

# Lead School Prospectus

**Our Goal:** To galvanise a strong, broad, and united national movement of schools that are connected and work together to tackle inequalities that exist for children and young people in accessing inspiring and meaningful play, PE and school sport opportunities. Sitting within the Well School movement, schools will place just as much emphasis on health and wellbeing as they do on academic performance.

Schools will drive individual and whole school improvement through the specialist area of Inclusion that formally aligns to the Youth Sport Trust and positioned to support our mission.

Our three strategy objectives that the Lead Schools will support us achieve.

1. Build back healthier, happier, and more resilient young people and level the playing field for those most disadvantaged.
2. To balance the demands of the digital age through the physical connection of physical play and sport.
3. Transform societies perceptions and attitudes towards the importance of physical literacy, play and sport in the education and development of young people.

## Our Ambitions:

Through this infrastructure of specialist lead schools, we aim to create a strategic approach to innovation, concept development and delivery. We have 4 clear ambitions:

1. **Build 'increased':** Access to opportunities and empowerment of SEND pupils.
2. **Build 'further':** The capacity, capability & effective practice of the workforce generating sector-led improvement.
3. **Build 'with':** partners to innovate, encourage cross-sector collaboration and strengthen our collective ambition.
4. **Build 'in':** Young people and parent/carers voices at the heart of future development.

# Lead School Prospectus

## Lead Inclusion School Offer (including benefits)

- Opportunities to work nationally with leading experts in PE, school sport and physical activity to enhance the health, wellbeing and achievements of students.
- National/International recognition as a pioneering network of schools driving the specialist area(s) forward in England.
- Direct investment into schools through training, resources, equipment and engagement with positive role models
- Networking opportunities to share best practice, inspire learning and maximise impact

## Application Process and Criteria

The purpose of the following sections is to highlight key deliverables that the YST Lead Inclusion School will be required to fulfill and additional projects that can be applied for in 2025-26.

## THE COMPULSORY EXPECTATIONS OF A YST LEAD INCLUSION SCHOOL

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1. To commit to being the lead Inclusion School for (time period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2026)
2. To submit all **monitoring and evaluation** reports on time and keep to all agreed and pre-set deadlines. Funding will only be released on receipt of adequate data reporting in July, December 2025, March and July 2026.
3. You (or a representative of your team) must attend **national networking event for Lead Schools on September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2025 (in-person) and June 26<sup>th</sup> 2026 (virtual)**.
4. To access a **minimum of 1 Development Coach** support session in 2025-26
5. As a YST Lead Inclusion School, you must be a brand ambassador for YST and our ethos. Your role is to be:  
A **champion** for inclusion, an advocate and an adviser on high quality inclusive practice for young people with additional support needs in Physical Education, School Sport and School Games, working to **empower** SGO's, schools and other organisations across a **county** area.
6. To deliver the core delivery offer as outlined below:

# Lead School Prospectus

## County Wide Delivery

As a Lead Inclusion School for a designated **County/Borough wide area** there is an expectation that where possible advocacy, guidance and support are **'offered' to Schools and SGO's across a county through engagement with the Strategic County Alliance groups and other local partners.** Where there is reluctance of any partners to engage, this should be shared with the YST Development Coach, to discuss where additional support is required.

## CONTEXT FOR THE 2025/26 CORE DELIVERY OFFER

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The offer is reflective of investment from both the Department for Education and Sport England. The funding from The FA is subject to final confirmation and may be subject to change.

## FUNDING

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The funding for **this year's Lead Inclusion School core offer** as outlined below is;

- **£2000 DfE through Inclusion 2028**
- **£2000 Sport England through system and delivery investment**
- **£1000 The Football Association**

Description of Works	Funding	Payment Schedule
Core Offer (Inclusion 2028)	£2000	Payments are subject to successful and adequate termly delivery and reporting.
Core Offer (Sport England)	£2000	
Core Offer (The Football Association)	TBC August 2025 but c.£1000	
Additional: Opportunity to bid for My Personal Best for Alternative Provision innovation programme.		

