

PHYSICAL EDUCATION - 'Our school prioritises a different PE strand for further development each year'

Outdoor and Adventure Strand:

Arising out of the self-evaluation process our school decided to prioritise the 'Outdoor and Adventure' PE strand for further development this year.

We decided to change to a standardised timetable for PE this year in order to strengthen our PE programme and to make sure that a more balanced amount of time was allocated to each area. We earmarked 6 weeks after Easter to teach the outdoor and adventure strand. The coordinator and teacher X, with the help of the school secretary, photocopied a school set of PSSI lesson plans for each of the age groups for the Outdoor and Adventure. Resources were photocopied from the PSSI lesson plans and laminated. Boxes were bought for storage and clearly labelled. 6th class helped to create Photo Star orienteering route for the middle classes on the school grounds. They absolutely loved doing this.

We dedicated a Croke Park hour (12/3/17) to going through the O&A resources so that everyone was familiar with the materials in advance of teaching. It also gave staff members the opportunity to ask questions.

Outdoor and Adventure worked really, really well for us and the laminated resources are ready for use again next year.

School Website

The PHYSICAL EDUCATION section on the school website confirmed that this school had chosen to work on the Outdoor and Adventure. The website included photos of a selection of the O&A resources and their storage boxes, junior classes participating in team challenges, middle classes completing the photo star route and senior classes orienteering on the school grounds

Screening Comment

Plenty of evidence that this school had worked together to strengthen the delivery of the Outdoor and Adventure strand for all classes.

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Screening Comment

✓ No explanation provided of the work undertaken in this area. This type of answer would be sent back to the school by the screening committee with a Request for Further Information.

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We set up Be Active After School with parental participation. We took part in the Operation Transformation exercises and all completed the 10@10. We hosted WOW once per term and scoot to school days. We did the Spring Clean. We had the local Garda in for road safety. We had the RSA in. We took part in the Athletics day. We all went out for Tree Day in October. We have swimming right through the school all year. We have an Equestrian Team in the school this year. We have designated yard areas. We are in the process of setting up a walk around the school with stations.

Screening Comment

While all of the activities are very worthwhile they are NOT relevant to how the school strengthened their delivery of the Outdoor and Adventure strand of the PE curriculum.

We set up Be Active After School with parental participation (**Partnerships**). We took part in the Operation Transformation exercises and all completed the 10@10 (**Active Breaks**). We hosted WOW once per term and scoot to school days (**Physical Activity during the School Year**). We did the Spring Clean (**Physical Activity during the School Year**). We had the local Garda in for road safety (**Partnerships**). We had the RSA in (**Partnerships**). We took part in the Athletics day (**Athletics strand**). We have swimming right through the school year (**Aquatics**).

A lot of requests for Further Information/Further Development issue in relation to PE because of confusion surrounding what constitutes Physical Education, physical activity and partnerships.

To be clear, the questions in the PHYSICAL EDUCATION section of the application form refer to **how classroom teachers deliver the PE curriculum during timetabled PE lessons.**