

Autumn 2022
Edition 1

School Games Hertfordshire

E-NEWSLETTER

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This E-Newsletter is brought to you by the School Games Organisers in Hertfordshire.



Welcome to the School Games Hertfordshire E-Newsletter

We are delighted to welcome you to the first edition of School Games Hertfordshire's e-newsletter, brought to you by the School Games Organisers in Hertfordshire. The newsletter will celebrate all of the wonderful events, sporting provision and opportunities that have taken place across the county on a termly basis.

During the Autumn Term alone, **450** children from **92** schools have participated in **13** county School Games events, which has included: Teach Active festival, county Badminton finals and county primary and secondary Table Tennis finals. This is an astonishing number considering it does not include the participation which takes place on a daily basis in each SGO area.

The School Games now aims to provide every child with a positive experience in an environment where their motivation, competence and confidence are at the centre of the competition, removing barriers and improving access for those in greatest need.

Our aim is to ensure that PE and School Sport in Hertfordshire is of the highest possible quality and it reaches every young person and continues to drive competitive school sport, providing more young people with the opportunity to participate and achieve their personal best.

If you have any questions or queries relating to the School Games programme in Hertfordshire, please visit: <https://sportinherts.org.uk/peschoolsport/schoolgames/#content>, follow us on Twitter: [@Herts_SGOs](https://twitter.com/Herts_SGOs) or watch our video: <https://youtu.be/cMAdneidOeA>.

We do hope you enjoy reading this edition of School Games Hertfordshire's e-newsletter, celebrating the Autumn Term 2022.



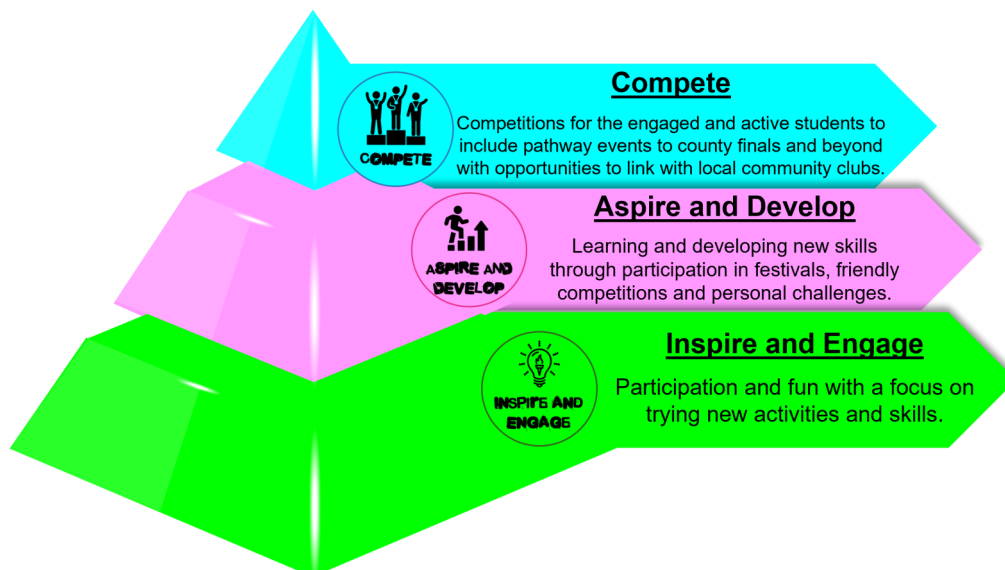
Hertfordshire School Games Organisers



The School Games in Hertfordshire

Hertfordshire School Games events will take place under one of the sections of the pyramid (below) to ensure all young people are able to access competitions at the right level to ensure maximum enjoyment and a positive experience.

All events will be underpinned by the School Games values and allow opportunities for young people to develop and enhance their knowledge, understanding and apply their leadership skills.



The School Games is a fun and enjoyable way of engaging all young people through school sport – either as a competitor, young leader, official, or as part of a media team, focusing on blogging and promoting sport. Hertfordshire has a broad and varied leadership programme to support all pupils.

