticeships both internally and externally where they will continue towards their chosen career ambitions as well as hopefully continuing their Basketball journey.



"As head coach I regularly receive positive feedback from curriculum staff across the College to tell me how my learners are transferring skills that they develop in my sessions into their academic lessons. Communication, confidence, motivation and team work are all examples that I encourage my learners to display throughout their learning experience".

Tyne Metropolitan College also represented the North East region at the AOC College Nationals Championships in May 2016 following qualification in the regional championships earlier in the academic calendar. This year's national championships were hosted by Tyne and Wear Sport in the North East region for the very first time, and gave our learners the opportunity to compete against the very best Colleges from across the country. Northumbria University the home of the Newcastle Eagles was the venue for the finals again adding to the learner experience accessed from being part of the NES

Basketball Academy. Head Coach Shaun Malone was also awarded the accolade of representing the North East region as the staff captain attending the opening ceremony to swear an oath of commitment to the role.

The competitive season came to an end with the annual North East Sports Academy Awards where learners from both our first and second were recognised for their successes on and off the court with award categories such as 'player of the year' and 'student athlete of the year' handed out to the successful nominee's. Fabulous Flournoy was in attendance to present the awards with former student and current Newcastle Eagles player Danny Horta-Darrington along with Team Northumbria WBBL player Rachael Bland being inducted into the NES hall of fame.





## Newcastle Eagles Academy

# School of Excellence

The School of Excellence is the elite junior program which plays its competitive games in the Basketball England National Junior League. The teams are selected in June at open trials from all Eagles junior development clubs that play within the Central Venue League.

### UNDER 14 BOYS

The Eagles decided to re-enter this age group for the first time in three seasons. The team was coached by Eddie Gilchrist who was in his first season as a head coach of a national league team. The team were a very young U14s team with half the players selected only at U13 age. The team played in the North East Development League and finished in 6th which was quite respectable considering the age and experience of the players.

	TEAM	W	L	PTS
1	York Eagles	13	3	42
2	Tees Valley Mohawks	13	3	42
3	Durham Wildcats	12	4	40
4	Bradford Dragons	11	5	38
5	Doncaster Danum Eagles	11	5	38
6	Newcastle Eagles	6	10	28
7	Sheffield Junior Sharks II	4	12	23
8	Derbyshire Arrows	2	14	20
9	Leeds Force II	0	16	16

**Most Valuable Player:** Sauver Kande  
**Most Improved Player:** Adam Routledge  
**Best Defensive Player:** Ben Proctor



### UNDER 16 BOYS

The team consisted of four players a year young but it was a team of experience as they had already played in national league competition the year prior. The team played in the North East development league and they had a very successful season by finishing runners up in the league and making it into the play offs.

	TEAM	W	L	PTS
1	York Eagles	16	0	48
2	Newcastle Eagles	14	2	44
3	Durham Wildcats	11	5	38
4	Sheffield Junior Sharks II	10	6	36
5	Leeds Tigers	6	10	28
6	Barnsley Leaders	6	10	28
7	Qe York Knights	4	9	18
8	Harrogate St Aidan's Spartans	2	13	18
9	Leeds Force	0	14	14

They finished on a twelve and two record with their only defeats coming to York Eagles by score lines of less than double digits. In the play offs they were drawn away to Oakland Wolves who had been unbeaten all season and the Eagles travelled without two of their usual starting five and only lost by twelve. Coach Aaron Thompson made the step up from assistant coach the season before to lead a team for his first time.

**Most Valuable Player:** Haris Ali  
**Most Improved Player:** Tosan Evbuomwan  
**Best Defensive Player:** Ben Spoors







## UNDER 18 WOMEN

The Under 18 women played in the Premier North league under head coach Corinne Vaughan who the previous season had been an assistant coach with the same team, she was assisted by Kendal Barclay who was involved in our program as a player two seasons ago. The ladies were again a very young team with only four players the correct age with six under 16s and one under 15 making up their eleven player team.

**Most Valuable Player:** Bethany Wilson

**Most Improved Player:** Emily Taylor

**Best Defensive Player:** Jess Ingles.

	TEAM	W	L	PTS
1	City Of Sheffield Hatters	15	1	46
2	Manchester Mystics	14	2	43
3	Nottingham Wildcats	11	5	38
4	Leeds Force	11	5	38
5	Team Birmingham Elite	8	8	31
6	Newcastle Eagles	4	12	24
7	Stockport Lapwings	4	12	24
8	Sporting Club Albion (West Bromwich)	3	13	22
9	Northamptonshire Titans	2	14	20





## UNDER 18 MEN

The team played in what is the toughest league in junior national league, the Premier North and they gave such a good account of themselves even though the league position would say differently. They were only beaten badly twice away from home by Leicester and Manchester, otherwise they were very competitive losing games by well under double digits. The team was a split of six seniors and six juniors within their twelve man team and they were sponsored by Specialist Panels headed by Rob Parkin.

