

Aim	To enhance the knowledge, understanding and resources of staff within the school and partnership relating to inclusion in PE and Sport.
Outcome	Increased teachers' confidence with inclusion in PE and school sport and also in the ability to recognise and identify talent.

School: St Mary's School Sport Partnership

Type of school: Primary, Secondary and Special Schools

The St Mary's School Sport Partnership consists of primary, secondary and special schools and one of the aims of the Continual Professional Development (CPD) training was to raise the provision and awareness relating to including young disabled people in physical education and sport. St Mary's College, a Specialist Sports College, drew up a development plan in which CPD would be undertaken in boccia and TOPSportsability. The focus on boccia came about through both the wish to include it as an optional activity for all schools but also to provide the opportunity for special schools within the Partnership to be engaged in the plan.

One of the biggest obstacles faced when trying to organise CPD for staff is the capacity to organise time away from school for the course to be undertaken and this was overcome by using Primary Link Teacher (PLT) days more creatively. Two Boccia Leaders courses were run and attended by 9 staff from the primary schools, 3 from secondary schools and 6 from special schools in the partnership. Staff attending included PE staff, PLTs, teaching assistants, SSCOs, and non specialist teachers from the special schools. Six of these staff members also undertook the TOPSportsability courses. In addition 6th form pupils who were undertaking health and social care modules attended the course as part of their course work.

The training was put in place in order to increase the amount of OSHL activities available to pupils. Through the CPD and the assistance received by the Sports Development Team, based at Hull City Council, the next step following the training was to establish boccia clubs within the Partnership to provide regular opportunities for the players. Eleven Boccia clubs in total were successfully set up throughout the Partnership, 2 in secondary schools, 5 in primary schools and 4 in special schools. The Sport Development Team assisted the schools in this programme and through their involvement pressure was increased to ensure boccia would be included in the Humber Youth Games.

After the courses were completed each school individually organised their boccia club based around their schools specific circumstances and needs. The clubs conducted at the secondary school were run by teaching assistants and those at the special schools by volunteers and Year 11 students from the secondary school. All of the clubs run at the special schools were held during lunch time whilst the clubs at the mainstream school were a mixture of lunch time and after school hours clubs with each session lasting 45 minutes. All the clubs at the secondary school were inclusive allowing non disabled players to take part alongside their disabled peers. An integral part of the whole development was the intention to organise a boccia festival, allowing all 11 clubs the chance to compete and also providing the opportunity to select teams to compete at the Humber Youth Games.

The Sports Development Team helped with the organisation of the festival, held at St Mary's College, which was open to both disabled and non-disabled pupils. Ninety pupils took part in the festival and for many it was the first opportunity they had been offered to play competitively. Following the Festival, three teams; East Riding, North East Lincolnshire and North Lincolnshire were selected to compete at the Humber Youth Games in June. It is planned to further develop the clubs in the New Year with continued participation in the Youth Games, an additional Boccia Festival and the development of pathways into regional and national competitions.

Contact:

St Mary's College, Cranbrook Av, Hull, HU6 7TN

Tel: 01482 851 136 Fax: 01482 804 522

Email: admin@st-marys.hull.sch.uk Website: www.st-marys.hull.sch.uk