



Provision for SEN and more able in PE

Introduction:

Within our PE Curriculum, the overall ethos is to develop the school values of inspire, challenge and achieve. We believe that PE is a unique subject where all children have the chance to succeed no matter what their academic ability is. It is well known that being physically active benefits emotional wellbeing as well as personal fitness, with the daily requirement being at least an hour exercise (30 minutes at school). It is vitally important that those who teach PE, try to instil lifelong learning to ensure our children lead healthy active lifestyles in adulthood.

SEN

This is a subject where SEN pupils often excel as there is no formal written work needed. Often, SEN children take this as their chance to shine and can see a sense of achievement which may not be found in other subjects.

For those who need support with the fine and gross motor skills, there are additional intervention groups to develop their skills in the fundamental movement skills of running, jumping and throwing. These are led by a TA working with a small group so that immediate feedback can be given and the programme can be tailored to engage and develop the areas they need.

We have also had specialist support for those SEN children who needed extra support within the PE lesson. This has involved a selected group of children working together on fun and engaging activities to develop not only their physical skills but also their confidence and communication.

Within the PE lesson, there are a range of ways in which activities can be adapted for SEN. For example, when teaching ball skills, we have a range of ball available and the opportunity for children to choose one which suits them best. When teaching striking and fielding games, such as rounders, we have a range of bats available and can often support the batting process by placing the ball on a cone or by kicking a larger ball instead. The ultimate aim is to have everyone involved within their own capacity with no judgement made.

In gymnastics and dance, we make use of visual cues for support, both with the use of pictures and video. This has helped children to select ideas to use. We also encourage children to work with those who they are going to be the most successful with. This enables them to work together to develop and achieve the lesson objective. We always celebrate success, and offer feedback in a positive and constructive way.

More able

It is important to realise that there are two elements to G&T in PE. A child can be talented within one subject area (e.g. dance) or they can be gifted and talented in a range of areas by demonstrating good subject knowledge all round. Children are identified for both these areas.

Within PE lessons, activities are planned with an opportunity to extend and challenge those children who need it. From our knowledge of the children (including clubs they belong to out of school) we are able to direct the challenging tasks and plan accordingly.

Another way that we extend the skills of our more able pupils is by allowing them to lead activities and coach others. By doing this, they are perfecting their own skills through demonstrations and sharing their subject knowledge by teaching others in how to improve.

In year 7, we have the opportunity for pupils to apply to become Sports Leaders. This is an important role where they set up and carry out activities on the playground at break and lunch. They are responsible for organising their group and what they do as well as trying to encourage as many children as possible to be active. We also use this group of children to lead activities as part of our transition with the First Schools, who are invited in to experience what PE is like at Westacre.

Throughout the school year, there are plenty of sporting competitions both held within school as house competitions and in the wider area against other schools. We actively take part in the School Games and have been selected to showcase our skipping routines as part of the Opening Ceremony. On several occasions, we have been invited to help with the running of events, such as the KS3 long jump and the media team. In 2019, we were fortunate enough to help with the organising of the National Athletics competition held at the Alexander Stadium, Birmingham. We hope to continue with these volunteering opportunities as it allows children to gain an insight into how events are organised and will hopefully inspire them to become involved with sports after their school life.