School Games Values: The Spirit of the Games

The Spirit of the Games Values were developed by young people to identify what the experience of school sport should be built around and focus on personal excellence through participation.

There are seven values which form the 'Spirit of the Games': Passion, Self-Belief, Respect, Honesty, Teamwork, Determination and Eco-Friendly.



School Games Organisers in Hertfordshire

School Games Organisers (SGOs) are funded by the Department of Health and Social Care and the National Lottery through Sport England to deliver the School Games programme for three days a week, to ensure all schools from Key Stage 2 upwards have access to positive experiences. They endeavour to ensure that the School Games programme connects with Community Sport and is linked to the work of National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs).

The county's SGOs are available to assist schools with their sport and physical education programmes and offer a range of professional development opportunities for school staff. They have detailed knowledge of the local community sports infrastructure and can offer advice on how local primary and secondary schools can connect with this.

There are 12 School Games Organisers across different School Sports Partnership (SSP) locations in Hertfordshire. You can meet them all on the [back page](#)!





Meet the new School Games Organisers in Hertfordshire

HERTFORD AND WARE

Lisa Robinson

A little bit about yourself: I have recently taken over this post in September, having previously been a Primary School Teacher at a local Primary School in Hertford. I worked closely with the Hertford & Ware Sports Partnership for a number of years as a PE Subject Leader. I have always had a passion for sport.

Favourite thing about your job so far: Organising festivals and events for children in the area to attend and providing lots of opportunities for children to be active.

An interesting fact about yourself: I have represented my country in swimming, and have been a British Master Record Holder in swimming too!

Favourite event and why: My favourite event so far has got to be the Every1In Festival which was an Inclusion Festival for all including SEND, less-active, as well as children with disabilities. It was wonderful to see the children experiencing different activities and having lots of fun. There were children at this festival that hadn't been to an event with their school before and feedback from some were that it was their best day ever! I am also looking forward to the Sportshall Athletics events in the Spring Term, as this was always one of my favourite events to bring my school to when I was a PE Lead.



NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE

Alex Jennings

A little bit about yourself: I love everything sport! I have a background in playing football and was lucky enough to play at a decent level when I was younger. I have been a qualified PE teacher for over 10 years and have experience teaching in both Primary and Secondary education.

Favourite thing about your job so far: Being a part of and seeing all the enjoyment at events.

An interesting fact about yourself: I have an identical twin brother.

Favourite event and why: The Hertfordshire School Games Summer Celebration day because of the sheer number of children who attend and the countless opportunities that children can take part in.





WELWYN HATFIELD

Terri Harvey

A little bit about yourself: My name is Terri and I am the SGO for Welwyn & Hatfield. I am based at Ridgeway Academy having previously worked at Bournemouth University managing a student coaching programme. I have a background in sport development and coaching, as well as, a background in gender studies and inclusion in football in the UK. With it being my first year in the role of SGO, I am looking forward to working with the schools in my area to promote healthy living and promote inclusion across the board.

Favourite thing about your job so far: working with lots of different people to provide sporting provisions across Welwyn & Hatfield.

An interesting fact about yourself: When I was 9 years old my artwork won a competition to become the Land Rover Christmas card!

Favourite event and why: Basketball, because, the format of the competition with boys playing the first half and girls in the second half makes for excellent competition!



NORTH EAST HERTFORDSHIRE

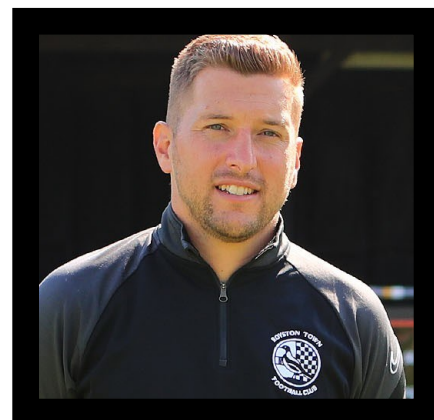
Lewis Endacott

A little bit about yourself: I have worked in sports education for the last 16 years.

