

# COACH MENTOR



## NAME

Abdoullah Kheir

## LOCATION

Surrey

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## ABOUT ME

With over 12 years of Grassroots football experience working in both boys and girls football, I'm fortunate enough to work in an array of fantastic clubs and work with coaches who show amazing care and attention.

I have been coaching girls (Youth) and women's senior level for 8 years; my current role is with AFC Wimbledon Girls as Head of Youth Football.

My role as a FA Coach Mentor began in 2018 and I have absolutely enjoyed working on the programme which enabled me to support Black & Asian coaches as well as female coaches in grassroots clubs.

I cannot wait to begin working on the programme again and provide a wider support network to the grassroots community and beyond.

*Ubuntu; Nelson Mandela*

# COACH MENTOR



NAME

Alessandro Cattini

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London

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ABOUT ME

I have been working in Football & Sport for approaching 14 years in numerous different capacities.

My experience ranges from working at Grasroots, Development Centres & Academy Football, as well as abroad in the USA and Europe.

I am delighted to have joined the FA Coach Mentoring team working particularly within D&I, where I welcome meeting and speaking with new coaches, as well as sharing experiences and expertise with a variety of coaches.

# COACH MENTOR



NAME

Bethany Smith

LOCATION

Gloucestershire

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With a PE and coaching educational background, I have previously been involved with the FA Mentoring Scheme for both Devon FA and Kent FA on both Wildcats and Club Improvement Programmes. Since the restart of the mentoring scheme, I am delighted to be covering Gloucestershire as the FA Mentor for the Women and Girls section.

I have been fortunate enough to work with young people in the Gloucestershire region in both an academy, educational and adult capacity for the last 6 years. This has involved delivering CPD, workshops and coaching regularly to create an effective, and positive, learning environment for all young people to be a part of.

I have aspirations to continue to involve myself within Coach Development Groups and encourage females to grow and be the best that they can be, along with signposting them to relevant and appropriate learning opportunities to aid their development and coaching philosophy.

I am looking forward to supporting and developing coaches in the Women and Girls section this coming season and within future opportunities.

# COACH MENTOR

## WOMEN & GIRLS



### NAME

Carly Farrell

### LOCATION

Sussex

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### ABOUT ME

I have been a foundation phase coach at a girls academy (RTC) for over 5 years now. My previous role at the FA was as a FA Skills Coach fulltime working in schools, grassroots clubs mentoring and growing participation in football on a wide range of projects. I have also been a mentor on a Premier League Project for a football club charity.

I played womens football for 13 years and have also worked coaching in football for over 15 years. I have previously worked for two other professional football clubs, Sussex Womens Rep Squad, FA player development centres as well as many volunteer roles too in grassroots clubs coaching girls, women & boys football. My other area of knowledge is physical education in primary schools and I have delivered FA CPD & Courses supporting teachers.

I have a love of developing others and seeing them grow whether it be a player or a coach. I am a huge advocate for giving back to the game that I love by supporting and developing other coaches especially female coaches. As a mum of two football mad boys plus juggling a career I understand the challenges many coaches face.

I am really enjoying being a Mentor and look forward to being able support and share experiences with many Female coaches in Sussex.

# COACH MENTOR

## Women and Girls



### NAME

Carly Williams

### LOCATION

Essex/London & SE

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### ABOUT ME

I have been coaching for over 6 years, with experience in both the boys and girls game from grassroots to the elite academy setting. I am currently on my UEFA B journey within the Hertfordshire County as part of the BAME and female bursary programme after initial delays due to COVID-19.

I have a different approach and presence to most, taking steps to represent the diverse nature of football that should feel welcome to all. As part of increasing visibility of female and BAME coaches within the game, I believe I have already inspired others to access football, given different opinions, approaches and brought my diverse background to my coaching style, I am excited to support other coaches on their own personal coaching journeys.

I am currently U14 Assistant Coach at a girl's academy, I have been at the club for almost 4 years in multiple roles within the foundation phase before this role. I also coach as part of an Elite Player Development programme, providing extra training and games to the school programme of talented girls and boys aged 11-16, including 9 academy players. I also coach as part of Basildon District, providing opportunities for local players to play competitive games against other districts across the South East.

I am a mum of two boys that also love football, have experience of mentoring as a Lead Radiographer within the NHS and a Science Teacher. I am adaptable, approachable, an effective team player and an articulate communicator with different ages, backgrounds and cultures in a professional manner. Ultimately, I love the game of football, it is not just a game, it is a method of learning and developing socially and psychologically as a coach and a player, which are just as important as knowing the technical, tactical and physical elements of the game.

