



# Newsletter



October 2024

Welcome to the the new academic year. We can not believe it is nearly half term already!

Congratulations to all the schools who achieved a School Games Mark Award in 2023-2024, you should all have received your badges to go on your pennants from last year. Please do contact us if yours has not arrived yet.

If you are new to the role or need some help, we are more than happy to come to your school and help explain what we do and about the School Games, please do contact us.

If you have any new PE subject leads in your school, or you have changed roles, please do let us know so that we can update our distribution lists.

Thank you to the schools who have already taken part in some of our events this term. The weather has mostly been kind and we have seen lots of happy faces. So far we have had ten pin bowling, touch rugby, boccia, new age kurling and hockey.

Please visit our website <https://www.chesterssp.co.uk> if you wish to enter any primary school or SEND competitions and events this year.

## Inclusive Health Check

The Inclusive Health Check on the School Games website is now live for you to complete for this year. On completion of the Health Check you will be able to view any actions that can be added to your school development plan.

<https://www.yourschoolgames.com/>

The Inclusive Health Check is part of the School Games Mark application, so it is a good idea to get this done in the autumn term if you can. This will save you time in the summer term.

The screenshot shows the top of the School Games website. The header includes the 'SCHOOL GAMES' logo, a home icon, and navigation links for 'ABOUT', 'TAKING PART', and 'NEWS'. There are also buttons for 'Create an account' and 'Log in'. The hero section features a green and pink geometric background with a photo of children playing basketball. The text reads: 'Welcome to School Games', 'The School Games is a programme which puts physical activity and school sport at the heart of schools, providing young people with the opportunity to learn through competition to achieve their personal best.'

## School Games Mark

The School Games Mark is a government led awards scheme launched in 2012 to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community.

Participating in this process allows schools to evaluate their PE provision and assists them in developing an action plan for future progress.

Congratulations to the following schools on your School Games Mark award 23/24.

Blacon High School

Maple Grove School

St Martins Academy

Eaton Primary School

Bunbury Aldersey Primary

Guilden Sutton Primary School

The Arches Primary School

Dorin Park School

Saughall All Saints

Chester Blue Coat Primary School

The Firs School

The Queens School

Tattenhall Park Primary School

St Werburgh's & Columba's Primary School

Upton Westlea Primary School

St Oswalds Primary School

Delamere Academy

Bishop Heber High School



St Theresa's Catholic Primary School

Waverton Primary School

Highfield Primary School

Newton Primary School

Mill View Primary School

Clutton Primary School

Huntington Community Primary School

The criteria for 2024-2025 will be available at some point this term. As soon as it is released on the School Games website, we will share it with you. At this point it is then helpful to read through the criteria for the year and put any plans in place to help you to achieve the award level you are aspiring to.

If you start to collate evidence now, it makes the process much easier in the summer term.

The koboca survey is a fantastic tool to hear student voice but also valuable in find out which pupils want to be sports leaders, who likes which sports, whether they want to take part in school teams etc. Please do contact us if you need any help.

## PE and Sport Premium 2024-2025

The Department for Education (DfE) wants all children to have equal access to high-quality PE provision and opportunities to experience and participate in a wide range of sports and physical activities. Schools should aim to provide high-quality PE and sport for at least 2 hours a week, complemented by a wide range of extracurricular sport and competitive opportunities. By providing this it can help improve children's health and wellbeing, personal development as well as academic attainment.

Schools should use the PE and sport premium funding to support children to meet 60 active minutes and achieve the above aims. This funding must not be used for core-type school activities. Schools should use it to:

- Make additional and sustainable improvements to the PE, sport and physical activity they provide
- Provide or improve equal access to sport for boys and girls
- Ensure teachers have the relevant skills and knowledge to confidently teach PE in a structured way, prioritising continued professional development (CPD) and training where needed

### Using the PE and sport premium

Any use of the PE and sport premium must be in accordance with the terms outlined in the [conditions of grant](#) document. This means schools must use the PE and sport premium to:

- build capacity and capability in the school and make sure that improvements made to the quality of PE, sport and physical activity provision now are sustainable and will benefit pupils joining the school in future
- develop or add to the PE, sport and physical activity that the school provides

### **Effective ways to spend the premium.**

It is important that schools make the most effective use of the premium. To best achieve this, spending should focus on making improvements in 5 key areas, to assist in:

