

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY – ‘Our school has put initiatives in place during break times to encourage less active children to exercise more’

We have put various initiatives in place at school for this:

1. We have delegated Playground Leaders from 6th class to lead activities with the younger classes two lunchtimes per week.
2. We introduced a 'Game of the Week' (November 2017).
3. We do warm up exercises in our lines every morning before classes begin (September 2017).
4. Our supervising yard teachers promote 'Do your talking as you're walking' during break-times.
5. We painted new yard markings using the playground markings stencils from the HSE and with the help of the Parents' Association
6. We invested in yard equipment. The ASF committee are responsible for organising distribution and collection.
7. We introduced music in the yard every Friday lunch time. (January 2017)

School Website

Text and photographic evidence of all of the aforementioned ACTIVE PLAYGROUND initiatives

Screening Comment

Very clear that this school has focussed on break times and throughout the course of the year introduced new and varied initiatives to increase activity levels

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Pupils use playground markings, basketball courts, dance area, and the field when it is accessible. Pupils who don't take part in these are encouraged to walk around the school.

Screening Comment

Not clear that this school has focussed on finding new ways to get less active children active during break times. ‘Encourage’ suggests a supervising teacher asking kids to move...which could be helpful but it’s not an initiative.

The screening committee are looking for tangible and specific initiatives which demonstrate that your school has focussed on finding new ways to encourage less active children to become more active during break times. This type of submission would be sent back to the school by the screening committee with a Request for Further Development.

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Our school has many resources out in the yard at all break times to appeal to varying levels of activity among the children- basketballs & nets, footballs, skipping ropes, Giant Jenga, Giant Connect 4, hopscotch, Snakes & Ladders, 100 square, number snake, hula hoops.

Screening Comment

This section needs to provide the screening committee with evidence that your school has discussed, planned and implemented new and varied ways to energise the playground for more children, in particular, less active children.

It is not clear from the above information whether or not these resources were in use prior to ASF application. If the equipment was available to pupils before the ASF process began then the school hasn't implemented any new initiatives to attract the interest of less active children. The answer lists resources but lacks detail in terms of when and how children can access this equipment. A greater variety of initiatives expected over the course of the year.