# COACH MENTOR



NAME

**Danielle Warnes**

LOCATION

**Essex**

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## **Women and Girls Mentor.**

I have always had a passion and inner drive to support others and being able to combine this with a sport that I love has been the best!

During my time at university, I had the opportunity to support youth players in a variety of sessions from club football, to school P.E delivery, as well as to turn up and play sessions lead by local community organisations. These experiences were invaluable and allowed me to meet so many different people and more importantly learn so much from them in such different ways.

My focus then changed ever so slightly and I looked to support more off the field, in club development. Realising that I could do both (and that I missed being on the grass) I got back involved in coaching and led the county girls' sides (U14s) and a local women's side, complimenting my learning on the grass with becoming upskilled through the UEFA B.

Away from the pitch, I am the club manager for a Regional Talent Club (RTC) and work in a national role supporting grassroots club development.

I am very excited to be supporting female coaches in Essex this coming season.

# COACH MENTOR



## NAME

Ivan Kapitanski

## LOCATION

London

## CONTACT EMAIL

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## ABOUT ME

I am UEFA A Licence and in the process of completing the Advanced Youth Award expert who has cultivated an impressive portfolio of experience and achievements through roles in professional clubs, academies and grassroots football. Currently working at a Premier League club as an academy coach, an academy analyst and a video scout for a first team in Spain.

Committed to professional development through the attainment of a Master's degree in Football Coaching and Analysis, Bachelor's degree in Coaching for Performance in Football and has utilised the experience and knowledge gained with the studies to assist, support and further the development of individuals.

# COACH MENTOR



## NAME

Jonathan Simmons

## LOCATION

Berks & Bucks

## CONTACT EMAIL

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## ABOUT ME

I have been coaching with the 'L Plates on' (always learning, especially from others) for the last 17 years in local clubs and leagues across Berks and Bucks. I have been involved with a wide variety of players and teams from Soccer schools, U7's to U18's and Allied Counties in youth (boys and girls), men's and women's game.

I have coached players of all ages and backgrounds to realise and maximise their potential in an environment that allows for fun, safety, self-expression, the opportunity to solve problems and think for themselves. I actively take coaching sessions regularly with players and mentor coaches on best practice in my local club. "Enjoy and Improve" is my coaching philosophy.

I was fortunate enough to join the previous FA Coach Mentor Programme in 2014, for six wonderful seasons, and during that time, as part of the role, I worked with the Wildcats programme, Berkshire Girls Development League and several Women's & Girls teams and coaches.

I am looking forward to the further opportunity for giveback, development, mentoring best practices and to be able positively affect progression & development of W&G coaches, projects, and the game over the coming seasons.

# COACH MENTOR



## NAME

Kyri Zavros

## LOCATION

Hertfordshire/North London

## CONTACT EMAIL

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## ABOUT ME

I have been coaching for 10+ years at various levels in the game, from grassroots to senior non-league football and academy level at professional football clubs.

Along with my role with The FA, I am a lead academy coach at Leyton Orient Football Club, and also coach at Jack Wilshere's NCF Elites.

I have experience of designing and implementing training syllabus' and coaching frameworks.

I also have experience as a PE teacher, having previously worked with both primary and secondary pupils with SEMH (Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs) and SEN (Special Educational Needs).

# COACH MENTOR



## NAME

Liton Zaman

## LOCATION

London

## CONTACT EMAIL

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## ABOUT ME

A dynamic & highly effective Coach with over ten years' experience working at a Premier League football club. With a track record of implementing technical & tactical coaching programs to a variety of age groups, with currently 10 players signing professional.

Skilled to manage, develop and mentor elite football talent working at FDP, YDP phases, which includes reviewing and evaluating individuals to deliver the football objectives. With a vast experience in coaching at senior level from u21s at Al Ahli in Dubai UAE to qualifying for the CONIFA World Cup 2020 with Panjab FA 1st team.

Alongside a successful coaching journey, over 450 hours of delivering coaching clinics internationally from Europe, Canada, North America, Asia & Australia has been earned over the years.

# COACH MENTOR



NAME

Luis Melville

LOCATION

Oxfordshire

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## Futsal Coach Mentor

I have been involved in futsal since 2004.

This journey has taken me from the 'Introductory to futsal' qualification to attaining the UEFA B Futsal Diploma.

