

TEAM TALK

Redcar & Eston School Sport Partnership CIC Newsletter



Welcome

What a year! That's 21 years down and counting for the Sports Partnership. We hope you have valued our work as much as we have. However, we are now facing yet another challenge. When Kier Starmer, influenced by the success of the Lionesses, announced to re-establish School Sport Partnerships in June 2025, who would have thought that in July 2026 we still don't have any answers to what this will look like. Headline figures suggest lots of money coming into school sport, but once you unpick the detail it is an actual cut to school sport. Within the newsletter we will give you as much information as possible to what we know and think might happen moving forward.

We will be there to support our partnership schools through the transition from autumn term PE premium funding into the new structure. Claire sits on the national strategic board, so we will be on top of any announcements and any process we and you will have to jump through.

Thank you for signing up to the autumn term Service Level Agreement. This will enable us to maintain status quo until we find out what is next.

Exciting, but also scary times when change is afoot. We will stay positive, especially as Andy Burnham is a big advocate of school sport. 🙌

Thank you for your continued support.

RESSP team.

www.ressp.co.uk

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Summer Term Reporting

Each school was awarded PE Premium Funding for 2025-26. The funding is to make additional and sustainable improvements to the PE, sport and physical activity in your school. The conditions of the grant included summer term reporting:

- All schools must have completed the new, digital reporting tool by 5pm on 30th September 2026.
- The information needed to complete this is:
 - Figures on the overall spend;
 - What the funding has been spent on and impact;
 - Whether there is any unspent funding;
 - Swimming and water safety attainment.
- We have sent all schools screen shots of the reporting tool to help prepare to answer these questions before logging in.
- In addition to the online reporting tool, each school needs to upload information to their website:
 - Completed monitoring & tracking form (see picture). Blank templates can be found [here](#);
 - Your schools's total funding allocation & how it has been spent. (This can just be an overview rather than every item listed). e.g £1,586 on equipment etc.



If any school does not comply with the conditions of grant then DfE can reclaim the funding.

If anyone needs any support or has any questions then please do get in touch.



Autumn Term Transition Funding



The PE and Sport Premium direct-to-school grant is ending after the 2025/26 academic year and is being replaced by a new PE and School Sport Partnerships Network. To prevent a sudden financial cliff edge for primary schools, the Department for Education has introduced a £100 million transitional support package for the 2026/27 transition year.

The transition process and funding function break down through several key elements:

- 2026/27 Transition Year Funding
- One-Term Equivalent Allocation: Primary schools will receive a transitional PE and Sport Premium payment calculated as 4/12 (approximately one term) of their usual formula allocation.
- Spending Flexibility: Although the allocation is equivalent to a single term's worth of funding, schools are permitted to distribute and spend it across the full 2026/27 academic year to maintain stable provision.

Schools will carry out Summer term reporting in July 2027 based on this funding.

New Proposals for School Sport



Central government is redirecting over £1 billion of total sport funding into a broader network structure rather than paying individual school budgets directly:

- The Partnerships Network (£580m): Operational from Spring 2027, this centrally coordinated network will manage and broker physical education support across primary, secondary, and special schools. Instead of cash grants, schools will receive targeted local support, coaching resources, universal online training, and top-up swim lessons.
- Capital Infrastructure (£200m): Dedicated funding allocated strictly to upgrade physical school sports equipment, improve facility accessibility, and adapt spaces for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Key Changes for School Leaders to Consider:

- Funding Reduction: The shift to a centralised system represents an overall funding reduction of roughly 22% to 40% compared to the old direct premium, as the budget is now spread thin across both primary and secondary pupils.
- End of Autonomy: Schools will move away from direct financial control over external sports coaches or clubs, transitioning instead to a "brokerage" arrangement via the national digital platform and any local suppliers registered on it.

