



Supporting schools to provide community access



THE BACKGROUND

London Sport's aim: Improve community access to school facilities

- 1. To support the schools to open-up their sports facilities, to broaden the offer of extra-curricular and out of school hours sporting and physical activities available to pupils and the wider community (after school, weekends and school holidays).
- 2. To ensure that open facility access is being supported by a strong and varied offer of sport and physical activity that appeals to young people in the schools and communities being targeted.
- 3. To work with schools and providers to convene and share best practices for wider activation

Project Details:

- 3 phases of funding
- Actively working with 14 schools across 11 boroughs
- Supported a further 8 schools with other funds and advice



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PHASE 1 - CROYDON

In Phase 1, school selection was based on opportunity (where there is an appetite from the school for such a project) and need (based on our insight mapping using consolidated data sets including National Child Weight Measurement (NCMP), Indices of Deprivation and the Active Lives for Children and Young People (CYP) survey.

Borough: Croydon	Project phase: #1	Number of schools involved: 3

School profiles:

ABOUT THE SCHOOL		
Name of school	Riddlesdown Collegiate	
Local Authority Croydon		
School Phase	Secondary	
Type of school	Free school	
Locality type	Urban	
Ofsted rating	Outstanding	

ABOUT THE SCHOOL		
Name of school	Oasis, Shirley Park	
Local Authority	Croydon	
School Phase	Secondary	
Type of school	MAT	
Locality type	Urban	
Ofsted rating	Outstanding	

ABOUT THE SCHOOL		
Name of school	Coombe Wood	
Local Authority	Croydon	
School Phase	Secondary	
Type of school	Free school	
Locality type	Urban	
Ofsted rating		



The focus for the Croydon schools:

All three schools were working towards the same overall objective of this project which was to improve/open up community access to school facilities beyond school hours.

Each school, however, had a unique focus for their school, specifically:

Riddlesdown Collegiate:

To develop the school as a local hub that provided opportunities for the community as well as pupils and selected groups, with a strong focus on women and girls.



Coombe Wood: To test out their new business model *The Coombe Wood Sports Model* which focuses on specialising in five major sports. This model was built around the concept less is more and depth before breadth.

This school was unique in that it was a brand new school, with facilities still being built (left), with a completion date of February 2021.

Oasis Shirley: To build a Community
Boxing Hub as a result of
conversations and extensive surveys
with the youth voice.

Mezzanine Area for Boxing Gym

19.35 mtrs

BOXING
RING
3.43 mtrs

Floor-to-Ceiling Bags■ Speed Balls

Punching Bags





SUPPORT PROVIDED BY LONDON SPORT:

1) Communicated frequently with the schools via email and Zoom calls

2) Created a Community of Practice event to share knowledge 3) Linked the schools to additional physical activity providers

4) Provided guidance on how to listen to the local community and youth voices

5) Provided low-level funding to help prepare the school for delivery

6) Worked with the schools to create a survey for data collection

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE:

Feedback from the three schools revealed that the support the schools found to be most beneficial was the creation of a community of practice between the schools. This provided them with the opportunity to share and challenge each other's ideas. London Sport arranged this by scheduling a Jamboard session:

Funding to pay for site staff.

only allow external hires from those people who contribute to curricular and extra curricular time.

London Sport - stay in touch with our model and use it to help others as a case study. In particular when other free schools are built - they need to be built for the commercial model

Promoting the space for hire in the community

Strong partner model with local organisations

solution to staffing after school = manage the lettings model yourself to cover costs and set a sink fund for facility maintenance etc. don't get teachers to do it

maybe even have SLAs with organisations so they take on the

safeguarding etc.

The aim of this project is to provide funding so that more secondary schools can broaden community access to their schools sporting facilities

1. What are the

outcomes that your

school wants to see?

(why did you want to be

involved in the project?)

Improving health and wellbeing Improving choices and behaviour

More options on offer afterschool for teachers, students and the community

try to get some hard

evidence that the

model of external

after school and

evenings and

and more

participation

providers in school,

weekends delivers

better consistency

we need to see that opening facilities is allowing children to get fitter and therefore do better in school - grades need to go up attendance needs to be better etc.

Have great facilities which are economically viable thanks to community use

i would like to see facilities deliver opportunities for less able and senior people - walking football - back to netball etc.

More young people in Croydon accessing sports facilities and being active after school and during the

> participation of female students within the school. Developing and strengthening links with local companies to provide more opportunities to the wider community.

Make great new facilities available to the public

Give children the opportunity to have quality coaching experience during school games sessions, in the evenings and at weekends

Increased

2. What are the barriers to achieving this?

Staffing to manage facilities outside school hours.

Covid 19 and access to the use of facilities for external companies.

Reliable relationships between schools and clubs. Working together to keep facilities in good condition.

Community is reluctant to come in due to covid-19

Making it sustainable. after the funding ends

Covid means the school now needs the space to use for use as a teacher work area

with the community

Better

relationships

A more varied offer for students to get active, in ways that appeal to them

Facilities which allow children from local primary schools to access better quality of coaching and facilities

Improving Croydon for the people that live in it.

Better community links between schools, local clubs and families.

Better links with local clubs and delivery organisations

weekend.

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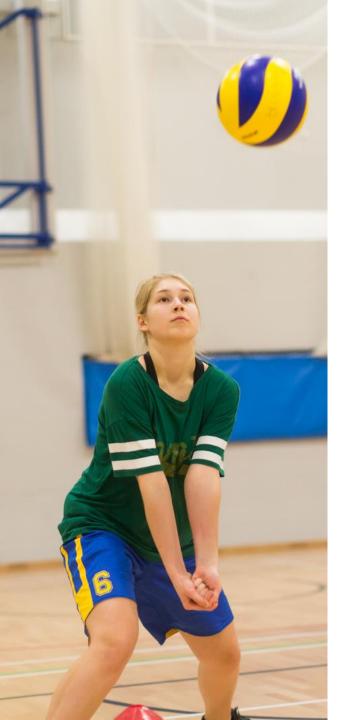
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OUTCOMES:

- The importance of opportunity and school buy-in it was crucial to have a member of staff at the school who really bought into our aims.
- Inviting schools to 'opt-in' to the project indicates they are enthusiastic and ready for the project. This led to significant recruitment success in Phase 2 and Phase 3.
- Creating and facilitating a community of practice is very beneficial, as it provides schools with an invaluable opportunity to learn from each other.
- Commissioning funding in two parts (50% at the commencement and 50% at the conclusion of the project) helped London Sport support the schools throughout the project.
- Schools were exciting by the opportunity to build community cohesion and engagement rather than income generation.
- Providing some low level funding to kick start activity was crucial.
- Young people and the local community need to be consulted with throughout
- Facilities do not need to be outstanding, they just need to provide a safe place to be active.

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WHAT COMES NEXT:

- School surveys will be created for data gathering and project monitoring
- London Sport will continue to build on the excellent school relationships that have been established.
- London Sport will work with the schools in other areas identified through this project.

Contact Us

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