My experiences have included being a FA Futsal Tutor/Mentor, working within the England U19 futsal programme as well as spending 13 years at Brentford FC Community Sports Trust as a Community Development Manager.

Other futsal coaching/CPD opportunities have taken me to France, Ireland, Holland, Croatia, Spain and Jersey

Currently, I am head coach of St Mary's University Women's Futsal who are competing in the BUCS Premier Division and Brunel Pro Men's Futsal, playing in the LNFS England South plus I am working with several school's on futsal projects.

Previously, I was in the FA mentoring programme supporting coaches from Level 1 to UEFA B and am really looking forward to meeting coaches who want to develop their futsal knowledge, player relationships and help to build futsal in England as we recover from the pandemic.

# COACH MENTOR

## SOUTH REGION



### NAME

Matthew Maguire

### LOCATION

London

### CONTACT EMAIL

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### ABOUT ME

Hi!

My name is Matthew – I'm currently working as the national sports manager at Mencap, a nationwide charity working to improve the lives of people with a learning disability. I work across many different sports and have seen such a great range of initiatives and programmes designed to improve participation opportunities for disabled people, and it's great to be involved in supporting people to get into coaching and leadership roles within sport.

Despite largely being a rugby player, I have worked for a couple of professional football club foundations, largely as a community coach and in disability specific roles. I also coach a group of springboard divers in my spare time. I'm really passionate about improving the quality and confidence of coaches and increasing opportunities for more people to become coaches and have better opportunities across football – either professionally or within the grassroots game.

I think the coach mentor scheme is fantastic – and am really interested in seeing the impact, and urging other sports to do similar to ensure their sport is as inclusive as possible for people to enjoy, in whatever capacity they may want to.

Cheers!

# COACH MENTOR



## NAME

Neal Akhtar

## LOCATION

Essex

## CONTACT EMAIL

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## ABOUT ME

I am a UEFA B qualified coach with over 14 years of experience of coaching football and multi-sport activities. I have worked across age groups from 5yrs to First Team level football.

I have had a long journey in grassroots football and now head up Frenford FC's youth and community football programme, a club based in the London Borough of Redbridge.

I am passionate about the development of other grassroots clubs, coaches and the opportunities they can provide to their local communities, especially with historically underrepresented communities within the game.

I am a member of the Essex FA's Inclusive Advisory Group and have a strong desire to help ensure that football really is "For All"

# COACH MENTOR

## SOUTH REGION



NAME

Nikola STRIZOVIC

LOCATION

Essex

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ABOUT ME

I have been coaching football for nearly 20 years; being involved in coaching within the grassroots game, through the player development centre and the elite environments.

I enjoy all aspects of the football coaching menu, be that goalkeeper specific or outfield, having coached within the women's and men's game in each roles.

Whilst also coaching within the game (see below) i have been fortunate to have been an FA coach mentor for over 6 years (inc Wildcats coach tutoring), an FA Level one and two tutor and in recent times an insights player talent Identification reporter for the Womens National Team; The LIONESSES.

I am currently head coach for FAWNLSide Kent Football United who play in the FAWNLSouth East Div 1, where i have been these last two years; the seven years prior at Tottenham Hotspur Women where i coached a number of teams through the youth section through to the development team; also holding the role as temporary academy manager when the club applied for and successfully gained its WSL status.

I have a number of football coaching qualifications including but not exclusively:  
Football Coaching – Level 1; Level 2 and Level 3 (incl the Youth Award).  
Goalkeeping Level 1 and Level 2.  
L3 FA Education.  
Football Opposition and Talent ID.



# COACH MENTOR



## NAME

Pam Chandler

## LOCATION

Sussex

## CONTACT EMAIL

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## ABOUT ME

I have worked with number of grassroots football clubs and their community trusts, over the last 17 years, later becoming an FA Coach Mentor in 2014 and Affiliate Tutor. I have also guest lectured at several universities on the Principles of Inclusive Sports Coaching, Adapted Physical Activity, Sport and Disability and Contemporary Issues in Disability Sports Coaching and PE and contributed to a number of academic conferences.

I have been a member of Sussex County FA Inclusion and Advisory group since 2016, supporting the advancement of opportunity for all groups by fostering a good relationship with the local community so that football can be used as a vehicle to create positive sporting opportunities and increase participation for all.

My interests are developing Disability and Women and Girls' football, as well as anyone working with under-represented groups, who wish to further develop their skills and knowledge and to form relationships with football's key stakeholders. I strongly believe that female coaches and coaches with a disability should not be restricted to coaching female or disability football and want to encourage a more integrated approach.