Favourite thing about your job so far: I love seeing the enjoyment on children's faces when they take part in different sports, especially sports they might not do on a regular basis.

An interesting fact about yourself: I have made 350 appearances for Royston Town FC (Semi Pro) and I also manage their Women's side.

Favourite event and why: Sports Hall Athletics - The intensity of the events is great and seeing the determination of the children trying to beat their scores.





herts
sports
partnership



Spotlight on...Harpenden SSP

The Autumn term has seen the Harpenden partnership deliver a range of events from Tag Rugby, Badminton, Table Tennis and Basketball aimed at diverse groups and abilities aiming to provide positive experiences for all participants.

There has also been leadership training for Tag Rugby, Playground leaders and Inclusion Champions run throughout the term too.

A particular focus has been promoting the Active 60 agenda. A teacher training course was delivered by Teach Active at Bowmansgreen School in October, *pictured below*. The course was very valuable in identifying ways of making core curriculum subjects more active and work will now be undertaken to see how this has influenced delivery within the schools that attended.



In addition to this, a variety of pupil voice sessions have taken place in order to identify pupils' opinions on the PE and Sport offer in their schools. This has been a hugely positive opportunity to gain insight into the pupil experience and an area that the partnership will continue to develop over the coming terms.

Congratulations to all schools and young people that have participated in events or training at a District level and to our very successful County finalists too.

Mr D Klinger

School Games Organiser - Harpenden

School Games Manager - Roundwood Park SSP



Spotlight on...Dacorum SSP

Following on from last years successful County Teach Active Festivals, DSSN wanted to support more schools and pupils in the district to access this type of event. So, two dates were planned into our Autumn Term Calendar, and details can be found below.

Literacy Challenge

Year 4 pupils from 5 different schools took part in a variety of challenges combining PE and Literacy. The Laureate leaders delivered the stations on the day including activities such as football aiming, choosing the correct punctuation relay, carrying on the sentence whilst catching a ball and many more.

Thank you to the Laureate leaders for delivering all the activities.



Numeracy Challenge

Year 4 pupils from 4 different schools took part on a variety of challenges combining PE and Numeracy. The laureate leaders delivered the stations on the day including activities such as measuring shapes, working out the fractions to collect the treasure and fruit relay races.

Thank you to the Laureate leaders for delivering all the activities.



Ms C McCawley

School Games Organiser - Dacorum

Dacorum School Sports Manager - Dacorum School Sports Network



Spotlight on...Stevenage SSP

Year 5/6 Mixed Cross Country Competition

Back in September, the Stevenage Sporting Futures Team hosted the highly anticipated primary cross-country competition at Fairlands Valley Lakes.

16 schools from Stevenage and the surrounding areas participated in four competitions: Year 5 boys, Year 5 girls, Year 6 boys and Year 6 girls. There were a total of 300 runners competing. Whilst the Year 6 event is a Compete opportunity, the Year 5 event allows students to become familiar with the course and their surroundings ready for when they are in Year 6.

The atmosphere at Fairlands was electric with teachers, parents and members of the public stopping by to show their support. The children ran for individual places and their places were also collected for the team competition.



The event also featured in the local newspaper: <https://www.thecomet.net/sport/23029703.primary-schools-cross-country-returns-style-stevenage/>

Year 7 Teambuilding Festival

On Tuesday 27th September, the partnership led a brand new event aimed to engage the secondary schools - the Inspire and Engage Year 7 Teambuilding Festival.

Groups of students from our secondary schools participated in the event at The Nobel School to support their transition to their new school and work with their peers.

They took part in a range of activities which focused on teamwork, communication, collaboration and problem solving: number paper plate flip, minefield and bench order. All of the children did fantastically well and left with a participation bookmark.



Mr R Carolan

Co School Games Organiser - Stevenage

Executive Partnership Manager - Stevenage Sporting Futures Team



Spotlight on...St Albans SSP

A highlight of the Autumn term for the St Albans Sports Partnership was the Inspire and Engage Key Stage 2 Inclusion festival. It was open to any SEND (Physical, Learning and Sensory Impairments) students in Years 3-6 to attend. 9 schools from St Albans together with 9 schools from the adjoining Dacorum area participated in the festival with a total of 118 young people.

