POLTAIR

School Games Organiser: **Sarah Mortiboys**

What was the challenge?

Sainsbury's School Games for everyone – developing wider participation

What were your proposed solutions and why?

As a Partnership we decided that in order to embed the Sainsbury's School Games within our schools we needed to develop stronger working relationships with National Governing Bodies (NGBs). Individual secondary schools were partnered with one NGB.

What were your findings?

Each lead secondary identified a need in a specific sport for their school and took on the responsibility for the development of that individual sport; focusing specifically on leadership, coaching, competition, club links and participation. As a concept this worked well; however lack of capacity within departments caused issues in terms of delivery.

What would be your top tips for other SGOs wishing to address a similar challenge?

Deal with capacity issues early on and ensure that the partner schools are clear on what they can deliver.

Set up a written agreement between the school and NGB to agree outcomes and shared aims.

Identify a priority area with the NGB and look to focus on this as a way of addressing capacity challenges. This also allows for maximum impact on young people.

What was the impact and who benefitted from your solutions?

Leadership: Leadership opportunities and training were delivered within a sport-specific context in partnership with the County Sport Partnership.

Volunteering: 40 Young Leaders were deployed into community volunteering opportunities.

Competition: Inter-school competitions in each sport were run by the NGB partnership schools.

Schools reported that "having an NGB priority sport within our department ensured that we drilled down into the specific sport development of that sport."

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