- increasing confidence, knowledge and skills of all staff in teaching PE and sporting activities
- increasing engagement of all pupils in regular physical activity and sporting activities
- raising the profile of PE and sport across the school, to support whole school improvement
- offer a broader and more equal experience of a range of sports and physical activities to all pupils
- increasing participation in competitive sport

These may be achieved by:

- embedding physical activity into the school day by encouraging active travel to and from school and having active break times
- providing targeted activities or support to involve and encourage the least active children
- helping to provide equal access for all pupils to the range of sports and physical activities that the school offers
- providing continued professional development (CPD) for all staff (as outlined previously)
- providing extra-curricular opportunities for children to enable them to access other sporting activities or specialist sport instruction
- providing top-up swimming and water safety lessons for those pupils that do not meet national curriculum requirements after they have completed core swimming and water safety lessons
- providing specialist support to help children with additional needs to access and participate fully in PE lessons
- entering local school competitions and holding inter-house competitions in the school to encourage participation

# PE and Sport Premium 2024-2025

## Digital Reporting Form

From July 2025, all schools must complete the digital reporting form. The digital form outlines how the school has used its PE and sport premium and the impact it has had on achieving the aims and objectives of the funding.

The digital form contains a series of questions and free text boxes. Schools can enter details on how the PE and sport premium has been used to make improvements in the 5 key areas highlighted in this guidance. It can also be used to generate the necessary online report. The information gathered includes:

- figures on the overall spend
- what the funding has been spent on
- whether there is any unspent funding
- swimming and water safety attainment

**The digital form will go live during May or June 2025, and will remain open until 31st July 2025.**

DfE will provide separate guidance to support schools with the completion of the digital form. To allow for comparisons to be made, when publishing the digital form download, schools should retain the previous year's written report on their school website.

## Online Report

As part of the conditions of grant, by 31 July 2025 a school must publish on its website a report detailing how it has spent its PE and sport premium funding allocation. If a school chooses to download a copy of its digital form return and use this as its published report, it must ensure that the form is converted to HTML format to meet accessibility requirements.

The published report must include:

- the amount of premium funding received
- a full breakdown of how it has been spent
- the impact seen by the school on pupils' participation and attainment in PE and sport
- how this improvement will be sustained

The report must also contain details on the percentage of pupils in year 6 who have met the national curriculum requirement to:

- swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres
- use a range of strokes effectively – for example, front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke
- perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pe-and-sport-premium-for-primary-schools>



## Panathlon Ten Pin Bowling KS1&2

On Thursday 26th September we held our first Ten Pin event in Ellesmere Port. This was a pilot event to see how the event was run, and whether the children had a positive experience.

In total 14 schools and 67 children took part in the event which was organised by Panathlon.

Panathlon is a charity which provides competitive sporting opportunities to children with disabilities and special educational needs.

Many of the children had never been ten pin bowling before and it was lovely to see the excitement on the children's faces as they grew in confidence.

Every child went home with a certificate and a medal and we had team placings as well as trophies for individual winners.

Congratulations to all the children, we will hopefully add this to the calendar next year in partnership with Panathlon.



---

## Year 5&6 Girls Rugby Festival

On Thursday 3rd October we had a fantastic morning at Chester Rugby Club with players from the Sale Sharks women's team supporting the event. Children from nine Chester primary schools took part in mini games and a skills session with the Sharks players and coaches. It was a glorious sunny morning where everyone had an amazing time learning how to play rugby and developing their skills.

Thank you to Chester Rugby Club for use of the brilliant facilities and to Sale Sharks for the coaching and the players for being excellent role models to the girls.



## Touch Rugby Festivals

On Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th October we held our year 3&4 and 5&6 touch rugby festivals at Chester Rugby Club. In total 349 children from 36 school teams took part in the event over the two days. This event was an introduction to rugby for those who had not played before, and also gave an opportunity for those who have played to continue to develop their skills. The referees from CEPD were coaching at the same time as refereeing the matches, helping the children to learn the sport.

The weather was on our side and we had many smiling faces on the pitch.

Thank you to Chester Rugby Club for use of such a wonderful facility, to the coaches from CEPD and to the schools for bringing the children. Well done to all the children involved!



## Girls Football Partnership

We are delighted to share with you that we were shortlisted for a FA / YST award at a highly prestigious awards evening at St George's Park.

A film crew came into Blacon High School in the summer term, to film the football activator leaders in action whilst they led a football festival for our primary schools.