So what does this mean for us locally? Well, initially we thought we were the School Sport Network that would be funded locally. However, after being in lots of national board meetings we all agree that DfE see the national digital platform they are going to create will be the National school sport network. Local suppliers will have to register on this platform if they want to be funded for any of the provision schools will wish to apply for.

Watch This Space:

Baroness Sue Campbell, previous chair of Youth Sport Trust and previous Head of the women's FA has now been appointed as DfE's PE and sport advisor. Last week she openly admitted that DfE need to think differently for this to be successful. It seems over complicated and too admin heavy for schools. She agrees a local network (like RESSP) would be better.

We are happy to try and talk this through with any headteachers and or Trusts. We have already explained it to the PE Subject Leaders.

As soon as we have more information then we will let you know. We are well aware this new network is supposed to start in January 2027 and they have set a tight timeline for it to come to fruition. However they are already one month behind their own timeline.

RESSP Service Level Agreement

Due to the uncertainty of funding, our Directors have all agreed we would only put out an Autumn term service level agreement. We have kept all of the same services, but it will only be for the Autumn term.

We have rounded down this cost to £1,600.

Thank you to all of the schools that have signed up. It is heartwarming that you value our service and are continuing to support us through this period of transition.

We will obviously be at the forefront of any changes and we will make sure all partnership schools know about any changes first. We know moving forward there will be an element of 'bidding' for funded services for schools and we will support partnership schools through this process.



2025-2026 Headline Statistics

2025 -26 is our 21st year of delivering and here are a few headline statistics

11,473

Children took part in events

8

Secondary & Colleges supported with sports leaders training

222

Children taught to ride a bike

1,100

Year 5's trained in Level 1 & 2 Bikeability

60

Different events

450

Primary sports leaders & playground leaders trained

407

Year 4's trained in Level 1 Bikeability

634

Children taught road safety

150

Sport leaders at events

Primitive Reflexes

You will all know we have been doing a lot of work with the 5 Year old Motor Competency Screening programme over the last two academic years and will be rolling out the 2-4 years screening programme in Autumn 2026. Approximately 98% of our schools now have a member of staff qualified to screen children for motor competencies in reception. We have commissioned a researcher to see what difference this is making in the partnership schools. Thanks to those that have agreed to speak to the researcher.

For those of you that have not done the qualification, we wanted to share a little bit of information about what primitive reflexes are and what happens if they are not integrated at an expected age, mainly due to lack of movement.

The below table shows the primitive reflexes. What their purpose is and then what issues a child might face in their development if they are not integrated:

* Please click on the image to see a larger version.