	TEAM	W	L	PTS
1	Manchester Magic	20	2	62
2	Leicester Riders	17	5	56
3	Team Birmingham Elite	17	5	56
4	Derby Trailblazers	15	7	52
5	Northamptonshire Titans	13	9	48
6	Sheffield Junior Sharks	12	10	46
7	Leeds Allerton High School Force	10	10	40
8	City Of Birmingham	9	13	40
9	Newcastle Eagles	7	15	36
10	Derbyshire Arrows	7	15	35
11	Cheshire Wire	2	20	26
12	Sporting Club Albion (West Bromwich)	1	19	22

The team were coached by Graham Heath who is head of the program and acts as a mentor to the other coaches. He was assisted by Sam Roxborough for the fourth season.

The team went through two rounds of the national cup before they lost out to Myerscough College.

The award winners were;

**Most Valuable Player:** Alex Horta Darrington

**Most Improved Player:** Gabriel Evans

**Best Defensive Player:** Ilja Fjodorovs

Sponsored by:



**SPECIALIST PANELS UK LTD**

## END OF SEASON AWARDS

Across the whole School of Excellence two awards are presented, first Most Valuable Player and second the Rachel Rushton Award. Both awards are held in great esteem across the programme and are awarded to individuals who have gone above and beyond what is expected.

The winners of the awards were;

**School of Excellence Most Valuable Player**

Alex Horta-Darrington

**Rachel Rushton Award**

Emily Taylor



## Higher Education

# Northumbria University



### TEAM NORTHUMBRIA MEN

The Northumbria University and Newcastle Eagles partnership has existed for 16 years. The programme has grown from a men's Division 4 national league team to Men's Division 1 playing in the league just below the BBL.

The team combines National League with playing in the North Premier BUCS League (British Universities and Colleges Sport). The team won the BUCS league title before falling in the Championship game. The programme has also grown with a 2nd and 3rd BUCS team and a local league team.

The National League team had an all British roster and finished in 6th place making the play off final four. The team is coached by former player Marc Steutel.

**Head Coach:** Marc Steutel

**MVP:** Lewis Champion

	TEAM	W	L	PTS
1	Manchester Magic	23	3	46
2	Derby Trailblazers	19	7	38
3	Reading Rockets	19	7	38
4	Hemel Storm	18	8	36
5	Essex Leopards	16	10	32
6	Team Northumbria	16	10	32
7	London Lituania	16	10	32
8	Lancashire Spinners	16	10	32
9	Leicester Warriors	10	16	20
10	Worthing Thunder	10	16	20
11	Westminster Warriors	6	20	12
12	Bradford Dragons	6	20	12
13	Tees Valley Mohawks	4	22	8
14	Kent Crusaders	3	23	6



### TEAM NORTHUMBRIA WOMEN

Under 2nd year head coach Chris Bunten Northumbria Women were on the brink of a spectacular season falling just short until the final day of the season when they recorded a 75 - 68 victory at the O2 arena lifting the WBL Championship Playoff Trophy.

The team finished 2nd in the league and were able to scalp perennial power Sheffield 3 times during the season including an overtime victory in the semi finals to earn a place in the finals. The WBL league is in only its 2nd year and Northumbria were able to record their first piece of silverware in the league.

The Women's University 1st team lifted the BUCS Northern Premier League Title before coming up short and being knocked out in the semi finals. The programme also has a Women's 2nd team who finished 2nd in the league. The basketball teams recorded 236 points for the University an increase of 21 points over the previous season.

**Head Coach:** Chris Bunten

**MVP:** Abigail Asoro



	TEAM	W	L	PTS
1	Nottingham Wildcats	15	1	30
2	Team Northumbria	13	3	26
3	Westfield Health Sheffield Hatters	13	3	26
4	Barking Abbey Crusaders	8	8	16
5	Sevenoaks Suns	7	9	14
6	Leicester Riders	6	10	12
7	Cardiff Met Archers	5	11	10
8	Brixton Topcats	3	13	6
9	Manchester Mystics	2	14	4



## Wheelchair Basketball

# Percy Hedley Eagles



The Newcastle Eagles Percy Hedley Wheelchair Basketball Team play in the third division of the British Wheelchair Basketball League.

The team had great success this season recording a record of 12 wins and 2 losses topping the table before travelling south in the hopes of making it a successful end to the season in the playoffs.

The team took a 45 – 37 semi final win over Manchester Mavericks before facing Essex Outlaws in the finals. It proved to be too much for the Eagles as they went down 54 – 38. Although disappointed the team were enthusiastic about the silver medal and the incredible season. By winning the league the Eagles gained promotion and will be preparing for the new challenge ahead.

