



Spennithorne CE (VC) Primary School

Physical Education Policy

1 Aims and objectives

1.1 PE develops the children's knowledge, skills and understanding, so that they can perform with increasing competence and confidence in a range of physical activities. These include dance, games, gymnastics, swimming and water safety, athletics and outdoor adventure activities. PE promotes an understanding in children of their bodies in action. It involves thinking, selecting and applying skills, and it promotes positive attitudes towards a healthy lifestyle. Thus, we enable the children to make informed choices about physical activity throughout their lives.

1.2 Our objectives in the teaching of PE are:

- to enable children to develop and explore physical skills with increasing control and coordination;
- to encourage children to work and play with others in a range of group situations;
- to develop the way in which children perform skills, and apply rules and conventions, for different activities;
- to show children how to improve the quality and control of their performance;
- to teach children to recognise and describe how their bodies feel during exercise;
- to develop the children's enjoyment of physical activity through creativity and imagination;
- to develop an understanding in children of how to succeed in a range of physical activities, and how to evaluate their own success;
- providing specialist support where individual children have particular gifts or talents.

2 Teaching and learning style

2.1 We use a variety of teaching and learning styles in PE lessons. Our principal aim is to develop the children's knowledge, skills and understanding, and we do this through a mixture of whole-class teaching and individual or group activities. Teachers draw attention to good examples of individual performance as models for the other children, and we encourage the children to evaluate their own work as well as the work of other children.

Within lessons, we give the children the opportunity both to collaborate and to compete with each other, and they have the opportunity to use a wide range of resources.

2.2 In all classes, children have a wide range of physical ability. Whilst recognising this fact, we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this through a range of strategies:

- setting common tasks that are open-ended and can have a variety of results (e.g. timed events, such as an 80 m sprint);
- setting tasks of increasing difficulty, where not all children complete all tasks (Cluster sports events)
- grouping children by ability, and setting different tasks for each group (e.g. different games);
- providing a range of challenge through the provision of different resources (e.g. different gymnastics equipment).

3 PE curriculum planning

3.1 The curriculum planning in PE is carried out in three phases. The long-term plan maps out the PE activities covered in each term during the key stage.

3.2 Our medium term plan gives details of each unit of work for each term. These plans define what we teach, and ensure an appropriate balance and distribution of work across each term.

3.4 Class teachers complete a plan for each PE lesson. This lists the specific learning objectives and expected outcomes, and gives details of how the lesson is to be taught.

3.5 We plan the PE activities so that they build upon the prior learning of the children. While there are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding in each activity area, there is progression planned in so that the children are increasingly challenged as they move up through the school.

4 The Foundation Stage

4.1 We encourage the physical development of our children in the reception classes as an integral part of their work. We relate the physical development of the children to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals, which underpin the curriculum planning for children aged three to five years of age. We encourage the children to develop confidence, control of the way they move, and care in the handling of tools and equipment. We give all children the opportunity to undertake activities that offer appropriate physical challenge, both indoors and outdoors, using a wide range of resources to support specific skills; both gross and fine motor.

5 Contribution of PE to teaching in other curriculum areas

5.1 English

PE contributes to the teaching of English in our school by encouraging children to describe what they have done, and to discuss how they might improve their performance.

5.2 Mathematics

PE contributes to the teaching of mathematics by encouraging children to measure and record what they do accurately.

5.3 Personal, social and health education (PSHE) and citizenship

PE contributes to the teaching of personal, social and health education and citizenship. Children learn about the benefits of exercise and healthy eating, and how to make informed choices about these things.

5.4 Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development

The teaching of PE offers opportunities to support the social development of our children through the way in which we expect them to work with each other in lessons. Groupings allow children to work together, and give them the chance to discuss their ideas and performance. Their work in general enables them to develop a respect for other children's levels of ability, and encourages them to cooperate across a range of activities and experiences. Children learn to respect and work with each other, and develop a better understanding of themselves and of each other.

6 PE and ICT

6.1 Information and communication technology enhances the teaching of PE, where appropriate, in all key stages. In dance and gymnastics, children make video recordings of their performance, and use them to develop their movements and actions. Older children compare each other's performances from recordings, and use these to improve the quality of their own work. A digital camera can record experiences during outdoor activities.

9 Resources

9.1 There is a wide range of resources to support the teaching of PE across the school. We keep most of our equipment in the PE shed. The hall contains a range of large apparatus, and we expect the children to help to set up and put away this equipment as part of their work. By so doing, the children learn to handle equipment safely. The children use the school field and playgrounds for games and athletics activities, and the local swimming pool for swimming lessons.

10 Health and safety

10.1 It is the general teaching requirement for health and safety that applies to this subject taken from 'Safe Practice in Physical Education and Sport' We encourage the children to consider their own safety and the safety of others at all times. We expect them to change for PE into the agreed clothing for each activity area.

The policy of the school is that no potentially dangerous jewellery is to be worn for any physical activity including earrings. Teachers are expected to check all apparatus and the area P.E. is taking place for any potential health and safety issues and adapt their lessons/ or make the children aware before starting.

11 Extra-curricular activities

11.1 The school provides a range of PE-related activities for children at the end of the school day. These encourage children to further develop their skills in a range of the activity areas. The school sends details of the current club activities to parents and carers at the beginning of each term. The school also plays regular fixtures against other local schools. This introduces a competitive element to team games, and allows the children to put into practice the skills that they have developed in their lessons. These opportunities foster a sense of team spirit and cooperation amongst our children.

This policy will be reviewed in line with the school's policy review schedule