At the awards evening the short film was shared with the audience which showed the girls being interviewed, and action from the festival.

The girls were 'Highly Commended' on the evening in which Ellen White (Ex Lioness) and Clare Balding presented the award.





## Boccia and NAK Festival

We held our Boccia and New Age Kurling festival at Ellesmere Port Sports Village on Monday 14th October. In total we had 26 children from 6 schools learn how to play the two sports. By the end of the event, we were amazed by how well the children had taken to boccia and new age kurling. They were brilliant!

Thank you to the sports leaders from West Cheshire College for helping to run the event and the teachers from the schools for bringing the children along.

Two teams will be selected for the county final which will be held in the spring term.



## Disney Inspired Shooting Stars SEND Programme

Disney inspired Shooting Stars SEND is a programme that has been designed for schools to inspire young people with SEND to engage in their active minutes through football. The programme provides a suite of resource cards that include ready-made session plans which include fun, inclusive activities for pupils encouraging the development of their fundamental movement skills.

The resource cards have been created in consultation with the Youth Sport Trust's Lead Inclusion Schools with the aim of specifically engaging more young people with SEND in physical activity and football. Attendees have seen a positive impact from these sessions, particularly with children with intellectual disabilities.

SEND Shooting Stars -  
Thursday 5 December  
2:30-4:30pm, Virtual.

[Sign up here](#)

Tuesday 11 February  
2:30-4:30pm, Virtual.

[Sign up here](#)



## Koboca Survey (Primary and Secondary)

We are asking schools to complete the National Physical Activity and Wellbeing Survey on Koboca.

In around 10 minutes per class, your school can have:

- Evidence you can use in Ofsted inspections for pupil voice.
- Data for Sports Premium reporting.
- Data for School Games Mark.

You will be able to see the names of pupils making up each response.

We would really appreciate it if you could get as many classes as possible to complete the survey by **October half term**.

To complete the survey please follow the below steps. <https://www.koboca.co.uk/>

Login to your Koboca Account and select the MY SURVEY tab.

Next to the **PUPIL ACTIVITY & WELL-BEING SURVEY 2024-2025** there is a button called COPY LINK. Click this.

Paste this link into your pupils' shared area.

Ask pupils to click on the link and complete the survey.

If you are not yet registered on the koboca website, please do contact us and we can help you.

We have arranged a session for primary/secondary PE Leads with Koboca on 'Understanding what children are telling us - making the most of your Koboca survey data'. This will be a zoom call on Wednesday 20th November, 3.45-4.30pm

The meeting will cover how to interpret data from the Physical Activity & Wellbeing Surveys and using Koboca to create/run virtual competitions.

This is free and open for all Cheshire and Warrington Schools to attend, please register your place here:

<https://valeroyschoolsport.org/events/understanding-what-children-are-telling-us-making-the-most-of-your-koboca-survey-data-online/>

The screenshot shows the Koboca website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the following tabs: Home, My School, My Pupils, My Surveys, My Competitions, My Survey Reports, and My Competition Results. Below the navigation bar, the main content area is titled "Home". A message states: "Thank you for using Koboca for virtual competitions and surveys. You are currently logged in as an admin user for your school. As you can see from the tabs above you have 6 options:". There are four main content boxes arranged in a 2x2 grid:

- My School**: This tab is where you will find all your school information, and update your contact details. If doing the physical activity survey, you have the option of allocating the minutes to walking / cycling to school, school clubs and PE Lessons and contact details. It is important this is completed and up to date to make sure your reports are accurate. There is a "Go to My School" button.
- My Pupils**: This tab will provide you with a list of pupils who have completed a survey. Schools can create groups here, such as SEND, Pupil Premium etc which can then be applied as filters on survey reports. There is a "Go to My Pupils" button.
- My Surveys**: This tab gives you access to your surveys. You can build custom surveys for pupils, parents, teachers or governors or use a survey from our library. You will be able to securely view the names of each response by clicking on a graph. If you select a survey from the Sports Partnership, Active Partnership or National Survey tables headline.
- My Competitions**: This tab gives you access to your competitions. You can access competitions from your sports partnership, active partnership and national competitions. You can access login details and links to competitions here, or view pupils' submissions. You can also upload submissions in bulk. Under reports you will be able to view your position.