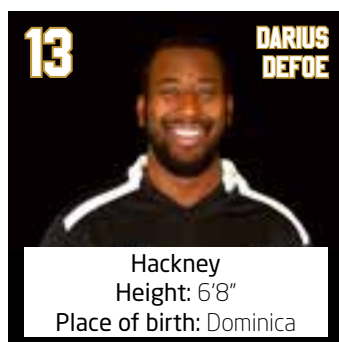
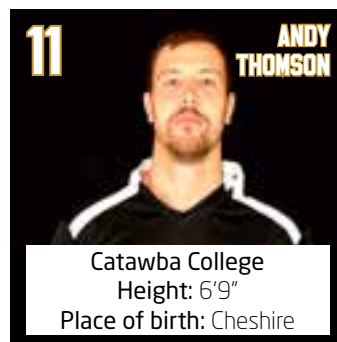
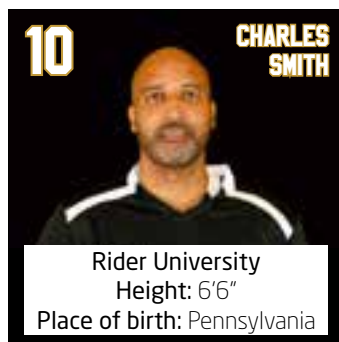
During the end of season presentation young player Brooke Mottram was recognised as Most Improved while Kathryn Easson received the Defensive Player award. It was Michael Lomax who received the Most Valuable Player for the team as he was a key contributor to the success the team has had on and off the court.

Two members of the team, Gareth Golightly and Michael Hutchinson, were also selected to represent the United Kingdom's Armed Forces in this year's Invictus Games in Florida.



## BBL Team

## Esh Group Eagles Newcastle





## BBL Team History

SEASON	DIV	POS	PLD	W	L	PTS	PLAY OFFS	TROPHY	CUP
1996-1997	BBL	7th	36	21	15	42	Quarter-final	1st Round	Semi-final
1997-1998	BBL	3rd	36	25	11	50	Quarter-final	Semi-final	4th Round
1998-1999	BBL	5th	36	21	15	42	Quarter-final	Quarter-final	Semi-final
1999-2000	BBL N	6th	36	10	26	10	DNQ	Quarter-final	1st Round
2000-2001	BBL N	3rd	36	20	16	40	1st Round	Runner-up	Quarter-final
2001-2002	BBL N	3rd	32	17	15	34	Quarter-final	Quarter-final	Quarter-final
2002-2003	BBL	5th	40	25	15	50	Semi-final	Semi-final	Quarter-final
2003-2004	BBL	6th	36	18	18	36	Quarter-final	1st Round	Quarter-final
2004-2005	BBL	2nd	40	31	9	62	Winners	Winners	Quarter-final
2005-2006	BBL	1st	40	30	10	60	Winners	Winners	Winners
2006-2007	BBL	3rd	36	25	11	50	Winners	Runner-up	Semi-final
2007-2008	BBL	1st	33	29	4	58	4th	Runner-up	Runner-up
2008-2009	BBL	1st	33	28	5	56	Winners	Winners	Runner-up
2009-2010	BBL	1st	36	31	5	62	Semi-final	Winners	Quarter-final
2010-2011	BBL	2nd	33	24	9	48	Semi-final	Semi Final	Semi Final
2011-2012	BBL	1st	30	23	7	46	Winners	Winners	Winners
2012-2013	BBL	2nd	33	25	8	50	Runner-up	Quarter Final	Runner-up
2013-2014	BBL	1st	33	28	5	56	Runner-up	Quarter Final	Runner-up
2014-2015	BBL	1st	36	31	5	58	Winners	Winners	Winners
2015-2016	BBL	2nd	33	28	5	56	1st Round	Runner-up	Winners

### BBL Cup Winners 2016





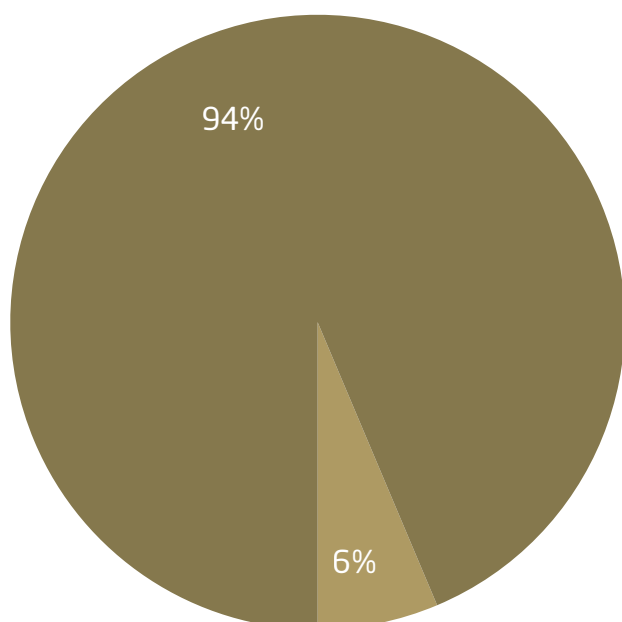
## Appendices

# Hoops4Health Pupil Questionnaire Results



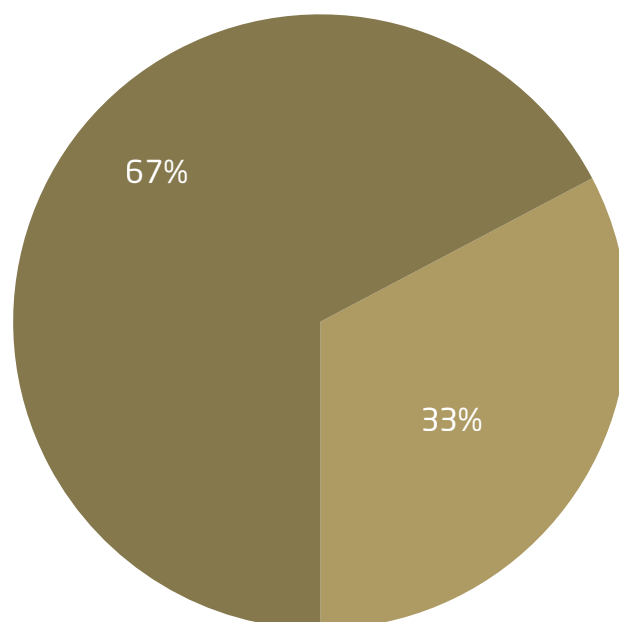
DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE?

