

**Sport Matters: the NI Strategy for Sport and Physical
Recreation,
2009 – 2019**

**Physical Education in Schools:
Results of an Electronic School
Survey
Stage 1**

**Sharon Lawlor
Head of Curriculum Support Team
Department of Education**

Legislation

- **Revised Curriculum**
- **Minimum Content**
- **Legislation prevents prescribing amount of time devoted to any subject**

Department of Education

Key Action

- **Establish baseline for number of children of compulsory school age participating in a minimum of two hours quality physical education per week**

3 Stages to Establishing Baseline

- 1. Electronic Survey (March 2012)**
- 2. Education and Training Inspectorate Survey -
Primary - not scheduled**
- 3. Education and Training Inspectorate Survey -
Post - Primary - not scheduled**

Use of School Facilities: Post - Primary

- **65% return – 141 out of 216**
- **92% - facilities available for community use**
- **94% - facilities available for sporting purposes**
- **50% - facilities available for “other” activities**
- **Three quarters of community use outside school hours**

Use of School Facilities: Primary

- **57% - 491 out of 854**
- **44% - sports facilities available for community use**
- **29% - school facilities in BELB area available for community use compared with 44% in WELB and 46% in NEELB, SEELB and SELB areas**
- **Sport is main reason for community use of Primary School facilities**
- **Three quarters of community use took place outside school hours**

Use of School Facilities: Special Schools

- **22% - 9 out of 41**
- **2 schools shared facilities with other schools - primary and post primary**
- **The majority (8 schools) used other facilities to enhance PE provision**
- **3 schools facilities available for community use, sporting and other purposes both within and outside school hours**

Community Use of All Schools

- **Over 55% of all responding schools made their sports facilities available for community use**
- **87% made facilities available for sporting purposes**
- **53% for “other” activities**
- **Post primary schools more likely to share facilities than primary schools (92% and 44% respectively)**
- **Community use of schools was most likely to take place outside school hours (77% of participating schools)**

Pupil Level Targets for PE in Primary Schools

- **DE does not require schools to set PE targets**
- **86% of Primary Schools did not set pupil level targets, 14% did**
- **Of the 71 schools which did set targets, 48% set both quantitative and qualitative targets.**
- **23% set only quantitative targets.**
- **30% set only qualitative targets.**