PRIMITIVE REFLEXES AT A GLANCE & IF NOT INTEGRATED						
						
Moro Reflex (Starter Reflex) Involuntary reaction to sudden movement or sound; supports early survival and alertness. Typical Integration Age: 4-6 Months	Rooting Reflex Head turns toward touch on the cheek; assists with feeding and head-turning coordination. Typical Integration Age: 3-4 Months	Palmar Grasp Reflex Hand automatically grasps when palm is touched; develops early grasping and tactile awareness. Typical Integration Age: 5-6 Months	Spinal Galant Reflex Stroking along the spine elicits hip movement; assists with trunk rotation and mobility. Typical Integration Age: 3-9 Months	Asymmetrical Tonic Neck Reflex (ATNR) Turning the head causes extension on one side and flexion on the other; helps eye-hand coordination. Typical Integration Age: 6 Months	Symmetrical Tonic Neck Reflex (STNR) When head lifts, arms bend and legs extend; prepares the body for crawling. Typical Integration Age: 9-11 Months	Tonic Labyrinthine Reflex (TLR) Head movement forward or backward influences body tone; aids postural development. Typical Integration Age: 3.5 years
Separation anxiety. Shyness. Poor balance and coordination. Motion sickness. Poor stamina. Visual problems. Difficulties maintaining eye contact. Auditory sensitivities. Maths difficulties. Mood swings. Difficulties accepting criticism. Dislike of change and are emotionally sensitive.	Speech and eating problems, difficulty with textures/solid foods, thumb sucking. Speech and articulation problems. Problems with swallowing/chewing. Hormone imbalance. Dexterity problems when speaking.	Display a tight grasp often leading to significantly increased pressure of pencils/markers etc. Lack of well-defined pincer grasp and difficulties with legibility in handwriting.	Constantly fidgeting. Are very ticklish. Have near-focussing difficulties. Poor concentration. Short term memory. Difficulty staying dry through the day/night (past age-appropriate ages). Have difficulty reading. Sensory processing difficulties – specifically related to auditory processing.	Poor balance. Difficulty crossing midline. Mixed hand dominance. Poor handwriting. Difficulties with crossing eyes. Poor visual-perceptual abilities. Right –left confusion. Poor expression of ideas on paper.	Difficulties in posturing. Sitting in a 'W' position. May be a messy eater. Difficulties with visual accommodation and vertical tracking.	Weak muscle tone or strength. Poor posture. Visual-spatial and visual-perception difficulties. Dislike of upper body sports. Difficulty crossing the eyes. Poor sequencing skills for spelling/maths. Poor sense of time. Poor sense of balance and spatial difficulties. Poor fine motor planning & body awareness.

As you can see, movement early in a child's life is so important to their development.

If anyone would like us to deliver staff training on this, or have more staff qualified then please do get in touch.

School Games Mark Results



The application window is still open until end of term!

The School Games Mark is a national award scheme to celebrate schools' commitment to PE, school sport and physical activity.

Congratulations to those achieving School Games Mark for 2025-2026:

- Normanby Primary School - **Platinum**
- South Bank Primary School- **Gold**
- Teesville Academy - **Gold**
- Whale Hill Primary - **Gold**
- Riverdale Primary - **Silver**
- Newcomen Primary - **Gold**
- Dormanstown Primary - **Bronze**
- Wilton Primary - **Silver**
- Lakes Primary - **Gold**
- Bankfields Primary - **Gold**
- Rye Hills Secondary - **Silver**
- Sacred Heart Secondary - **Silver**
- Green Gates Primary - **Silver**
- Caedmon Primary - **Platinum**
- Kirkleatham Hall School - **Platinum**
- Ings Farm Primary - **Platinum**
- John Emmerson Batty Primary - **Platinum**



2026-27 Planning

We know at this uncertain time it might seem strange that we have planned out next academic year already. We are feeling positive and can see the light at the end of the tunnel. We have therefore planned our CPD Calendar and event calendar. We have shared this with PE Subject Leaders already. Obviously the Autumn term will go to plan and then we can wait and see about Spring and Summer.

**Click on the pictures to open up the full documents.*

PE CPD Calendar 2026-27					
Date	Title	Aims	Time	Venue	Cost
22.09.26	T1 Rugby Course	T1 has replaced Tag Rugby. Come along and find out the new rules and how to develop your pupil's skills.	4-5pm	TBC	FREE
30.09.26	New PE Subject Leader Course	This course is aimed at new primary PE subject leaders.	9:30am - 3pm	TBC	Free to RESSP schools and £50 to others
06.10.26	ECT PE Training	Aimed at ECTs that are delivering Primary PE and that have not already attended this course.	9:30am - 3:00pm	TBC	Free to RESSP schools and £60 to others
13.10.26	PE Subject Leader Meeting	CPD & Sharing good practice meeting for RESSP Primary PE Subject leaders ONLY.	1-3pm	Inspire 2 learn, Eston	Free to RESSP schools ONLY
20.10.26	2-4 Yrs Screening	Aimed at Nursery Teachers and practitioners	4-5pm	TBC	FREE to RESSP Schools and £150 for others
06.11.25	Create & Dance	Royal Opera House, home of the Royal Ballet are delivering this inclusive approach to leading dance and storytelling that helps pupils develop creative collaboration, physical learning, social awareness and general health and well-being. BOOKING LINK	9-3pm	Newcomen Primary, Redcar	FREE
07.12.26	PE Subject Leader Meeting	CPD & Sharing good practice meeting for RESSP Primary PE Subject leaders ONLY.	1-3pm	Inspire 2 learn, Eston	Free to RESSP schools ONLY