● Yes ● No

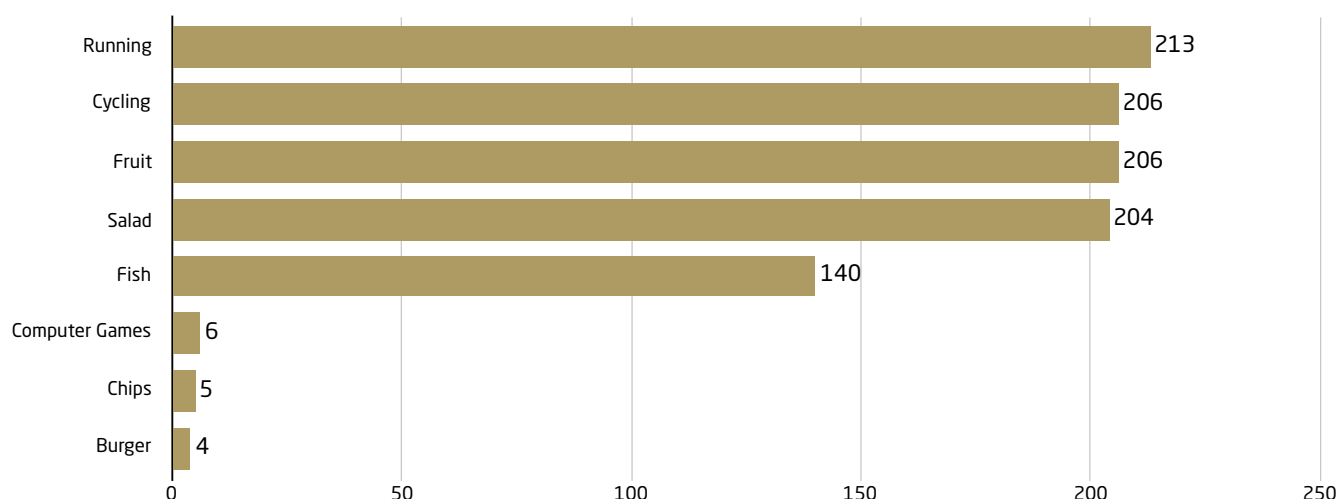


DO YOU EAT 5 PORTIONS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES EACH DAY?