Prior to the event Key Stage 5 student leaders from Beaumont attended a specific Inclusion training event organised by Inclusion 2024 and Panathlon. This ensured the leaders were competent and confident to deliver to their sessions to any young person with impairments. The KS5 leaders were supported by other Inclusive champions from Beaumont.

Other activities on the day were led by the Herts Disability foundation. The young people were able to participate in Archery, Boccia, Curling, Relay games, Speedstacking, reaction games and Seated Volleyball.



All of the young people enjoyed the festival, giving them a chance to not only to try out new sports but to also represent their school at an event.

One student commented that they had been made to feel that “they can do anything.” Moving forward we will be renaming the Inclusion festival to a “Can-do festival”.

Mrs T Angus

School Games Organiser - St Albans

Hertfordshire County School Games Manager - Herts Sports Partnership



Spotlight on...Watford and Hertsmere SSP

The Watford and Hertsmere School Sports Partnership got off to a cracking start this year with over 25 schools attending our review and target setting meeting hosted at Queens' School.

It was great to be back running actual competitions; this Autumn term we have run 3 hockey competitions hosted at Hertswood, Watford Boys Grammar and Queens' school resulting in a final with over 150 participants. As an indoor activity, we hosted 3 speed stacking competitions for years 2 and 4 with over 180 participants taking part. Moving back outside, years 1, 3 and 5 took part in the annual cross country event over 3 areas with over 1000 participants.

Focusing on the secondary events, U11, 13 and 16 table tennis was hosted at Edge grove with over 80 participants and 32 participants took part in U14 and U16 badminton.

As well as the competitions and events, mid-day supervisor training has been run along with specific inset training in schools and play leaders training has been developed in primary schools leading onto KS2 festivals.

A busy Autumn Term and now onto the next one. Thank you to all of the schools who have hosted and provided excellent leaders for events this term.



Ms D Lipley

School Games Organiser - Watford and Hertsmere

Partnership Development Manager - Watford and Hertsmere SSP



Spotlight on...Birchwood SSP

The Birchwood Sports Partnership has had a very busy start to the Academic Year. Despite initial concerns, schools have relished the prospect of face-to-face festivals and competitions. Although numbers are not quite where they were pre-covid, they are definitely moving in the right direction.

The most popular BSP competitions in the Autumn Term were U9 Tri-Golf, the ever-competitive U11 Basketball and a year 1 / 2 Multi skills event for pupils who are struggling to settle in at school. Unfortunately, we had to cancel our 5/6 Tag Rugby Festival not once but twice, due to inclement weather but this is rearranged for March.

The Inclusion Champions continue to impress - despite only two remaining from the original four selected, they have continued to lead activities with care and enthusiasm. They are very much looking forward to being involved in the selection process as we look to enlist new Inclusion Champions for 2023.

The BSP currently has 190 secondary school students who have expressed an interest in leading festivals and events, although there are a core of 30 who regularly assist. As an SGO I have been working hard to recruit, visiting assemblies.



Schools are very much looking forward to resuming events in January with Sportshall Athletics kicking things off.

Miss C Peet

School Games Organiser - Bishops Stortford
Birchwood Sports Partnership



Spotlight on...Watford and Three Rivers SSP

Three Rivers & Watford School Sports Partnership Dance Festival

A highlight of the term for the Three Rivers and Watford School Sports Partnership was hosting the annual Dance Festival again at Rickmansworth School. Taking place across three performance nights, the festival saw over 20 infant and primary schools taking part, with students in Years 2 and 4 performing in a celebration of dance.

The festival got started with the rehearsals taking place on the Friday afternoon and the full day on Monday, providing a great opportunity for the children to practice their routine for the first time on stage and watch other school performances. Over the three consecutive evenings, there was a wide variety of dance on display, with themes including Africa, Science, Learning and Friendship, Street Dance, and Disney hits including Moana and The Lion King. With a packed out audience each evening, the festival provided an opportunity for all to perform on stage to over 300 spectators including parents, family, teachers and Head teachers.