# Lead School Prospectus

Activity Area	Description and associated deliverables	Timescales	Funding	Success Measure/s
<b>Inclusion 2028: Training, Advice and Guidance</b>  Lead Inclusion Schools providing high quality advice, training and guidance- in particular related to the Inclusive Education Hub and for Teaching/Learning Support Assistants.	<p>Providing regular support, advice, and guidance to the local school sport workforce through a variety of approaches which could include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Providing training to school staff based on local need (such as Inclusive PE, School Swimming &amp; Water Safety CPD)</li> <li>2. Providing advice and guidance at networking meetings</li> <li>3. Modelling good inclusive practice through an inclusive sport festival</li> <li>4. Signposting inclusive opportunities (such as the Inclusive Education Hub, Inclusive PE, Strength &amp; Balance activity, TOP Sportsability, All about Autism, Supporting PE for TAs and School Swimming/Water Safety resources) to all (inclusive of teachers, TAs, SENDCos and SGOs).</li> </ol> <p><b>New for 2025-26:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signpost and promote to teachers and teaching assistants the bitesize Inclusive PE and Support PE: An introduction to inclusive practice modules.</li> <li>• Promote <b>Inclusion Live Week</b> taking place week commencing <b>26 January 2026</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Signpost Resources/Tools:</b> <a href="#">Inclusive Education Hub</a>, <a href="#">Top Sportsability</a>, <a href="#">All About Autism</a>, <a href="#">All About Me</a>, <a href="#">Inclusive PE e-learning</a>, <a href="#">Supporting PE: an introduction to inclusive practice e-learning</a></p>	31/3/2026	£1000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver a minimum of <b>1</b> x 'improving inclusive practice' CPD sessions for a minimum of 20 members of the school workforce inclusive of Teaching Assistants and Teachers.</li> <li>• Signpost Inclusion Live week and the Inclusive Education Hub to c. 40 members of school staff (can be via email/at events).</li> <li>• Signpost and encourage completions with a minimum of 10 Teaching Assistants the <i>Supporting PE: an introduction to inclusive practice</i> e-learning.</li> <li>• Engage a minimum of 20 teachers through signposting to the <i>Inclusive Physical Education</i> e-learning resource.</li> </ul>

# Lead School Prospectus

<b>Inclusion 2028: Inclusive Sport Programme</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Deliver/Support <b>one</b> inclusive sport festival locally celebrating and inspired by the Glasgow Commonwealth Games 2026.</li> <li>2. Promote the Commonwealth Games inspired Inclusive Sport resources to local partners including SGOs and partner schools to support the delivery of a festival.</li> <li>3. Train/Support the training of a cohort of young leaders to support the delivery of festivals locally.</li> <li>4. Focus on modelling good inclusive practice through engagement with teachers, teaching assistants and PE Leads at the festival.</li> </ol> <p><b>Signpost Resources/Tools:</b> <a href="#">Inclusive Sport Programme</a>, Commonwealth Games Festival Pack</p>	31/03/2026	£1000	<p>A minimum of 100 young people (70% with SEND) participating and engaged in the festival(s).</p> <p>Training and support for a minimum of 10 young sport leaders (30% with SEND) to support delivery of the festivals.</p> <p>Minimum of 10 school workforce attending the festivals and seeing inclusive practice in action.</p> <p>A minimum of 4 extra-curricular clubs created locally through the inspiration of the festival.</p> <p>Identify 1 case study of a young person with SEND impacted through inclusive festivals</p>
<b>School Games Advocacy and Influencing; Lead Schools will upskill and build capacity within the School Games network in inclusive</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Deliver a codesigned I AM Activity Leader Festival with a group of young people with SEND to empower fellow young leaders within the county. The project could be aligned with the objectives of your inclusive sport festival, using the festival pack as a starting point for activities chosen by the young people. This festival will need to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embedding the Youth Voice toolkit and/or activity cards to ensure youth voice is profiled</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	Academic Year 2025- 2026	£500	<p>Deliver a minimum of 1 I AM Activity Leader Festival codesigned by Young People role modelling to local School Games infrastructure.</p> <p>Training and support for a minimum of 10 young sport leaders (30% with SEND) to support delivery of the festivals.</p>

