

**EXTENDED SCHOOLS PROVISION AND OUT OF SCHOOLS
HOURS ACTIVITIES**

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: Learning City, Safe City

**CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT OBJECTIVES: Delivering Customer
Focused Services, Efficient and Effective Council**

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To inform Scrutiny Members of the access by children and young people to activities delivered from school sites, out of school hours as part of the Extended Schools provision.

2. Background

- 2.1 The 2002 Education Act gave school governing bodies the powers to develop extended services from school sites but placed a duty on them to consult with the Headteacher and school staff, the Local Education Authority, parents and pupils in doing so. It was also recommended that consultation took place with the local community.
- 2.2 School governing bodies were not allowed to use core school budgets to subsidise lettings and had to maintain separate community budgets. The need to implement full cost recovery for school lettings means that charges may be prohibitive for some community providers.
- 2.3 This financial guidance remained in place until 2010 when legislation has given the freedom to schools to use budgets flexibly. However with the potential of reduced funding, the duty of governors is to prioritise funding for the delivery of the school's core business.
- 2.4 In 2004, the government provided funding to local authorities to support schools to develop and deliver extended services. By 2005, a core offer of extended services was defined in the DfE Extended Schools Prospectus.
- 2.5 This set out a minimum core offer which it was expected that all schools would provide access to for children, young people, parents and the local community by September 2010. This was
- Swift and easy access to specialist services

- A varied menu of out of school activities for children and young people.
 - Childcare for primary age children available 8.00 am to 6.00 pm, 48 weeks a year where there was demand and a safe place to be for 11-14 year olds from 8.00 am to 6.00 pm in term time with some holiday provision where there was a need.
 - Parenting and Family Learning
 - Community access to school facilities particularly specialist sports, arts and ICT facilities.
- 2.6 Guidance stated that schools did not have to provide each of the extended services individually but through working in partnership with other local schools, private and community providers they must ensure that children, young people and parents had access to the full core offer. Furthermore services were only deemed necessary where there was demand and where delivery was feasible. Schools had to demonstrate that there was no demand through consultation. Suitability of premises and safeguarding of pupils were another consideration in developing community access.
- 2.7 Within the context of this report the most significant elements of the Core Offer are community access to specialist facilities on school sites and a varied menu of out of school activities.
- 2.8 The Sunderland Extended Schools Strategy 'Open for Everyone' 2005-10, stated that Sunderland was building their extended schools programme on a strong foundation as there was already a high level of extended services across all elements of the core offer being delivered through schools. In particular, it referenced the city wide study support programme developed through Lottery New Opportunities and Standards Fund from 2001 which has resulted in all schools delivering out of school activities for their pupils.
- 2.9 Furthermore a summer holiday programme had been developed from 2003, which accessed external funding to enable all secondary schools to run an activity programme for partner primary schools aimed, in the first instance, at pupils making the transition from primary to secondary school. The holiday programme has since been extended to special schools.
- 2.10 The Local Authority has provided support to schools to access external funding to develop community facilities on schools sites and provided ongoing support to develop community activity programmes.
- 2.11 The most significant capital investment programmes were supported by:
- Space for Sports and Arts Lottery funding
 - People first (now the Sunderland Shared Service Centres)
 - The Specialist Schools Programme

- Sure Start Early Years and Childcare Grant (Extended Schools Capital)
- 2.12 Significant investment in specialist facilities at primary schools which is the Space for Sport for Arts and People First programme has meant that these schools are more likely to provide activities for both young people and adults in the evening.
- 2.13 The scope of this report is to provide information on access to activities on school sites for children and young people with a particular focus on evening (after 5.00 pm) and weekend provision. It should be noted that schools also provide access to school facilities for activities aimed at adults, in particular adult learning and sport and wellness. This is not covered within the remit of this report.