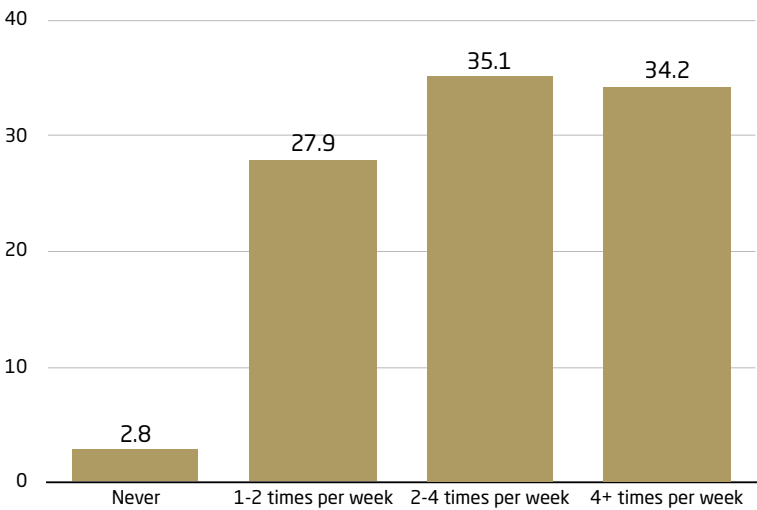
● Yes ● No



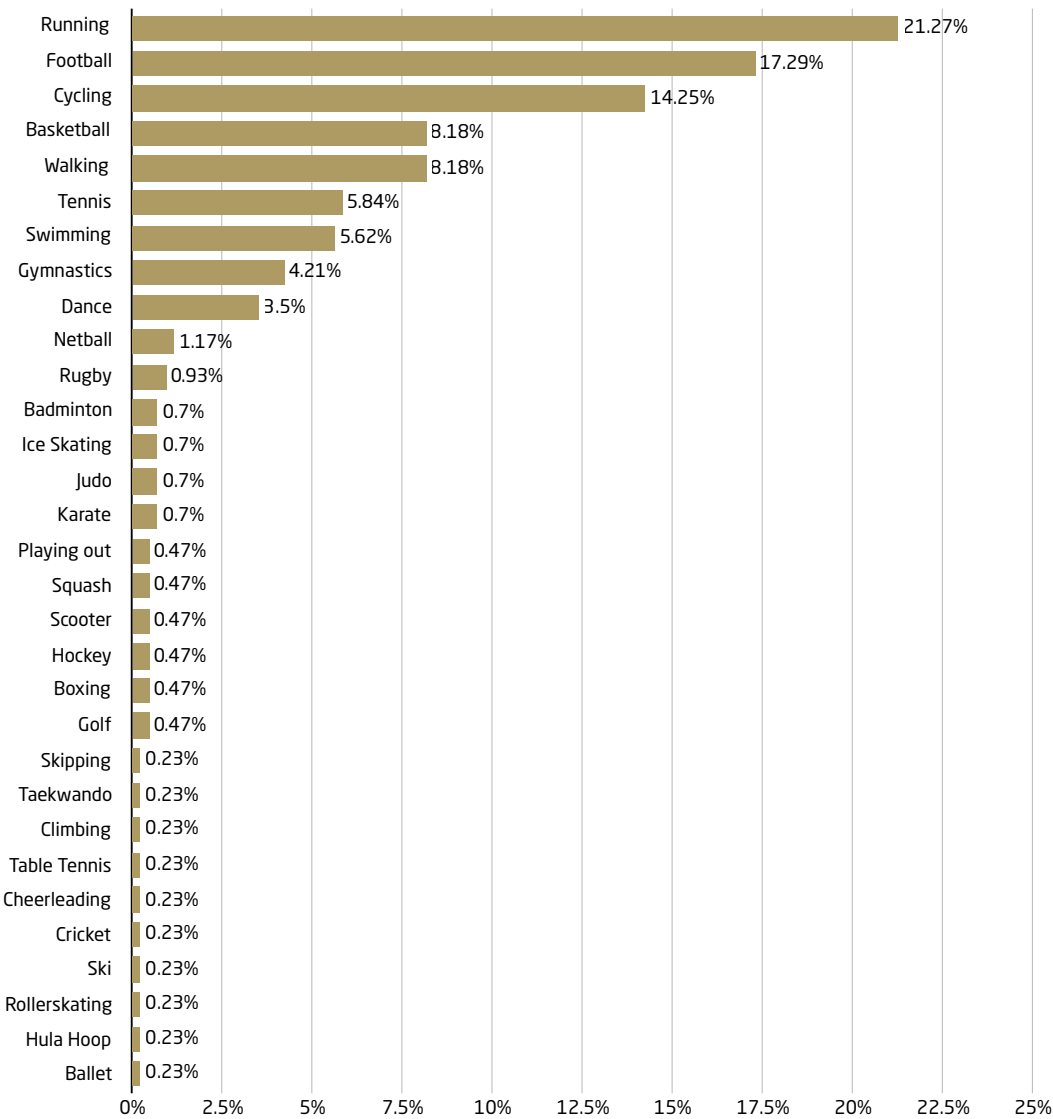
WHAT DO YOU THINK A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE INCLUDES?



HOW OFTEN DO YOU TAKE PART IN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL?



WHAT KIND OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY DO YOU DO?



## Appendices

# Hoops4Health Schools Feedback



**"Children has a fantastic day!"**

Wesgate Hill Primary School

**"St Bedes love Hoops4health"**

St Bedes (Newcaastle)

**"Builds confidence and keeps us healthy"**

Dan, Year 5 Pupil at St. Vincents

**"Areallyvaluablecommunityprogramme which motivated children and encouraged them to try a new sport"**

Stocksfield Avenue

**"We have attended this tournament since it began and it is one of the best in annual cuty, sporting calendar"**

Welbeck Primary School

**"The children thoroughly enjoyed the day and seemed motivated to take part in extra sports activities and health lifestyle choices"**

West Walker

**"Fun, Fun, Fun, Play to have fun"**

Byker Primary

**"The staff, children and parents have all commented on how good Drew was. Engaging with the children and they were fascinated by him. Thank you very much for arranging it!"**

Chillingham Road Primary School

**"Thank you for attending the our festival last Wednesday, we got some great feedback of you all interacting with the participants and really making their day. We want to say an extra thank you to Darius, Rahmon and Stu for staying extra and really engaging with the secondary school with the big game that got everyone involved."**

Percy Hedley School

**"Huge thanks to the players, the roadshow went really well and all our youngsters had a great afternoon!"**

Woodlawn School

**"Thank you so much for arranging for Drew to be with us last night. I hope he enjoyed the opportunity to see what has been going on in the schools and we really appreciate him being there to present the award for Excellence in Competition."**

Cramlington School Sport Partnership



## Appendices

# Press Coverage

Over the next few pages you can see a selection of the press coverage that the Eagles Community Foundation's work has received over the past year.

The Chronicle, The Journal and The Sunderland Echo have featured lots of our programmes in the last 12 months both in their newspapers and on their websites.

In addition to the press, BBC Look North and ITV Tyne Tees both reported on our activity in their evening news programmes.







