



Staffordshire
County Council

BOROUGH OF NEWCASTLE U LYME DIRECTORATE - RESOURCES		
10 JUL 2013		
PASSED BY	CONVEYED TO	CIRC TO

Mr Martin Stephens
Democratic Services Office
Newcastle Borough Council
Merrial Street
Newcastle
Staffs
ST5 2AG

My Ref: BA/DK/19

Your Ref:

Date: 9 July 2013

Dear Mr Stephens

Re. Newcastle Borough Council's Health Scrutiny Committee Request for Information on the PE Curriculum in Newcastle schools

Thank you for your email of 27th June 2013 stating that the Borough's Health Scrutiny Committee have identified the important health and wellbeing issue of children and young people's participation in physical activity in schools, and in particular, the Committee's concern that less than half of children (45%) spend at least three hours of high quality PE and school sport within and beyond the curriculum per week.

Staffordshire County Council shares with you the desire for this important health and wellbeing issue to be identified and all opportunities to increase children and young people's participation in physical activity to be increased. This is a common agenda for all partners across Staffordshire.

In response to your specific request for further data on the breakdown of the amount of physical activity provided to pupils at each school in Newcastle-Under-Lyme and what Staffordshire County Council does to support this, please see my response that follows.



1) Data

Since the cessation of the national PE and Sport Strategy for Young People (PESSYP) and the associated funding in 2010, there is no longer a statutory requirement for schools to report on their school PE and Sport curricular and extra-curricular offer, and therefore there is no more recent data available. The last reported data submitted was in 2010.

2) Staffordshire County Council

The mechanism for providing support to schools now lies with Entrust, the joint venture between Staffordshire County Council and Capita. Entrust delivers a wide range of services – both commissioned and traded - essential to the delivery of improvements in education and training establishments.

The following overview describes the role of Entrust in supporting schools to deliver quality physical education:

- Entrust employ a Senior Teacher Consultant for PE and Active Lifestyles as part of their School Improvement Services who works with schools to encourage them to offer high quality PE and deliver a wider range of extra-curricular activities, to enable children and young people to meet the recommended activity levels of an hour a day.
- Entrust also offer a range of courses specifically aimed at improving the quality of PE provision in schools. These include; *Securing Good Physical Education teaching in Primary Settings; Leading Physical Education in Primary Settings; Re-designing your PE curriculum to meet the new statutory requirements; Primary Games and Athletics Course*. These courses are available to schools through booking on the Entrust website.
- Entrust also operate the *Healthy Schools Programme*. This programme was launched in July 2011 and is based on the good practice of the National Healthy Schools programme and has since been further developed to meet the needs of schools in Staffordshire. There are two parts to the programme (i) *Health Check* (ii) *Development Plan*. The Health Check has been designed to ensure schools have a baseline of high quality provision for health and wellbeing. All schools who sign up to Staffordshire Healthy Schools complete this process. The Health Check is completed by a consultant from Entrust with a member of school staff. With regard to physical activity all schools completing the Health Check are required to have the following:-



- A named person responsible for Physical Activity
- A policy for Physical Activity
- 2 hours of timetabled PE for all children
- Additional activities offered with the aim of all children having an additional 1 hour per week
- There are currently 10 schools have signed up to the programme in your district (see table below). Of these, 6 (in bold) have completed their Health Check and all say they have two hours of PE on the timetable as well as offering a range of extracurricular activities.

School	Progress on Staffordshire Healthy Schools
Baldwins Gate Primary	Health Check completed & Development Plan in progress
Chesterton Primary	Health Check completed & Development Plan in progress
Churchfield Primary	Signed up but not yet started process
Crackley Bank Primary	Health Check completed & Development Plan in progress
Knutton St Marys Primary	Health Check completed & Development Plan in progress
Langdale Primary	Health Check completed & Development Plan accredited
Newcastle under Lyme School	Health Check completed & Development Plan in progress
St Saviours Primary	Signed up but not yet started process
Silverdale Primary	Health Check completed & Development Plan in progress
Wood Lane Primary	Signed up but not yet started process

For further information on the Staffordshire Healthy Schools programme in Newcastle Borough please contact Sarah Huggins sarah.huggins@entrust-ed.co.uk 01785 277974.

For further information on PE and Active Lifestyles in schools please contact Caroline Holder, Senior Teacher Consultant for PE and Active Lifestyles School Improvement Services
caroline.holder@entrust-ed.co.uk
www.entrust-ed.co.uk



Staffordshire Public Health

- As you are aware, Public Health responsibilities transferred to the County Council in April 2013. As a result of a recent commissioning exercise to enable the voluntary and community sector to deliver health and wellbeing outcomes, through the 'Staffordshire Public Health Prospectus', Public Health Staffordshire invested over £100k in to the delivery of physical activity opportunities and healthy weight services for children and young people in the Newcastle Borough for 2013/14.
- Staffordshire Public Health also commissions the School Nursing service which works in partnership with schools, other agencies and communities to develop strategies and interventions which promote healthy weight and active lifestyles. The current service specification is being reviewed and service transformation is intended to deliver a greater focus on prevention and healthy lifestyles.
- The commissioning of Public Health Improvement programmes is currently being developed as part of a transformation project linked with the Health and Wellbeing Strategy "Living Well in Staffordshire". It aims to develop a stronger investment in prevention and early intervention approach. This includes a strategy to promote active lifestyles and sports, which is in its early stages of development, and we will be pleased to share more detail with you in the coming months. The Public Health District Development Officer and Locality lead can provide a conduit to this dialogue.

National Programmes

- The Department for Education have recently made available £150 million per annum for academic years 2013 to 2014 and 2014 to 2015 to improve provision of physical education (PE) and sport in primary schools. This funding is ring-fenced directly for individual schools and therefore can only be spent on provision of PE and sport in schools. Funding will be calculated by reference to the number of primary-aged pupils (between the ages of 5 and 11).
- From September 2013, schools will be held to account over how they spend their additional, ring-fenced funding. Ofsted will strengthen the coverage of PE and sport within the 'Inspection Handbook' and supporting guidance so that both schools and inspectors know how sport and PE will be assessed in future as part of the school's overall provision. One year on, Ofsted will carry out a survey reporting on the first year's expenditure of additional funding and its impact. Schools will also be required to include details of their provision of PE and sport on their website, alongside details of their broader curriculum, so that parents can compare sports provision between schools, both within and beyond the school day.





Finally, as you will be aware, the development of Academy school status and along with it the funding transition from the local authority directly to schools, means that Staffordshire County Council has a changing relationship with schools. Please be assured that in our role as strategic influencers we have developed strong relationships with schools, head-teachers and school governors to improve learning, skills, health and wellbeing.

We are keen to develop further opportunities for partnership working with the borough council in your role in supporting physical activity in the wider community.

Yours sincerely



**County Councillor Ben Adams
Cabinet Member for Learning and Skills
Staffordshire County Councillor for Perrycrofts, Tamworth.**

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