3. Current position

3.1 Study Support

- 3.1.1 Study support is defined as learning activity outside normal lessons which young people take part in voluntarily. National research has demonstrated that study support has a real impact on those who attend in terms of increasing academic attainment and improving behaviour and attendance. The motivating factors for pupils can be transferred to the classroom.
- 3.1.2 In 2009-10, Sunderland schools offered 2,104 activities with 48,372 study support places available. On average there is more than one study support place available for every child or young person attending school in Sunderland.
- 3.1.3 Schools reported take up of 38,931 places equating to 80% of places available.
- 3.1.4 Within the Sunderland schools programme, the majority of study support is delivered by school staff or volunteers and is free or there is a small charge should schools buy in external provision

3.2 Young people's access to activities on school sites during evenings, weekends and holidays

- 3.2.1 Whilst all schools have a programme of study support aimed at their own pupils, fewer schools provide activities for young people after 5.00 pm and at weekends. Activities delivered from school sites after 5.00 pm and at weekends may be delivered by external private or voluntary providers who would charge a fee or subscription. Schools do endeavour to ensure that activities are affordable, often by subsidising the cost of activities from their community budget. Currently schools are provided with funding through the Standards Fund Extended Schools Subsidy to ensure that children and young people who are

economically and socially disadvantaged have access to the same level of out of school activity as their peers. This allows them to fund places for individual pupils.

3.2.2 Schools in Sunderland are organised into 17 extended school clusters. These are geographically organised with the exception of a citywide special schools cluster.

3.2.3 In a survey of the activities delivered from school sites for children and young people after 5.00 pm and at weekends, the following findings emerged:

- There is at least one school in each cluster providing activities for young people after 5.00 pm. On average one in three schools provides activities for young people after 5.00 pm.
- At weekends, 15 out of the 17 clusters have at least one school providing activities for young people. Where clusters do not have a school delivering activities at weekends they signpost to voluntary youth providers in the local area. On average, one in five schools provides activities at weekends.
- The main provision from nursery schools is childcare which is open until after 5.00 pm. There is no weekend provision.
- Thirty-one primary schools [39%] reported that they provide evening activities for young people with sport being the most common type of activity. However there is a variety of other activities available.
- Seven primary schools reported that they provide activities for young people at the weekend.
- Thirteen secondary schools [81%] reported that they provided evening activities for young people. There is a balance of sports, arts and other activity available.
- Nine secondary schools [56%] reported that they provide activities for young people at the weekend.
- The two secondary schools which do not provide activities are St Anthony's Catholic Girls Schools which sign posts pupils to activities at St Aidan's Catholic School and Sandhill View School. Sandhill View School does not have control of facilities after 5.00 pm or at weekends, as these pass to the control of the private company as part of the Private Finance agreement. The school links with local youth providers to provide young people with opportunities.
- Of the eight schools for pupils with special educational needs, three provide evening activities and one provides weekend activities for young people.

3.2.4 The evidence shows that there is a high level of access to activities delivered from school sites in Sunderland on evenings beyond 5.00 pm and some access at weekends, particularly to secondary schools which have specialist facilities. Where access is not possible as in the case of Sandhill View, the school signposts young people to other provisions in the local area.

3.2.5 Case studies of a primary and secondary school that provide a high level of community access are attached as appendices.

4. Barriers to Community Access.

4.1 Within the Extended Services in and around Schools Core Offer, community access is defined as, *“Where a school has facilities for use by the wider community [e.g. playing fields, sports facilities, IT facilities, halls] it should look to open these up to meet the needs in response to local demand. If there are existing facilities which meet local need, there is no need for the school to open up and where consultation reveals no demand, there is no need to set up services. Extended services should not be developed in competition with local private, public and voluntary providers but should complement existing provision.”*

4.2 In opening up school facilities beyond the school day, governors need to give consideration to:

- Safeguarding - it is their responsibility to ensure that any provider delivering activities has robust safeguarding and safer recruitment policies and procedures in place.
- Public liability - to ensure that this is not the responsibility of the Governing Body, all schools must have Transfer of Control agreements in place with external providers delivering from the site and must ensure that there is adequate risk management for any activity delivered by the school.
- Finance - there should be a charging policy in place with external providers to ensure that the school budget does not subsidise community access. However schools may choose to use their budget to deliver out of school activities for the benefit of their own pupils as this supports attainment and achievement.

4.3 The Extended Schools Team have developed a toolkit to support schools in the planning and funding of extended services provision including how to open up facilities for community access. The toolkit does not aim to provide all the answers to technical questions the schools may have, but it does signpost schools to relevant local authority representatives who will provide the appropriate guidance. The toolkit can be accessed through the following website address: www.sunderland.gov.uk/estoolkit

4.4 The most common reasons for schools not opening up facilities beyond 5.00 pm and at weekends were:

- There was adequate provision for young people in the local area run by voluntary youth providers. In Ryhope, the extended schools cluster chose to pool funding to commission services for young people from Blue Watch, a local voluntary youth provider.