# Lead School Prospectus

<p>practice enabling more young people with SEND to engage in local opportunities to participate or trained to become activity leaders.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider the importance of strength and balance activities as alternative approaches to reaching physically active minutes.</li> <li>Connect with the local infrastructure to identify opportunities for young leaders to champion their skills.</li> </ul> <p>Connecting locally with the School Games network by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uniting forces locally with other local partners including facilitating the implementation of NDSO/NGB inclusive formats.</li> <li>Actively promoting the Inclusive Health Check (IHC) to schools, SGOs, the County Alliance and Active Partnership to improve inclusive practice.</li> <li>Mobilising insight through the local county report to share insight from school census and IHC to provide evidence to inform decision making locally.</li> <li>Collaborate with the local network to ensure trained young leaders with SEND can actively lead in county-wide opportunities.</li> <li>Enhancing local SGO and county level Development Planning to ensure it is inclusive of young people with SEND and those within PRU/Alternative Provision school settings, including liaison with YST County Lead Development Coach.</li> </ul> <p><u><a href="#">Signpost Resources/Tools: Your School Games Inclusive Sport, Inclusive Education Hub, Active Recovery Hub, Autism E-learning, Top Sportsability, Learning &amp; Discovery Festivals, Inclusive Sport Programme Sport Sanctuaries</a></u></p>		£1,500	<p>Establish a minimum of 4 new extra-curricular clubs locally initiated by the young leaders trained back in their schools</p> <p>At least 1 attendance at County Alliance/County SGO meetings to advocate and influence for greater inclusion in School Games.</p> <p>Promote the awareness of NGB/NDSO inclusive Competition Formats and positive experiences of Young People with SEND within the School Games.</p> <p>An increase in number of IHC completions in county.</p> <p>Evidence of greater inclusivity of young people with SEND within SGO and County level Development Planning.</p>
<p>The Football Association: promoting equal opportunities for all</p>	<p>1) Profile the inclusive football offers, using the momentum of the EE Disability FA Cup to increase the opportunities for <b>all</b> young people with SEND to participate in meaningful, accessible provision.</p>	<p>Academic Year 2025-2026</p>	<p>TBC, c. £1000</p>	<p>TBC</p> <p>Support special schools to complete The FA Equal Access Survey</p>

# Lead School Prospectus

young people to play football	<p>2) Connect and collaborate with practitioners and educators in the local infrastructure to embed The Football Association's resources/formats.</p> <p>3) Signpost local and national opportunities to inspire <b>all</b> young people to participate in football with reference to the variety of impairment specific formats available.</p>			<p>Support and signpost schools to Shooting Stars and Comets training opportunities.</p> <p>Promote the EE Disability FA Cup locally to inspire young people and schools.</p>
Innovation Projects (optional additional projects Lead Inclusion Schools can apply for)				
My PB for Alternative Provision (PRU)	<p>We are seeking additional PRU/AP schools to build on the first four years of this project, supporting AP/PRU settings in developing life skills in their young people. The project supports staff to have the required skills and resources to use PE to develop learners' resilience and self belief and for staff to develop and apply life skills that will support young people to thrive in PE, School and Life. The project offers an opportunity to provide training, to up-skill teachers, support assistants, wider school workforce and SLT to engage young people in these settings through adapting their lesson plans and delivery to explicitly focus on key life skill development.</p> <p><b>Note: This project is also being offered directly to PRU/AP settings. LIS will need to demonstrate close connections with PRU/AP schools.</b></p>	£500		10

# Lead School Prospectus

## APPENDIX 1- CORE OFFER

### Timeline and Key Dates

Term	YST Guidelines Lead Inclusion School Actions	Key Dates (where applicable)
Summer 2025	Summer Programme Reporting	July 2025
	First School payment	November 2025
Autumn 2025	National Lead Inclusion School networking day (face to face)	22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025 (Northampton Saints)
	Connect with your YST Inclusion Development Coach this term	September - October 2025
	School Games Regional Conferences (Lead Inclusion Schools are invited and encouraged to attend but not compulsory)	4 <sup>th</sup> November (Bristol), 5 <sup>th</sup> November (London), 11 <sup>th</sup> November (Leeds) and 12 <sup>th</sup> November (Coventry) 2025
	Autumn Programme Reporting	December 2025
Spring 2026	Promote <b>Inclusion Live Week</b>	26 – 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
	Connect with your YST Inclusion DC this term	January - April 2026
	Second School Payment	February 2026
	Youth Sport Trust Conference (optional)	4 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
	Spring Programme Reporting	March 2026
Summer 2026	National Lead Inclusion School networking day (virtual)	26 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
	Summer Programme Reporting	July 2026