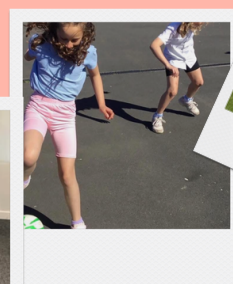
SEPTEMBER 2026					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	
01 BANK HOLIDAY	02 AUTUMN TERM 1				
07	08	09	10	11	
14	15	16 SEND KS2 MULTI-SPORT FESTIVAL (INVASION) @ Redcar College 10:00 - 13:00 (KS2 - Years 3 to 4)	17 CROSS COUNTRY @ Redcar Racecourse 12:30 - 15:00 (KS2 - Years 3 to 4)	18	
21	22	23 SPORTS LEADER TRAINING @ Redcar Leisure Centre AM or PM Sessions (Years 5 & 6)	24 FUNDAMENTAL SKILLS FESTIVAL @ Redcar Rugby Club AM or PM Sessions (Years 1 & 2)	25	
28	29	30 GIRLS 11 RUGBY COMPETITION @ Redcar Rugby Club 10:00 - 14:00 (Years 5 & 6)	01	02	

Girls Football

Over the past few months we have worked with Green Gates Primary School and Redcar Town FC, supported by North Riding County FA, to develop a girls after school football session. The girls had the opportunity to take part in football coaching sessions in school and at the football club led by a Redcar Town Club coach. The aim was to develop their skills, confidence and enjoyment of football. We now hope some of the girls will continue their journey in football by attending sessions at the club. Well done everyone and thank you to all involved, a great school club link.



Memories



SEND PE Project



This academic year have worked with 3 primary schools, (Grangetown, Zetland & Dormanstown), with a cohort of SEND children to deliver some specific SEND PE training. School staff attended a training session delivered by LUSU sports (PE & SEND combined specialists). They then received a bag of specialist equipment to complement their existing PE equipment.

The school's were asked to test out the training and equipment with their children. After a couple of months we went back into each school to deliver a festival for the SEND children (as well as peers and parents in one school) to show them how much fun and learning they can have with the equipment.

The schools really enjoyed the training and are developing new ways to implement their learning into PE sessions to ensure PE is fully inclusive.



RESSP Impact Awards 2026

The Impact awards started last year. We encourage schools within the partnership to apply for an award to showcase the good work they have done across the year. This is very useful for us to hear and understand but it is a great way to share good practice across the partnership and raise standards across the board.

The categories for awards are linked to PE and school sport.



We have two category winners:



Whale Hill Primary School

Category: Community Links - any projects involving the community linked to physical activity.

Summary: Children are given the opportunity to have a gym induction at Everyone Active when they get to 11 years old. This encourages them and their families to do something beyond the school gates. The school have found it really engages those children that thought they didn't like sport.

Zetland Primary School

Category: Tackling Inequalities - targeting the least active and encouraging them to be more active.

Summary: The school took part in the Early Years Motor Screening programme and have since developed further movement opportunities into the curriculum for children and have targeted the children that needed more support through the interventions. Embedding more physical activity opportunities into school to support child development.

Congratulations to both schools. We will be in touch in the new academic year to book in your prize!.

THANK YOU!

We wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for a great 21 years. Together we have been through some changes in government funding and come through the other side before. We are all staying positive.

Thank you for another great year. We have the absolute pleasure to be working with such excellent schools who get that what we do is about MORE THAN SPORT!

Have a fantastic summer - you deserve it!

Thank you