- The cost of employing site management staff to cover the extended hours and conditions of employment for site management staff.
- Site security.

5. Risks to future community access to school sites:

- 5.1 From 2008-11 funding was provided through the Standards Fund: Extended Schools Sustainability Grant for the purpose of supporting the co-ordination of extended services in and around schools. From April 2011 the Government are simplifying the funding system by mainstreaming relevant grants into the Direct Schools Grant. At the present time, all schools have expressed an intention to sustain extended school arrangements and work collaboratively to plan activities for children and young people.

6. Recommendation

- 6.1 The Community and Safer City Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note the out of school hours activities programme for children and young people

Appendix 1

Dubmire Primary School (school have approved case study submission)

Dubmire Primary School is a community school for pupils aged 3-11yrs. The school has been awarded the Quality in Study Support Kite Mark and also the Green Flag Award in recognition of the contribution pupils make to sustainable development. Daycare is provided on site and this is run by the Governing Body of the school. The school links with the Monument Childrens Centre with facilities and services available on the school site.

The Daycare 'Rainbow Rascals' managed by the school since 2007, offers childcare from 6 weeks to five years old and is open 50 weeks of the year, excluding bank holidays from, 8:00am-6:00pm. The wrap around care - breakfast clubs, after school care and holiday club is available for children up to the age of 14yrs.

The school offers a variety of study support and extra curricular activities for their pupils. Study Support at Dubmire Primary School is an integral part of their school day and provides a wide variety of activities which are aimed at developing the child as a whole person. During 2009/10 the school offered its pupil's up to 20 activities/clubs which they could choose to partake in ranging from football and cookery to learning how to play the saxophone. Out of those 20 activities 443 places were available with *409 taking part. 37 pupils were eligible for free school meals, 7 BME, 49 SEN and 0 children looked after.

Study Support activities at Dubmire Primary also aim to enhance their pupil's ability to learn and raise their self-esteem by responding to their individual needs above all it encourages participation by all in an aim to raise achievement across the school.

The School Ofsted Inspection 2010 states:

"This is a good school. The strong relationships that exist between staff, pupils and parents contribute well to its welcoming and caring ethos. The rich curriculum, which includes an extensive range of after-school clubs, promotes pupils' personal, social and emotional development well."

**Please note that the pupil figures are not based on individual pupil's as some may have attended more than one activity.*

Dubmire Primary was awarded Space for Sports and Arts capital funding from Sports England in 2002 to enhance their facilities in order to develop a comprehensive programme of sports and arts activities for pupils and the local community. The school used the funding for a multipurpose Hall, Sports and Arts room, Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), entrance, changing rooms and fixed equipment. The facilities are available for hire and can operate, if required, up until 9:00pm on evenings. The school has in place all of the relevant policies and procedures relating to risk management, insurance and safeguarding.

The Schools Ofsted inspection 2004 states:

At the time of setting up the new school, the head teacher and governors successfully secured funding to provide the additional facilities for sports and arts activities. The facilities enhance community life and are extremely well used.

The 2010 Ofsted inspection states:

“They [pupils] develop their enterprise skills by organising fund-raising activities and are eager to take part in artistic and cultural activities such as visits to the theatre and attending the schools very popular 'performing arts' club.”

The facilities are currently well used throughout the week and at weekends with regular fixed bookings (fig.1) with on average 294 people from the community (figure not separated by age) attending the facilities on a monthly basis.

The Ofsted Inspection 19-20 October 2010 states:

“Governors involve themselves well in the work of the school. They have actively promoted a wide range of opportunities and services which secure the place of the school at the centre of the community it serves. This has ensured that the school makes a strong contribution to community cohesion within the immediate locality”.

Dubmire Ofsted 2004

“The school provides a base for a wide range of out of school activities for pupils and members of the community. Out of normal hours, the school is buzzing and alive with children and adults attending the activities on offer. This has enhanced community life tremendously, as local facilities are few and activities are provided at minimal costs.”

Fig. 1.

