**Case Study**

Tell us about your journey as a PE Leader and a school in relation to PE

I have worked at Kirkby College for just over 10 years. During this time there has been substantial changes to the PE in the school. When I arrived it had Sport Specialism, a school sports partnership hub, a sixth form, a department of 6 staff and 650 students and an OFSTED rating as requiring improvement.

Jump forward 10 years and the picture is very different on paper; no longer a specialist school or sports partnership hub or a sixth form. Only 2 members of PE staff, 425 students and the school has been in special measures for the last 4 years. However during all this time PE has been recognized by numerous stakeholders including, students, parents, staff, the wider community and governors and OfSTED as a major strength within the school. The students at Kirkby College really value their PE lessons. Participation levels at clubs and activities have shown an upward trend over the last few years. Many students have returned to complete work experience, work placements and are pursuing employment in the sports sector locally.

It is since the Beginning of the Covid pandemic that I feel the work of the PE team has met the criteria for ‘going for gold’ this year.

What did you do? Key milestones?

Last 5 years-

Redeveloped the curriculum at key stage 3 introducing more new and different activities at key stage 3 for example indoor rowing, indoor athletics, Disc golf, ultimate Frisbee, VX (Rockitball), Handball, Quad ball, Danish Longball and volleyball

Made significant changes to the courses offered taking them from pathways to core delivery including Cambridge Nationals in place of the traditional GCSE. Leadership courses were offered as enrichment opportunities at key stage 4 in partnership with the School games Organiser and local feeder primary schools. With the school no longer having a sixth form we have made strong links with local providers of sports based qualifications such as Mansfield Town in the Community and other local sixth form Centre’s and Colleges.

Transformed House sports competition throughout the school calendar to build upon core values of PE such as resilience, integrity, confidence and ambition as per the new core values. The activities being a mix of traditional and non-traditional activities including netball, futsal, basketball and indoor rowing, indoor athletics and the daily mile. Linked to the curriculum at the time. This provided all students many opportunities for intra-school competition

The delivery of multiple projects to raise participation and opportunities for improving the wellbeing of the students at kirkby College over the last 2-3 years has included- PE ambassadors and sports council, Girls active football project, Daily mile launch, Inactive target groups, KC and VX project, wellbeing Wednesdays, travel to Tokoyo, around the world challenge, virtual competitions such as The School Run, school games at home challenges, Sport England project, new house competitions, transition events with y5/6 students, leadership events with feeder primaries and summer school programme

What elements of YST support contributed to your journey?

The poster resources have been used to make many displays around school highlighting the importance of the personal skills, qualities and moral beliefs we inspire our students to have and use.

The resources supporting conoronavirus support helped with our ‘Travel to Tokoyo’ project during lockdown. As a school we reached this milestone through introducing daily mile activities to key worker students and classes where we explored the local park and quarries to cover the distances travelled for this project. Since this project we have also completed a ‘around the world challenge’ in competition with other Ashfield secondary schools and now the virtual Queen’s relay baton competition as a District through the school games network.

I as Head of PE have also been appointed as a PE Catalyst which has been personally rewarding but also has given further opportunity to share good practice and ask questions from other PE Catalysts about projects/ strategies thaey have used in schools similar to Kirkby College

I have also attended the Red Hill Teaching Alliance PE network meetings hosted by Will Swaithes (YST consultant); who has also visited Kirkby College and had input in to the developments that we have undertaken with the curriculum and wellbeing projects we have delivered.

What was the impact?

* Student voice, active lives 2021 data, parent surveys all give positive feedback regarding enjoyment of lessons, engagement in PE, positive contribution to wellbeing and recognition of the importance to ongoing healthy active lifestyle
* Positive upward trend to year 11 PE outcomes for the last 4 years
* Previous YST Silver quality Mark awarded December 2019-2021
* High levels of engagement in PE lessons (very few non-participants across all year groups)
* School Games Virtual Competition Engagement Award achieved through Covid lockdown/ restrictions 2020-21
* School Games Framework Award achieved 2020-21
* Consistent application of school behavioural policy- achievement points are significantly higher than behaviour points
* Faculty policy of celebrating success, sporting stars, celebrating extra-curricular participation and school representation in fixtures
* Regular and substantial promotion of successes on school social media
* Ambitious, broad and balanced curriculum (blended approach) at Key Stage 3. This includes physical literacy, personal development and opportunities to develop leadership skills
* Sports Council of PE Ambassadors giving leadership roles and responsibilities to students and voice on PE and sport at Kirkby College
* Promotion of Wellbeing- including wellbeing Wednesday through assemblies and competitions
* Opportunities for students to be active throughout the school day- previous funding(Big lottery) has aided facilities/ equipment- table tennis tables, daily mile track, football goals and basketball nets
* Active lives Survey results (Summer 2021) show the students are more active during the school day (+11%) and outside of school (+5%) compared to the national average (2019-20)
* All staff share the vision and values of the subject
* A supportive and collaborative ethos established
* A consistent approach to behaviour and rewards
* Virtual Competition Engagement Award Summer 2020
* School Games Framework Award Summer 2020
* Silver Quality Mark (gained December 2019)
* All staff members contributing to whole school wider community
* Shared T+L work upon Dual Coding at SIM January 2021
* Article published by Active Notts ‘Travel to Tokyo’ project Feb 2021
* Subject Leader successfully appointed as a PE CatalYST for YST January 2021