SCHOOL GAMES

Digital engagement
Maximising Digital Engagement through the use of Social Media and ICT - Jo Walton & Laura Towers

WHICH AREA OF THE SGO TASK LIST DOES THIS IMPACT?

1	Increasing engagement in School Games
2	Developing competitive opportunities
3	Increasing and sustaining participation
4	Workforce – Broadening the range of participation opportunities

ABOUT JO & LAURA

North Tyneside SGOs Jo Walton and Laura Towers work collaboratively within one borough. Both cover the SGO role three days per week and both work two additional days each to cover their additional offers to schools. Together they cover 80 schools in the urban area of Tyne and Wear. Deprivation levels are varied, but within the area there are pockets of very high deprivation.

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WHY

- Schools were doing some fantastic work to develop PE and School Sport within North Tyneside, but most struggled to capture the evidence and this became apparent when the SGOs were supporting the schools to apply for the School Games Mark.
- The SGOs also wanted schools to promote this great work with their local community, parents, guardians and senior leaders within the school.

ACTION

- Both SGOs work very closely with other key partners supporting schools and on this occasion they partnered with an eLearning practitioner from the North Tyneside Learning Trust.
- The SGOs were introduced to a free app that schools could use to collect and store the evidence needed for School Games Mark, Seesaw.
- Schools were offered training at a PE subject leaders' meeting via the eLearning practitioner. Training is revisited if and when needed.
- The free online portfolio app allows staff to take photos and videos of the children taking part in activities, leading activities, and undertaking training. Schools can also capture entry forms, written work, notice boards, etc.
- The app allows schools to create folders. Therefore, the SGOs encouraged each PE subject leader to create a 'School Games Mark' folder and enable the folder to be shared with the SGOs.
- Schools started to see the benefits of the app for other areas within PE and the whole school, and created other folders within the

app too, such as Health and Active Participation, After School Clubs, Year Group specific folders, etc.
- All of the information is stored on a cloud rather than on the hard drive of your computer/tablet. Each piece of evidence has a description attached to it so that schools can search for the evidence too.
- The app allows schools to share photographs with parents and guardians instantly.
- When a school applies for School Games Mark they can open the 'School Games Mark' evidence folder and everything they need will be stored on the app – photos, videos, documents, registers, etc.
- This makes reporting and recording very easy for a school and they don't need massive physical folders; however, some schools preferred a paper method as well.
- In addition to the app, the SGOs have really increased their social media presence. Schools are encouraged to replicate this and between all partners they share each other's posts.

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IMPACT

- The evidence needed to complete the School Games Mark application is all at hand in one place electronically, so this reduces workload for school staff.
- The young people themselves are starting to use the app. Both the teachers and the young people are able to use drawing, voice or text annotations to add context, or reflect on the activity posted.
- The information shared with parents and guardians is engaging them with their children's learning, but more specifically what their child is doing in PE, school sport and physical activity.

NEXT

- There is a large amount of evidence now shared on the cloud. The SGOs want to share good practice amongst the schools using the stored evidence.
- To continue with the training of the staff and invite the North Tyneside Learning Trust to regularly attend PE subject leader meetings, to train staff on the next steps.
- Start to investigate the use of Google Docs to track progress alongside the app.

TIPS

- SGOs should download the app and play with the free tool so that they understand the app and its functions before encouraging schools to use it.
- See if you can work with a local partner like the North Tyneside Learning Trust to support the training for the schools.
- Provide training for the schools and then keep encouraging them throughout the year to use it, until it becomes a habit and the normal way to collect evidence.
- SGOs and schools to invest a little of their time to know how it works as it will reduce time later.