

Dear Headteachers and PE Leads,

We are excited to invite you to OPT IN for the Halton School Games competitions, events teacher support and CPD program for 2023/24 academic year. This opportunity aligns with the government's recent commitment to promoting equal access to school sport for girls and boys.

The Government have committed over £600 million for the next two academic years (2023/24 & 2024/25) as part of the Primary PE and School Sports Premium funding. This was heavily influenced by the Lionesses who, after their 2022 Euros win, wrote a letter demanding equal opportunities in PE and extracurricular activities for all children. As part of this funding commitment, the government has set a vision that all primary schools should be delivering a minimum of 2 hours of curriculum PE per week. This commitment aims to improve the quality of PE and School Sports in primary schools, allowing children to benefit from regular high quality physical activity.

Opting in to the Halton School Games membership, schools will be supported to work towards the 5 key indicators of effective use of the Primary PE and School Sports Premium:

1. Increased confidence, knowledge and skills of all staff in teaching PE and sport
2. Engagement of all pupils in regular physical activity
3. The profile of PE and sport is raised across the school as a tool for whole school improvement
4. Broader experience of a range of sports and physical activities offered to all pupils
5. Increased participation in competitive sport

The Halton School Games supports the governments' vision of ensuring equal access to high quality PE and physical activity as well as the CMO guidance that every child has access to at least 60 active minutes of physical activity a day.

Halton School Games is the only body responsible for awarding the nationally recognised School Games Mark in Halton, only the events delivered and organised by Halton School Games will count towards the accreditation.

Halton School Games (HSG) Membership will include:

Support in school developing and delivering on the 5 School Games Outcomes:

Outcome 1	To maintain and grow school engagement in the School Games and their delivery of 60 active minutes	
Outcome 2	To create positive experiences by ensuring physical activity and competition provision is designed to reflect the motivation, competence and confidence of young people and has clear intent	
Outcome 3	To have a clear focus on secondary schools and transition points (Y3 & Y6)	
Outcome 4	To create positive experiences that support the character development of young people	
Outcome 5	To advocate to key stakeholders how the School Games makes a meaningful difference to the lives of children and young people, including supporting schools to engage and educate parents	

HSG will organise and deliver high quality, interschool, Borough wide competitions, events and activities which ensures all children have the opportunity to represent their school before they leave in year 6. Each event will be targeted at different types of children and different abilities ensuring everyone is on an equal playing field and the event is targeted to impact the participants positively. Each event will be identified at one or two of the Merseyside 3 levels of competition, which ensures that the event engages pupils with the same motivation, confidence, ability and confidence. This also includes SEND specific events to ensure every child has opportunities to participate.

The event levels of competitions are:

Celebrate: Events are focused on fun and enjoyment of participants to encourage participation with recognition of their efforts and engagement. Events have been designed to develop new skills, improve health and achieving personal best in a safe environment that will build the young person's confidence.

Inspire: Participants will develop different sport-specific skills and increase motivation within sport as well as foster social connections. Depending on the age group and sport, each event may be slightly altered e.g. skill development, self-refereeing, 50% rules, power plays or School Games values scorecard.

Aspire: A competitive event with recognition of participants for their sporting performance. These competitions will support the individual's development and character in sport.

HSG will provide a comprehensive CPD package for all school staff to upskill and develop their skills in delivering PE within your school independently. Alongside the 4 Borough partnership, HSG will provide a comprehensive CPD package which is supported by National Governing Bodies in Sport to ensure the highest quality of CPD is on offer. HSG works closely alongside The FA, LTA, British Gymnastics, England Boxing, England Swimming, England Athletics, England Netball and many others to ensure that the CPD package is compressive and relevant to teaching in your school.

HSG Membership will provide your school with a place at the 4 Borough Partnership Network Meetings that take place twice a year. These meetings are part of the Halton, St Helens, Knowsley and South Sefton “4 Borough Partnership”, where we invite colleagues from across the 4 Borough’s to come together to take part in some fantastic CPD, share good practice and ensure PE Leads in your school have the most up to date information. Previous years have included key note speeches from Ali Oliver (CEO of the Youth Sport Trust), Jodie Cunningham (England Rugby League player) and Jack Hunter-Spivey (Olympic and commonwealth medallist), as well as in-depth CPD around Preparing for Deep dives in PE, Positive Experience through Competition, Girls Football Partnership CPD and practical sessions from Kinball UK, and Enrich Education. It is a fantastic opportunity for your PE lead to come and network with other schools in similar demographics to share and hear good practice. Planning is already underway for 23/24 which is already looking amazing!

HSG will provide members with high quality support and guidance in ensuring the PE provision within your setting is as strong as it can be, including local and national updates. The support offered by HSG will contribute towards:

- Provide support for schools to attain the best possible School Games Mark for your setting.
- Provide opportunities for every child to represent your school.
- Supporting the improvement of health of young people within your school.
- Increase opportunities for participation in sport for all young people in you school.
- Support your health and safety provision within school when engaging with PE and School Sport
- Support teachers in uploading their Primary PE and School Sports Premium information to your website and answer any questions to support the process
- Provide virtual events that will help towards attaining School Games Mark and ensure children are engaged in 60 active minutes.
- Anything else HSG can help with.

HSG Members will have access to KOBOKA at events and within school for pupil voice. Koboka will be used at events to reduce paper usage, most events will use Koboka to score events and make it easy for staff to know where we are up to. Schools will also be able to log in to Koboka in school and use it for surveys and Pupil Voice, feedback from schools this year who have used it have found it amazing, and even used the survey function away from PE in other subjects. (CPD Available).

HSG will support and engage schools with the Barclays Girls Football School Partnership (BGFSP). The BGFSP provides girls across Halton the opportunity to participate in Girls Football at many different levels. The HSG offer will ensure that there are events throughout the year which promote Girls Football ensuring every girl has the opportunity to play football in ks2 within the academic year. This will mean several different events with different outcomes and aspirations to ensure a broad target audience is engaged. As well as events there is a large range of CPD available online and face to face that schools will have access to as part of the HSG.



Above are the key benefits of opting into the Halton School Games Package, the event packages is forever growing throughout the year and ensures your school has all the opportunities to engage children in living an active life. The cost for the Halton School Games for the Academic Year 2023/24 is **£545**. Please return the attached OPT in Slip to Joseph.obiro@halton.gov.uk before the 1st September 2023. I look forward to another amazing year of Sport and Physical Activity.

Kind regards,

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