Dr Rachel Sandford is a Senior Lecturer in Young People and Sport in the School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences at Loughborough University, England. Rachel’s research interests centre on young people’s experiences of, attitudes towards and participation in physical education, physical activity and youth sport. More specifically, they include a focus on issues relating to: youth voice; positive youth development; youth identity formation, embodiment and physical culture. Her work has often focused on marginalised youth and her most recent research has examined the sport/physical activity experiences of care experienced young people.

Dr. Oliver Hooper is a Research Associate within the School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences at Loughborough University, having graduated with a PhD from the same institution in 2018. Oliver’s research explores young people’s experiences within physical education, health and youth sport contexts with a specific focus on the experiences of marginalised youth. He is particularly interested in ‘youth voice’ and the use of participatory methods to facilitate young people’s meaningful involvement within research. Oliver has published various articles, papers and book chapters in these areas and routinely attends international conferences to present on this work. He is a convenor for the Sport Pedagogy Network of the European Educational Research Association and sits on the Editorial Board of the Sport, Education and Society journal.

Within BERA, Oliver fulfils several roles including acting as one of the Early Career Researcher (ECR) Network’s convenors, being a member of Engagement Committee and a member of Council, having been elected in 2018 as an ECR representative. Oliver’s multiple roles within BERA mean that he is involved in a range of activities from organising events and judging awards through to advocating for early career researchers at a strategic level.