

Case Study (2014/15)

Gateshead School Sport Partnership



Level 1 Sainsbury's School Games Day
Highfield Community Primary School
Deborah Doherty & Dan Irving (Team PE)

MEETING THE CHALLENGE

WHAT WERE YOU TRYING TO ACHIEVE?

For a significant period of time the school has tracked the involvement of pupils in sporting activities across the school year. This data is analysed by the PE subject leader and used to complete annual sports surveys. An area that was identified as needing to be addressed was allowing more pupils to engage in school sport outside the curriculum. The PE subject leader and senior leadership team were confident that high quality school sport was being delivered in curriculum lessons and wanted to extend this.

At the beginning of the academic year, the PE subject leaders alongside the Head teacher set challenging targets of engaging the majority of pupils in extra curricular sporting opportunities across the school year. An action plan was drawn up and this was fed into the School Improvement Plan.

WHAT ACTIONS WERE TAKEN?

We looked at what made our intra-school competition format successful. The children were involved from the start, making decisions about the events and activities they wanted to be involved in, leading events, supporting their peers and feeling proud of their achievements and successes. The whole school felt the impact of these sessions and the positive effect that they had on the pupils. We needed this ethos to run into our Sainsbury's School Games Day.

The School Sport's Crew held a meeting to discuss the format of the day and bounce ideas about how it should be organised. They put a date in the diary and shared this with the Head teacher and the rest of the staff. The date was advertised in a count down on the Sainsbury's School Sport display board.

Once the events had been decided upon, a timetable was drawn up to clearly organise the running of the event involving as many pupils as possible in sporting activity across the day. All staff were allocated roles throughout the day, being given an opportunity to work with pupils in other year groups.

The next step was to raise the profile of the event across the whole school. The first focus for this was to look at the opening ceremony. The School Sport's Crew spoke to the Head teacher about giving an opening speech at the beginning of the day and also to each of the classes to think about contributing to the ceremony. The pupils in Year 1/2 offered to perform a dragon dance linked to their Creative Curriculum work, the Year 3/4 pupils performed a gymnastic routine from their PE lessons and the Year 5/6 pupils performed the Haka dance from their work on Rugby across the academic year. Once again this created a feeling of celebrating the good work that had been going on in school across the year.

Following this we discussed involving other agencies in our day. We have built up very strong links with a local dance group and also Newcastle Thunder rugby team. We sent out a few e-mails to key people who were more than happy to contribute. The dance teacher led a whole school warm up based around Zumba and Newcastle Thunder sent two of their players along to run the TAG Rugby sessions in the afternoon. We also involved our SSCO, she came and delivered sessions across the day. We added in a healthy school theme, a chef from Cooking 4 Life came along and provided the children with healthy snacks and smoothies produced on his bike.

All staff were on board with this and Sports Leaders from our school ensured that the day ran smoothly. The organisation of this event was a culmination and celebration of the outstanding work that has been carried out in our school in relation to intra-school competition across the year.

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WHAT DIFFERENCE HAS THIS MADE?

WHAT WAS THE IMPACT?

I think that everybody involved in this event would agree that it is the most successful whole school event that we have organised. It has been a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the hard work that has been put into PE and school sport across this academic year. It has given us the chance to reflect on the journey that the children have been on. They opportunities that they have had all year, culminating in this event, have allowed them to develop in all areas.

This event has been the crowning glory on a year of successful school sport which has seen outstanding teamwork and sportsmanship from all pupils.

HOW HAS THIS BENEFITED PUPILS?

The School Sports Crew have been key in the leadership of this day and we have seen them confidently organise and deliver high quality, competitive PE to children of all ages in the school.

The other pupils in the school look up to these pupils and hopefully aspire to be a sport leader themselves when the opportunity is there.

On the day itself, every child in school was involved and completed a full day of physical activity accomplishing many personal achievements. They competed confidently and most importantly all had fun!

WHY DID IT WORK?

CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

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TOP TIPS

- Involve everybody in raising the profile of the event and ensuring that it runs smoothly on the day and try to include school leaders in delivering the activities.
- Promote the event in the lead up to it so that children are enthusiastic about the event
- Make it all about celebrating the achievements of every pupil across the school year.

HEAD TEACHER COMMENT

"Our current school provision begins at 8am and finishes at 5pm, with a wide variety of extra-curricular activities every day. The fact that we are utilising lunchtimes and breakfast club ensures that we offer flexibility to cater for as many children as possible. Our extra-curricular timetable is tackling not just a major health priority of ours, but nationwide: maintaining

The Sainsbury's School Games Day was truly inspirational. The event was meticulously organised by Mrs Doherty (PE coordinator) and Mr Irving (HLTA). This wouldn't have been possible without the support of our School Sports Crew! They approached the event with a very mature outlook and their ideas were excellent. This really was a whole school event and the quality of the events during the day were exceptional, my favourite being the Year 5/6 performing the Haka dance.

Steve Thompson (Head Teacher)

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