# Pupils' court sessions will be real Education

PRIMARY schools in Northumbria are to benefit from a basketball programme sponsored by the Newcastle Eagles Community Foundation and the Education Network.

The sporting programme has been devised to support children and provide them with a healthy lifestyle, while also introducing them to basketball.

There will be a focus on the development of the children's physical, social and emotional skills. The programme will be delivered by the Newcastle Eagles Community Foundation and the Education Network.

## SCHOOLS BASKETBALL

The Education Network supporting local schools children.

The programme will support hundreds of children at Northumbria schools, offering them a healthy lifestyle while also introducing them to basketball.

The programme will be delivered by the Newcastle Eagles Community Foundation and the Education Network, which will make a real difference to the lives of hundreds of local pupils.

David Dukes, Partnership Manager at The Education Network, who has been working on the project, said: "I am delighted we have teamed up with one of the UK's leading basketball organisations to support primary school children in the region."

"Everyone is also fully embracing the programme and will also spend time with The Education Network learning about the programme they follow in playing basketball, happy staff and pupils."

As part of the sponsorship, The Education Network will also be sponsoring sporting equipment and kit worn by the pupils.



Primary school children taking part in the basketball programme.

## CHILDREN LEARN SKILLS FROM BASKETBALL'S DEFOE

# Hooping for a boost after star's support

By Fiona Thompson  
fiona.thompson@newcastleeagles.com  
Twitter: @fionathompson

Kids were given a masterclass on how to land themselves sports skills in a session led by the professional manager.

Players from the Newcastle Eagles spent a day with more than 200 young people from across Sunderland in a showcase of talent held at its university's City Space complex.

The event was set up by the Eagles Community Foundation, the registered charity linked with the basketball team, ahead of the squad's visit to Birmingham this Sunday, where it will take part in the BBL Cup Final.

Darius Defoe, a forward for the club, joined foundation staff as they aimed to inspire the "Stars of the future".

The year students were invited to the session as part of the Hoops4Health Schools Tournament, which takes place in each council area across Tyne and Wear and Northumbria.

The foundation's general manager, David L. Tozer-Hayes, said: "The all-day opportunity to play games in the indoor sports complex before progressing to the next stage where they will fight it out for the chance to become Sunderland Hoops4Health champions."

St Cuthbert's RC Primary, East Herrington and Sunderland High to the next stage where they will fight it out for the chance to become Sunderland Hoops4Health champions.

The games will take place at a Newcastle Eagles game in March with the finals taking place at the Eagles' home.

The Hoops4Health programme has always been well supported by the club, and Darius Defoe, a forward for the club, joined foundation staff as they aimed to inspire the "Stars of the future".

The year students were invited to the session as part of the Hoops4Health Schools Tournament, which takes place in each council area across Tyne and Wear and Northumbria.

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East Champion of Champions. The Hoops4Health days also see the students work with the players on healthy living choices, followed by coaching. The programme has been delivered for more than 10 years in Sunderland.

Children taking part in the project are encouraged to make healthy living choices and given the opportunity to continue participating in basketball at their nearest club. The club runs on Mondays from 5pm to 6pm.

Darius Defoe with Sunderland primary school children. The club runs on Mondays from 5pm to 6pm.

## CLASSROOTS SPORT

TWO-PAGE Grassroots Sport picture special on the annual Newcastle Eagles Central Venue League All-Star Game



# Court battles at Sport Central a Star attraction



The annual Newcastle Eagles Central Venue League All-Star Game was a huge success, with over 200 children taking part in the basketball tournament. The event was held at Sport Central and was a great opportunity for the children to showcase their skills and compete against other teams from across the region. The Newcastle Eagles Community Foundation was proud to support the event and provide the children with a healthy lifestyle while also introducing them to basketball.





## It's five out of five for Shields

### JUNIOR BASKETBALL

NORTH Shields continued their five out of five Division One of the Eagles Community Foundation Central Venetian League's Under-14 League.

They took their record to 5-0 with an excellent 25-36 win over Gosforth Phoenix.

Both Newcastle East Griffith sides, though, are just on their heels as they maintained their 100% records - although they are now game behind.

Griffith Black defeated STBC 21-27 but paid the price for it in Griffith Yellow, who secured an outstanding 100-18 victory over Worsington Hoopsters.

Pond One in Division Two of the Under-14 League is the tightest race.

However, North Shields Storm's 20-17 victory over Newcastle East Griffith Yellow may be significant.

Both sides are on 3-1 records but the win gives North Shields the lead in the league.

Pond Two is a little more clear-cut as although they were without a game Griffith Black have a 100% 2-0 record.

Cramlington Vikings moved into second place after seeing off Northern-beford rivals Morpeth Grifflins 20-14.

There was a good win for Gosforth Phoenix, 28-13 over Cramlington Monarchs - while Westgate Hoopsters saw off Ryeon Rovers by the same score.

Ketton Force are struggling away with Division Three of the Under-14 League and moved to 5-0 for the season with a convincing 34-7 smother over Gosforth Hawks.

Cramlington Vikings triumphed 22-16 against STBC.

Newcastle East Griffith moved to a 14-2 record against Morpeth Grifflins.