I am grateful for the opportunity to be able to Mentor within the disability game and look forward supporting and developing coaches this coming season.

# COACH MENTOR

## SOUTH REGION



### NAME

Pete Vallance

### LOCATION

South West (Futsal Coach Mentor)

### CONTACT EMAIL

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### ABOUT ME

I am a HE Lecturer in Sport & Exercise at Coventry University. My former roles within the FA include England U19's / 21's Performance Coach. Currently I am working as a FA Coach Educator & Coach Mentor, specialising in supporting Futsal coaches in the South West. I have international experience of playing and coaching within the FA England performance programme. During my time as an England Futsal International I represented England holding 22 caps. I hold a Masters' degree in Professional Practice In Sports Coaching with Distinction. I am passionate about developing creative coaches that create and maintain a high-performance culture and helping Futsal coaches grow the game of Futsal within their academies and clubs.

I am also an experienced teacher of Physical Education across Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 4, having worked in education for 11 years at both Primary and Secondary level, including management experience as Head of PE and Head of Year, I am also a contributor to the UK Coaching Applied research journals and enjoy researching around the topics of Coach Development and Reflective Practice.

I have been greatly enjoying being a Mentor so far and hope to support many coaches in the South West developing Futsal wherever they can.

# COACH MENTOR



## NAME

Robert Dillon

## LOCATION

Hackney, London

## CONTACT EMAIL

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## ABOUT ME

I have been coaching for the last 15 years within the grass roots game and can be found watching or coaching at Hackney marshes & Market road most Friday evenings and Saturday mornings.

I am the assistant manager of the Haringey borough FC U23, a role I have held for the last 4 seasons as well as doing some work with our 1<sup>st</sup> team when time allows.

I have a passion for sharing knowledge and watching young coaches grow hence my role as a FA mentor over the last 3 years has been very enjoyable and rewarding, I have been supporting Arsenal in the community, Stoke Newington youth FC to name just a few.

My most used phrase has to be : HE SPOKE BUT DID NOT SAY ANYTHING, for me it's all in the detail.

# COACH MENTOR



## NAME

Rudy Geohagen

## LOCATION

London, Middlesex

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## ABOUT ME

I have been involved in coaching since 1991 and coached at various levels of grassroots football. I have been a fa coach mentor since 2013. I work in social housing repairs as a contract supervisor managing both in-house staff and contractors. I was a member of the IAG at the AFA.

During the 2013/14 season, I was asked if I would be interested in applying to become an FA Coach Mentor. Little did I know this would be the start of a magnificent journey of learning and development, that would help me grow as a person and inspire a new direction in my coaching life.

As a young coach, I never had a mentor to help guide me during coaching. So listening to other coaches like Jimmy Armfield, David Pleat and coaches from other sports on the radio became my source of information to help me understand the game and coaching on a deeper level.

I have found supporting my mentees and giving something back to the grassroots coaching very fulfilling. It has also prompted me to continue to develop my knowledge so that I can provide even better support to them.

Being a mentor has not come without its challenges but would encourage those who are thinking about mentoring to get involved and become part of the change. As mentors we are not just making better coaches but looking to make coaches better mentors.

**“if you light someone’s lantern, it will also brighten your path.” Nichiren**



# COACH MENTOR



## NAME

Yas Latif

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Middlesex/London

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## ABOUT ME

A passionate and innovative individual with over 10 years experience in athlete and coach development in and out of elite environments including premier league and football league academies. Throughout my journey, I have directed, been mentored and have integrated myself in a range of multi-disciplinary structures and been acknowledged as being dedicated and having an insatiable desire for personal and professional development.

In turn I have undertaken a series of qualifications and training programmes which have aided me in developing an in depth understanding of athlete and talent development across the long term development model. My experiences and have supported me in fostering an excellent eye for detail. As a result, I work excellently under pressure with tenacity and flexibility in my practice especially when working with limited resources and/or varying individual competencies to meet relevant targets and provide bespoke needs centred support for the athletes and coaches I work with.

Alongside a varied coaching journey, I have also founded 'The Coaches Network', a platform aimed at bringing together people from across the world of athlete, talent and personal development through mediums such as podcast's and CDP workshops, including collaborations with the likes NBA Legend Shaquille O'Neal to former England and Arsenal stars Sol Campbell & Jack Wilshere just to name a few.