

Canalway Educate Together National School

Physical Education (P.E.) Whole School Plan

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INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

This policy began development in September 2013 when Portobello ETNS opened. This plan reflects the Primary Curriculum 1999. It is intended to support teachers in Physical Education (P.E.) planning and lesson development.

Rationale

Portobello Educate Together National School is committed to providing a broad and balanced P.E. programme for all children. Emphasis is placed on active participation and enjoyment for each individual child. Portobello ETNS supports the importance of P.E. as part of the holistic development of the child. Portobello ETNS acknowledges that P.E. provides children with learning opportunities through the medium of movement and contributes to their overall development by helping them lead full, active and healthy lives.

Vision

At Portobello we realise the importance of P.E. as part of the holistic education of the child. We strive to support the P.E. curriculum and to realise the potential of every child at our school.

Aims

We support and endorse the aims of the Primary Curriculum for P.E., which are:

- to promote the physical, social, emotional and intellectual development of the child.
- to develop positive personal qualities.
- to help in the acquisition of an appropriate range of movement skills in a variety of contexts.
- to promote understanding and knowledge of the various aspects of movement.
- to develop an appreciation of movement and the use of the body as an instrument of expression and creativity.
- to promote enjoyment of, and positive attitudes towards, physical activity and its contribution to lifelong health-related fitness, thus preparing the child for active and purposeful use of leisure time.

CURRICULUM PLANNING

Strands and Strand Units

Planning for Physical Education is based around the six strands of the P.E. curriculum, which are as follows:

- Athletics
- Aquatics

- Dance
- Games
- Gymnastics
- Outdoor and Adventure

Approaches and Methodologies

Portobello supports and encourages the use of the following approaches and methodologies.

- Direct teaching approach
- Guided discovery approach
- Integration.

Maximum participation will be supported during each lesson through

- Structured P.E. lessons (warm up, main activity, cool down).
- Team work
- Individual work
- Paired work
- Station teaching

Assessment and record keeping

Assessment will typically be completed during P.E. lessons and will comprise of:

- Willingness to participate in activities
- Level of competence in carrying out an activity
- Interest in, and attitude to, activities.
- Willingness to cooperate in individual, pair and group activities.

Inclusive P.E. / S.E.N.

All children will participate in P.E. lessons at Portobello ETNS. Lessons and planning will be adapted to suit the needs of the individual pupils within each class. Support staff will be involved in promoting active participation from all children.

Equality of access and participation in P.E.

In accordance with the ethos of Portobello ETNS equal opportunities will be given to all children regardless of gender, ethnic background, additional learning needs or socio economic status across all strands of the P.E. curriculum. All children at Portobello ETNS are to participate in P.E. lessons at all times. In exceptional circumstances in the case of illness/injury parents are to explain in writing to the class teacher requesting permission to abstain from class.

Linkage and integration

P.E. will be linked with other curricular areas in line with the holistic approach to teaching and the well being of all pupils at Portobello ETNS. For example:

Subject	Integration
Gaeilge	Damhsa/ ranganna as Gaeilge
Maths	Tables/leagues
English	Rhymes/movement poems
SESE	Traditional skipping games, games then and now, Olympic games/world cup etc
Arts Education	Link with drama, music – action songs/anthems
SPHE	Taking care of ourselves

ORGANISATIONAL PLANNING

Timetable

Pupils to engage in minimum of one daily physical activity - DPA.

P.E. classes to take place Tuesday and Thursdays.

Weekly walk to take place on Friday each week linking in with other curricular areas.

‘Active Schools’ week to take place in May to include participation of whole school community.

Code of Ethics

Refer to Child Protection Policy

All outside coaches/staff to adhere to Portobello ETNS child protection policy.

After School Activities – N/A

P.E. Equipment

All P.E. equipment to be stored under the stairs, lesson flash cards available as warm up/cool down suggestions.

Health and Safety

Children should wear appropriate clothing and footwear for P.E. lessons.

First aid available at office and under sinks in classroom.

Incidents that occur during lessons are to be reported to principal and recorded in notebook in the office.

Individual teachers planning and reporting

- Class plans for school year

- Plans to be spiral in nature
- Plans to include all strands of the P.E. curriculum
- S.E.N. staff to support implementation of plans
- Cuntas Míósúil to be used to ensure all plans are complete

Staff development

Staff are working towards achieving the Active Schools Award and will complete training as is necessary to support excellence in Physical Education at Portobello ETNS.

Parental Involvement

Parents are encouraged to support P.E. at Portobello ETNS. Parents accompany classes on weekly walks. Parents to participate in Active Schools week.

Community Links

Initial links have been made with local GAA clubs, Portobello ETNS is open to establishing links with other community members who can support PE development.

CONCLUSIONS

Success criteria

The success of this school plan will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- Teachers' preparation has been based on this plan
- Procedures outlined in this plan have been consistently followed.

The success of this plan in achieving the aims will be assessed by:

- Teacher feedback
- Children's' feedback
- Inspectors' suggestions and reports
- Board of Management feedback

Implementation

Staff will evaluate the progress in Physical Education by referring back to our set of stated objectives as outlined in this plan.

Ratification and Communication

- On ratification of this plan by the staff and Board of Management this plan will be communicated to all teachers through distribution and will become part of the Plan Scoile.
- This plan will be reviewed after two years. All teachers on the staff will be responsible for informing the Physical Education post holder/Physical Education Curriculum Team of changes or additions they think could be made.

Chairperson – NIAMH SHINE

Principal – DERMOT STANLEY

Date 10.04.2014