Worsington Hoopsters saw off Gosforth Phoenix 19-16 and in STBC's second fixture of the day they bounced back well to defeat Ryeon Rovers 22-4.

The big game in Division Four of the Under-14 League was leaders STBC against North Shields.

Shields had a 100% record going into the match but lost 8-6 to them over the water (16-6 as they went down 28-24).

## Shields make it three from three but Celtics are beaten

NORTH Shields used their way in Division One of the Under-14 League after an impressive 25-36 victory over STBC took them to a perfect 5-0 record.

North Shields made three points down on the water mark but their victory was secured by the margin of 100-18 against Worsington Hoopsters.

Griffith Black, who were 2-0 after a 25-36 win.

### CAIRNS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION CENTRAL VENETIAN BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Morpeth Kings just edged out Cramlington Vikings 22-21.

Griffith Black, who were 2-0 after a 25-36 win.

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## Shields, Phoenix fly high

### JUNIOR BASKETBALL

NORTH Shields and Gosforth Phoenix are off to flying starts with 2-0 in Division One of the Eagles Community Foundation Central Venetian League.

Shields landed in a 25-36 victory over Newcastle East Griffith Black while Gosforth Phoenix saw off Cramlington Vikings 21-20.

Griffith Yellow also got their season off to a spectacular winning start by beating STBC 100-18.

Worsington Hoopsters impressively defeated Morpeth Kings 26-20.

In Pond Black of Division Two of the Under-14 League, Newcastle East Griffith Yellow and Cramlington Vikings lead the way on 2-0 records.

In Pond White the same records have been achieved by North Shields Storm and Newcastle East Griffith Black.

The two pools in Division Three of the Under-14 League are wide open in the early stages.

Griffith Yellow have their leaders as yet as some have only played one game while others have played two.

Cramlington Vikings needed a 16-17 victory over STBC while Newcastle East Griffith Black were more convincing to accounting for Morpeth Kings 27-16.

Griffith Hawks had the better of Gosforth Phoenix 17-4 while Griffith Yellow were awarded a 20-8 victory over Ryeon Rovers.

In Division Four of the Under-14 League, STBC and North Shields were the winners.

STBC beat Gosforth Phoenix 20-8 while North Shields overcame Gosforth Hawks 19-2.

## Call-ups are Excellent boost for Eagles' pair

### JUNIOR BASKETBALL

Over the past 12 years, the Newcastle Eagles have been a part of a history of success in British basketball.

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Newcastle Eagles players from the Newcastle Eagles basketball team, including a coach and several players, standing together for a formal shot.

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## Shields and Yellow set for league title decider

### JUNIOR BASKETBALL

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# Close encounters of the winning kind for TN

TEAM Northumbria bagged a brace of victories as they hosted mid-season Bradford Dragons and title favourites Reading Rockets at Sport Central.

In a pair of close encounters, when Northumbria's side clinched both wins by a three-point margin to make a fine Division One side from its side season.

TN slipped off its weekend with an 80-63 thrashing over Bradford Dragons after conceding a 15-point deficit at the end of the third.

Stewart said: "We played a Bradford team at the end of the

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

table - they have not won a game - and yet we only won by 2000.

"It just shows how strong this league is when they are at the bottom and the game was still in close.

"It shows why basketball is all about what shows up on the day and it's not easy to be a."

Sunday's game followed much the same story as a poor first half performance cost TN losing the Rockets 41-31 at half-time.

However, Stewart was quick to take the blame and praise his team's second-half comeback as they won the thriller 75-73. He added: "I was shocked at this with the girls."

"In the first half we were not good enough and I include myself in that."

"I was disappointed in myself and that had a bit of a negative impact on the girls."

In previous games there have been a lot of factors but I take accountability for the first half.

at half-time and the girls were incredible in how they responded. I am so proud of them."

TN's victories put them level with the Rockets on 9-1 for the season.

Stewart, though, has vowed not to get carried away with title position and instead focus on upcoming fixtures.

He said: "To get two wins at home was very impressive."

"We have tough games come up against Derby, Trillicks and West Coast and we have to deal with those too."



■ TN's Dorothy Robertson, Picture: SUE WILSON

# Blake full of praise for work of coaches

## BASKETBALL

Thomas Mackintosh  
Sports writer  
Twitter: @T\_Mackintosh

NEWCASTLE Eagles' owner Paul Blake believes basketball is in good hands as he praised the efforts of coaches and players playing their trade in the North East.

Fab Fourstar's side are flying high at the top of the British Basketball League after recording a 95-86 win over title rivals Worcester Wolves on Friday night.

Yet in recent years the rise of Team Northumbria has been just as remarkable, the side beating the Bradford Dragons 86-83 on Saturday at Sport Central.

They followed that up with an impressive narrow 76-73 win over the Reading Rockets on Sunday night and Eagles managing director Blake praised the work head coach Marc Stewart is doing.

He said: "It was great to see the Eagles win last Friday night but Team Northumbria's win over the Reading Rockets was just as impressive and exciting."

"Reading are a solid team with strong aspirations of their own to join the BBL and to see Marc's team beat them on Sunday is just so promising for the sport and the development in the North East."

Team Northumbria are currently five wins from six in the English National League - the division below the BBL.

