

Appendix 11: Curriculum Statement for Physical Education

The school believes that physical activity experienced in a safe and supportive environment makes a vital contribution to a pupil's physical, social, intellectual and emotional development. Physical activity provides opportunities for pupils to be competitive, creative and to face up to different challenges as individuals, in groups and in teams.

The physical activity programme aims to provide all pupils, irrespective of age, gender or ability, with a positive self-image through an ability to manage themselves within this context and to promote a positive attitude towards active and healthy lifestyles.

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

We recognise the children's right to a broad, balanced, relevant and challenging curriculum, appropriate to their individual abilities, talents and personal qualities.

Organisation of the curriculum

- There are specific periods each week for each class timetabled in the school hall, playing field or Merchant Taylor site devoted to physical education.
- During the second half of the Summer Term every full time pupil has a daily swimming lesson in the school swimming pool on site.
- Each Year 5 and Year 6 pupil has the opportunity to take part in two School Journeys whilst at Ashwell School and some of the activities on these will be outdoor adventurous activities.
- The school holds an annual Sports Day for all pupils.
- Curriculum delivery is provided by both class teachers and outside specialist providers.
- Inter school matches are played against other schools.

Careful adherence is given to the Programme of Study as laid down in the 2014 National Curriculum. Within this framework there are different emphases on skills and activities (i.e. games, swimming etc.) for each key stage.

Planning

The development and progression of pupils' skills and attitudes and the provision of a progressive and varied curriculum is achieved through the use of a range of teacher resources, e.g. Top Sport, Val Sabin

A modular approach to planning is taken, where activities are planned and taught in half-termly blocks.

In order to allow for the matching of activities to the ability levels of the children, careful thought is given to provide opportunities for open-ended activity and games to allow the children to develop skills at their own level.

Curriculum maps are written as part of the Curriculum Overview at the beginning of each year.

Out-of-School Hours Learning

A range of out-of school clubs is offered to pupils by both members of staff and outside specialist providers throughout the year. These clubs run for a minimum of half a term and normally for longer. After school swimming is run by parents for nursery and pre-school children in the second half of the summer term.

Resources

There is a collection of teachers' resources in the staffroom to aid planning.

Large and small apparatus is stored in the big hall and in a P.E. shed at the side of the new block so as to be easily accessible to staff and children. All shelves are labelled and it is the responsibility of each member of staff to ensure that equipment is tidied away after each session. Further apparatus is stored at the Merchant Taylor site for use there. This should be securely locked away, in the shed provided, at the end of each session.

Pupils have access to designated playtime equipment which is kept in each classroom. They should not take any other P.E. resources unless given permission by a class teacher.

There is bag of equipment and resources for the Year 5 Play Leaders which is kept separate from other P.E. resources.

Health and Safety

For a comprehensive guide in providing for a safe environment in which the children work the document 'Safe Practice in Physical Education' (BAALPE) should be referred to. The primary considerations for health and safety of children during PE are:

- Pupils should always know what is expected of them and these expectations should be tailored to fit the children's abilities and experience. Particular care should be taken in planning activity for those children who suffer from disabilities or behavioural problems.
- Children should have appropriate kit for PE. This should include a change of clothing (shorts and T-shirt / leotard) and long trousers, jumper and plimsolls or light training shoes for outdoor work. Indoor activity should always be in bare feet (some discretion can be used with younger children during floor work). Watches and all jewellery including earrings should be removed. Spare PE kit is held in some classrooms.
- In the event of an accident the procedures laid down by the school should be followed.
- Firm discipline should be maintained. A calm, quiet, though not necessarily silent, working and learning atmosphere is encouraged.

Gym and Games

Chasing games using large apparatus should be avoided at all times (e.g. 'Pirates').

Tidiness in storing apparatus and clothing should be fostered.

Apparatus should be assembled and dismantled systematically, should be adequately spaced out and adjusted to meet the needs and abilities of the children.

A healthy attitude to competition should be fostered, and a firm and fair interpretation of the rules used to discourage dangerous play and excessive competitiveness.

Children will be taught how to manage and use apparatus safely and effectively.

The apparatus is inspected on an annual basis.

Swimming

See Normal Operating Procedure for the Learner Pool, issued each summer.

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