Sports & Arts at Dubmire Primary School

Timetable

Day	Activity	Area	Times
Monday	GB Sports - Fit for Fun	Small Hall	15.30-16.30
	Jaynastics	Large Hall	16.30-18.30
	Aerobics	Large Hall	18.30-19.30
Tuesday	Band Practice	Large Hall	15.15-16.00
	Zumba	Large Hall	17.30-18.30
	Football - McGill	MUGA	18.30-19.30
	Taekwando	Large Hall	18.30-19.30
	Football - Verinder	MUGA	19.30-20.30
	Badminton	Large Hall	20.00-21.00
Wednesday	Reisdents Row Youth Club	Large Hall	18.00-20.00
	Football - Maddison	MUGA	18.00-19.00
	Football - Hetton Lyons	MUGA	19.00-20.00
Thursday	Football - Atmstrong	MUGA	17.00-18.00
	Zumba	Large Hall	18.30-19.30

	Football - Topping	MUGA	19.00-20.00
Friday	Jaynastics	Large Hall	16.30-19.00
	Cheerleading/Dance	Small Hall	15.30-18.00
Saturday	Taekwando	Large Hall	10.00-12.30

Appendix 2



Oxclose Community School (School approved this case study)

Oxclose Community School is for pupils aged 11-16 years. It has a specialist status for Performing and Visual Arts. The school has purpose built facilities for use by the community as well as the school itself including a sports hall, performing arts area and recently developed fitness suite. The school has a wide range of activities that are offered and promoted to the community that are offered from 4.30pm -9.45pm on weekdays and 8.45am-4.30pm at weekends. The activities are delivered in the main by external providers. The local youth provider delivers a youth club and music project from the school several evenings per week.

(see timetable of activities)

The school has been awarded the Quality in Study Support Mark for the Study Support (out of school activities) it offers its pupils. Activities offered to pupils include breakfast club activities, chess club, sports clubs and various performing arts clubs. The school offers a number of school excursions and trips including an annual skiing trip abroad. An annual 'summer school' takes place during the summer holidays for year 6 children who will be joining the school in September - the provision supports them in their transition between primary and secondary school.

Time table of activities Oxclose Community School

Community Activities 10/11	
	MONDAY Junior Badminton 5:30pm – 7:30pm Boxercise 5:30pm – 6:30pm Various Dance 5:45pm – 9:30pm Singing 5:45pm – 8:15pm Pilates 6:30pm – 7:30pm Judo 7:00pm – 9:00pm Yoga 7:00pm – 9:00pm Music Project 6:00pm – 9:45pm Football (All Ages) 5:45pm – 9:00pm PULSE Health & Fitness Centre 4:30pm – 8:30pm
	TUESDAY Youth Club 6:30pm – 9:00pm Football (All Ages) 5:45pm – 9:15pm PULSE Health & Fitness Centre 4:30pm – 8:30pm
	WEDNESDAY Football (All Ages) 5:30pm – 8:45pm
	

Badminton	7:30pm – 9:45pm
Table Tennis	4.30pm – 6.30pm
Kettlebells	6.00pm – 7.00pm
Zumba	7.30pm – 8.30pm
Judo	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Various Dance	5:30pm – 9:30pm
PULSE Health & Fitness	4:30pm – 8:30pm

Centre

THURSDAY

Youth Club	6:30pm – 9:00pm
Various Dance	5:30pm – 9:30pm
Football (All Ages)	6:30pm – 9:00pm
PULSE Health & Fitness	4:30pm – 8:30pm

Centre

FRIDAY

Basketball	6:30pm – 9:30pm
Karate	6:00pm – 7:30pm
Judo	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Various Dance	5:45pm – 9:45pm
Music Project	6:00pm – 9:45pm
PULSE Health & Fitness	4:30pm – 8:30pm

Centre

SATURDAY

Japanese School	8:45am – 2:00pm
Various Dance	9:00am – 4:45pm
Russell Foster Girls	9:00am – 1:00pm
Football	
Badminton	1:30pm – 4:30pm
PULSE Health & Fitness	10:00am – 1:00pm

Centre

SUNDAY

League Football	9:00am – 11:00am
Zumba	11.00am – 12.00pm
Basketball	12:00pm – 2:00pm
PULSE Health & Fitness	10:00am – 1:00pm

Centre



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Oxclose  **Community School**

A Specialist Performing and Visual Arts College