We would like to thank all primary and secondary staff that supported the evenings, the stage crew, sound and lighting technician team, leaders, and Year 7-9 dancers from Rickmansworth School for supporting the show each night.

A big 'Well Done' to all the schools and students that took part in the Three Rivers and Watford School Sports Partnership Dance Festival this year!



Mr M Harrington

School Games Organiser - Watford and Three Rivers



An update: Student Leadership

As School Games Organisers we are tasked with creating positive experiences that support the character development of targeted young people. In Hertfordshire we do this through developing a range of leadership opportunities from KS2 through to KS5.



Most SGO's in Hertfordshire support and train Playground Leaders, Bronze Ambassadors, Activity Leaders and our new strand of Eco Warriors in KS2. We each have our own leadership academies at KS3 who support with the delivery of the numerous events we deliver throughout the year. These leaders are trained either by their SGO, or through NGB courses. Last year we branched out to include training of Inclusion Champions, whose role was to support with increasing the number of pupils with SEND taking part in physical activity. At KS4 and 5 our Young Leaders have the opportunity to branch out into more volunteering opportunities through delivering school clubs and competitions supporting PE departments to engage more young people into PE and School Sport. They also have support to access their local community clubs to volunteer and build on their own coaching ability. At this stage of the leadership pathway, students can apply to be part of the Hertfordshire Young Coach Academy. Through this academy students receive training and support to run clubs in their school, or local primary school, and they also support the delivery of the Hertfordshire School Games Celebration Day which takes place in July.

Each SGO could not run half of their activities without the support and dedication of these young leaders, and the PE staff within their schools.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributes towards developing our leaders and the positive experiences they offer.

If you would like any further information about leadership in your area, please contact your local SGO in the first instance. Or contact Clare McCawley, Leadership, Coaching and Volunteering lead for Hertfordshire on c.mccawley@longdean.herts.sch.uk.

Ms C McCawley

School Games Organiser - Dacorum

Leadership, Coaching and Volunteering Lead - Hertfordshire



An update: Primary Physical Education Conference 2023

“Sustaining Quality through Challenge”

The Hertfordshire School Games Organisers and Herts Sports Partnership can't wait for the upcoming PE Conference. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity, great value for money and supports the new guidance for the PE and Sport premium around sustainability and upskilling staff. Time to network with other PE colleagues and gain up to date information to support your School PE and Sport offer.

The conference is aimed at:

- Headteachers
- All teachers, Teaching assistants, coaches and instructors involved in the teaching of Physical Education, School Sport, and Physical activity.

The full day will comprise of keynote addresses followed by a choice of practical and theoretical workshops to learn more about the focus areas that are most relevant to their professional and school needs.



By attending the conference delegates will:

- Gain an awareness of topical and national agendas and challenges, offering insight and ideas on how they may be addressed in their own settings
- Gain a better understanding of the PE agenda in schools including Ofsted
- develop ideas for promoting activity, health, and wellbeing, including mental health in their school
- gain information regarding resources that can support the development of PE, Physical activity, and sport in their school
- be provided with opportunities to explore ways of engaging young people in physical activity
- discover local providers and organisations by wandering around the Marketplace Emporium
- be provided with a great opportunity to network with colleagues from across the county
- Be more informed on how Herts Sport and Physical Activity Partnership, Youth Sport Trust, School Games Organisers and Herts for learning can support their school

For full details and to book a place, please visit: https://cpd.hertsforlearning.co.uk/courses/bookings/pb_add.asp?cid=17705.

Mrs T Angus

School Games Organiser - St Albans

Hertfordshire County School Games Manager - Herts Sports Partnership

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Thanks to the following organisations who continue to support the School Games initiative in Hertfordshire:



Thank you for reading!

To find out more about us, please visit:



[@Herts_SGOs](https://twitter.com/Herts_SGOs)



<https://sportinherts.org.uk/peschoolsport/schoolgames/#content>



<https://youtu.be/cMAdneidOeA>

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