

Aim	To establish a working relationship between parents/carers, coaches and teachers to ensure support of the student.
Outcome	Open and effective communication between all parties involved to support the individual pupil to reach his or her full potential.

### **School: The Streetly School**

### **Type of school: Specialist Sports College – Secondary (Ages 11-19)**

The Streetly School in Walsall, West Midlands gained Specialist Sports College status in 2003. The school currently has a Gifted and Talented register with specific criteria set out as guidelines for assessment and consideration for addition on the register. One of the key criteria used for consideration is level of representation. This determines the level at which the student is currently competing and the consequent level of support to which they are entitled. Students at different levels receive support complementary to their stage of development and to their level of competition.

Level 1 – National Representation

Level 2 – Regional Representation

Level 3 – Assessment through PE/Multi Skill Activities

Support for the students ranges from individual mentoring and full inclusion in the Junior Athlete Education programme for those competing at National level to support within PE to develop their potential for those students at Level 3.

To support the Gifted and Talent programme the school invited two members of staff from all schools in the School Sport Partnership to attend a two day course covering JAE, not only members of the PE departments but also from other subjects. It was felt that including staff from different departments was important as it would involve the whole school in the process, providing all staff with ownership of the programme, not just the PE department. It also meant that it would not only be PE staff asking other subject leaders for concessions and time out of class to meet the student's needs.

The mentoring sessions also include the completion and evaluation of an "Individual Sports Education Plan" This plan covers the student's short, medium and long term targets for school and for sport, together with issues, strategies and monitoring. The monitoring process includes the termly meetings to review the plan and bi-annual "Team You" meetings.

One pupil on the G&T register at Streetly School is a national record holder for wheelchair racing and was selected to represent Great Britain in the CP World Games where he achieved a 5th placing in the 500m and 4th placing in the 200 and 400m. As this pupil competes at national level he receives a mentor and is fully included within JAE.

This particular pupil's mentor is a teacher who is not a member of the PE department. The meetings have been used to focus on issues relevant to the individual athlete, in this case why the pupil has lost some enthusiasm for athletics, including highlighting any issues that could explain his reduction in enthusiasm and other outside school interests that could be occupying his time. Apart from sporting aspirations the meetings are also used to review his academic performance and aspirations. As a result of the school's support, the pupil is now able to conduct most of his training at his own athletics club. However the school ensures regular contact is maintained with the student and his parents in order to track and support his development where necessary.

In the past, the school felt that they could have provided more support to this student, but due to staffing levels it was not possible. Now that staffing levels have improved due to the acquisition of specialist status, with a learning support assistant now employed to work with pupils with SEN, the school now ensures that disabled pupils at the school are fully included within PE and Sport and that students with recognised or potential talent are identified and supported.

In addition the School Sports Partnership has employed a School Sports Coordinator, based at the school on a full time basis, looking at provision and inclusion of disabled students. This has meant that more development work and support around providing access to opportunities exists for young disabled students and has also resulted in a recent sports activity day for disabled students which attracted over 200 participants.

#### Contact:

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