# **West Cheshire Athletic Club Schools Cross Country Race Series 2024/25**

**At Ellesmere Port Sports Village, Stanney Lane,  
Ellesmere Port,**

**Registration from 9.30am for school years 3 & 4  
And from 10am for school years 5-8.  
First Race Starts at 10am.**

**Dates of Fixtures:  
Saturday, October 5  
Saturday, November 9  
Saturday, December 7  
Saturday, January 18**

Race Order for the following Girls and Boys year groups:  
Year Three, Year Four, Year Five, Year Six, Year Seven, Year Eight.

Medals will be presented to the first three finishers in each race.

The first three finishers from each school in each race will count as a team towards a team score based on their positions, and the team event will be held over four rounds.

Awards will also be presented to the top three finishers overall in each age group after four rounds.

Each pupil from each school will be provided with a race number which should be attached to the front of their T-shirt/vest.

Each participating school should provide  
a representative/parent/team manager at each round.  
Further details from Dennis Wall at West Cheshire AC.  
Tel: 07968 643038. Email: [dennis.wall1@ntlworld.com](mailto:dennis.wall1@ntlworld.com)

# JOIN THE Super 1s



**All disabilities welcome  
Ages 8 - 18**

CHALLENGE YOURSELF  
BE MORE ACTIVE  
IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS  
MAKE NEW FRIENDS

**FREE inclusive  
cricket sessions!**

**WHEN:**

Wednesdays  
5pm - 6pm

**WHERE:**

Chester Catholic High School,  
6 Old Wrexham Road,  
Chester CH4 7HS

**CONTACT:**

Owen Williamson  
07984 196148  
owen.williamson@cheshirecricketboard.co.uk

[www.lordstaverners.org/super1s](http://www.lordstaverners.org/super1s)



**LORD'S TAVERNERS**  
Empowering young people through cricket

Registered Charity No. 306054 | OSCR No. SCO46238





## Smile for a Mile

Please do contact us if you want to know more about the Smile for a Mile campaign with Cheshire West and Chester Council. We have posters and flyers for every school.



The poster features a large yellow smiley face above the title 'SMILE FOR A MILE' in large, bold, pink and blue letters. To the right, a series of colored banners read 'Creating active schools and children in Cheshire West and Chester'. Below the title, a silhouette of a group of children, including one in a wheelchair, is shown running. The background is a light blue sky with a faint image of a child running.

# SMILE FOR A MILE

**Creating active schools and children in Cheshire West and Chester**

**Our school wants to help every child improve their physical, social and mental health and wellbeing through being active every day!**

We are using 'Smile for a Mile' to help our children have healthy bodies and be stronger students.

**The 'Smile for a Mile' programme from Cheshire West and Chester Council, along with our School Sport Partnership, helps our children to:**

- Increase their confidence & self-esteem
- Reduce anxiety
- Enhance mood
- Reduce isolation and improve social skills
- Help self-regulate emotions
- Engage better in lessons
- Develop stronger and more varied friendships

 Cheshire West and Chester

**To find out more speak to your teacher or your local School Sport Partnership:**

**Chester School Sport Partnership**  
[www.chesterssp.co.uk](http://www.chesterssp.co.uk)

**Ellesmere Port School Sport Partnership**  
[www.eportssp.co.uk](http://www.eportssp.co.uk)

**Vale Royal School Sport Partnership**  
[www.valeroyalschoolsport.org](http://www.valeroyalschoolsport.org)

  
  






Chester School Sport Partnership  
Blacon High School  
Melbourne Road  
Blacon, Chester  
CH1 5JH  
Phone: 01244 371475 ext 130



School Games Organisers:  
Claire Smedley & Elizabeth Newstead  
[claire.smedley@blaconhigh.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:claire.smedley@blaconhigh.cheshire.sch.uk)  
[enewstead@blaconhigh.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:enewstead@blaconhigh.cheshire.sch.uk)



Don't forget to follow us on Twitter for all the latest pictures and updates.



Website: [www.chesterssp.co.uk](http://www.chesterssp.co.uk)

If you no longer wish to receive the Chester School Sport Partnership newsletter, please can you notify us on [enewstead@blaconhigh.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:enewstead@blaconhigh.cheshire.sch.uk) or [claire.smedley@blaconhigh.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:claire.smedley@blaconhigh.cheshire.sch.uk) and we shall remove you from our mailing list.

***'Providing opportunities for every young person to shine'***

## Dates for your diary

**Primary School Sports Ambassador Training**

**Thursday 21st November 10am-12pm**

**Further details will be sent to schools after half term.**