



The wider impact of physical education

Coleshill Heath Primary School is showing investing in PE and sport can have positive cross-curricular benefits.

“I consider PE and School Sport to be a vital tool for the holistic development of all our young people,” says Meirion Williams, Headteacher at Coleshill Heath Primary. “Funding enables the future sustainability and growth of PE and school sport and has an great impact on the attainment and achievement of all our young people“

As well as using funding to employ a full time PE specialist, the North Solihull primary is also investing in offering a wider range of sports to pupils, including ultimate frisbee, and Danish long-ball (an adapted version of dodge-ball). The aim is to make sport more inclusive and their efforts seem to be paying off.

By using a locally developed tracking tool, Coleshill Heath Primary School is exploring the correlation between pupil progress in english and maths, attendance and punctuality, and participation in PE and extra-curricular activities. By breaking down barriers to PE and sports, and by involving pupils with attendance issues in pre-school sport and activity clubs, they have seen improvements in behaviour, attendance and attainment. In addition, non-traditional sports like speed stacking, have boosted pupil’s fine motor skills, which teachers find is improving children’s handwriting.

Encouraging healthy lifestyles and tackling obesity are clearly pressing incentives for schools to invest wisely in physical education. But savvy schools like Coleshill Health, are finding clever uses of PE and Sport Premium funding opens up many more benefits.