Blake insisted the positives from the partnership between the Eagles and the Northumbria University are starting to come through.

He added: "We are starting to build a bit more of a legacy, not just reflecting on our successes as a club in recent years but looking forward to the future."

"Through the work we have been able to do, we have built an unrivalled foundation for basketball here in the North East, and we want to see it continue."

The partnership does not just focus on working with young athletes but also encourages the development of coaches in the game.

Blake believes Team Northumbria coach Stewart has what it takes to go far in the game.

Stewart has been named EBL Coach of the Year twice and Blake admitted he could one day take over the reins at the Eagles.

He said: "I wouldn't rule out Marc becoming Eagles coach one day."

"However, I would say the same about the rest of the coaches we have in the set-up here. Both Dave Forrester and Ian Macleod are making great contributions to the Eagles as well as other clubs around the area."

# Bunten's girls cast spell on Mystics

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

CHIEF BUNTON was full of praise for what he called a 'brave' performance by Northumbria's girls as they secured a 71-60 win over the Mystics at home on Saturday.

The support side at Sport Central with a 71-60 win over the Reading Rockets on Saturday night.

Stewart said: "It was great to see the Eagles win last Friday night but Team Northumbria's win over the Reading Rockets was just as impressive and exciting."

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# Team North get selection spot on to see off Leopards

Close win after injured skipper Stewart is not risked

Griffins winging way to summit

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## TN's title chasers have double incentive to win

TEAM Northumbria can make up ground on the top flight's top four this weekend by winning back-to-back clashes against Bedford and Westsurrey.

Steve Strain's men travel to West Yorkshire on Saturday before heading to London (14.00 tip-off).

A win double will add momentum to a play-off push which gathered pace with victory against Harrow Royals last weekend.

### BEEN'S BASKETBALL

TN's Trophy commitments meant Strain's team had fallen behind in their bid to secure a top four place.

However, the club's overall win percentage is the third best in Division One and clinching victory in their games in hand will lock them in to an impressive campaign.

TN are off play-off rivals Harrow with an 84-71 victory - a

win inspired by charismatic captain Simon Strain and in-form guard Lewis Thompson.

Head coach Strain said: "I was really pleased with the overall performance and the final result against a good basketball side."

"It was an important win for us and we dominated most aspects of the game by taking 30 points into the half and also by limiting their chances."

"We had a great game plan against five of their young players and we were still able to execute the plays and big shots when we needed to."

A complete team performance saw skipper Strain score 18 while Thompson bagged a final tally of 24.

Strain added: "When Simon plays well he is impactful for us."

"Against Harrow we had confidence from everyone in the game which makes the result more pleasing."

**It's where Eagles care as aces pay visit to kids**

*Lin Strainman*

Community care visits the day programme when the Eagles' basketball players go to give and promote in the local area.

The teaming players arrived at the Harrogate Children's Hospital for the day and promptly set to work on the wards.

It was a day of much fun and games for the 'other' team, as the players spent time with the children and their families.

But it was the Eagles' players who were the stars of the day, as they played a basketball game with the children in the hospital's gym.

The game was a success, with the Eagles winning 20-10.

The players were all very happy to be able to spend time with the children and their families.

Head coach Steve Strain said: "It was a really good day for the team and the children. We were able to give back to the community and it was a great experience for everyone involved."

The players will be back in the hospital next week for another day of fun and games.

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## Appendices

# Annual Awards Dinner



This year's annual awards dinner was a celebration of the legacy that the club and our foundation have created in the North East.

Eagles players, coaches, fans, funders, sponsors and many of our amazing volunteers came together for a very special night at the end of another big season for the team and even bigger year for the foundation.

The evening gives us the opportunity to recap not just on the BBL season, but also all aspects of the Foundation including; Hoops4Health, Education Programmes, Wheelchair Basketball and the School of Excellence teams. This year the night began with a specially coreographed introduction presenting our 'Eagles of tomorrow' with representatives of every age group and discipline from across all levels of the player pathway dribbling their way through the guests up to the stage to welcome everyone showing just how much the foundation has grown.



Our annual dinner also gives us the chance to congratulate everyone for all their hard work across the past 12 months, their dedication and participation within the sport, and of course a massive thank you to our funders and sponsors as our success would not be possible without them.



**Eagles Players' Player of the Year Award**  
Rahmon Fletcher with Esh Group's Brian Manning



**Services to the Club and Foundation Award**  
Linda Williamson with ECF Chairman Paul Blake



**Highlights of 20 years of Newcastle Eagles**  
Head-coach Fab Flournoy talking to Howard Leighton



**Percy Hedley Eagles Wheelchair Basketball MVP**  
Michael Lomax (right) with head-coach Adam Parry



**Team Northumbria Men's MVP 2015-16**  
Lewis Champion with TN President Brogan O'Connor



**Special Edition of the Hoops4Health 'Clap Game'**  
Can our guests do the primary school age game?



**Marking 40 Years of the BBL Franchise**  
Former head-coach Dave Elderkin talking to Jeff King



**Live Music and Entertainment**  
After the awards we celebrated and partied til late



# Thanks for your support across 2015-16

