



## School Games

### What is the School Games?

The School Games is a unique opportunity to motivate and inspire of young people across the country to take part in more competitive sport. The Games were designed to build on the magic of London 2012 to enable every school, and child, to participate in competitive sport, including meaningful opportunities for disabled youngsters. There are four levels of competition:



**Intra-school (Level 1)**– sporting competition for children in school through intra-school competition. For many young people sporting competition is first experienced through house teams or in PE lessons. Level 1 of the School Games will build on a school's existing work to offer pupils a year-round programme of regular intra-school competition in a number of sports that culminate in a School Games Day: the ultimate school sports day!

**Inter-school (Level 2)**– individuals and teams from Years 3 to 6 are selected to represent their school in local interschool competitions, some of which will be leagues. Schools will have the flexibility to decide which sports to enter but are encouraged to involve as many pupils as possible by creating breadth in the sports they offer, and depth through the creation of additional teams.

**School Games Festivals (Level 3)**– these are county competitions. Each county will host a multi-sport showcase event as a culmination of the year-round programme of competition between schools that is offered at level 2. Teams and individuals competing at Level 2 will win the opportunity to compete in this event if they qualify via Level 2 School Games league or competitions in their districts.

**School Games (Level 4)**– this is a national multi-sport event, in which the country's most talented athletes of school age compete, if selected by a National Governing Body of Sport. This event takes place in high quality venues amongst a unique and vibrant atmosphere to replicate the world's top sporting occasions. The event supports athlete's development and acts as a stepping stone to further national and international competition.

**Why do school's get involved in the School Games?**



- To build on existing practices to provide more opportunities for those currently not engaged in competitive sport, and provide an appropriate pathway for all young people to achieve their potential.
- To provide access to a range of alternative, modified and traditional competition formats helping schools offer new and exciting options to pupils.
- To maximise the impact of competitive school sport to develop pupil's personal skills and contributing to school life.
- To offer opportunities for young people to develop leadership skills and express citizenship through volunteer roles such as officials and team managers. Complement other initiatives in the school which encourage a wide range of young people to participate in sport, such as Change4Life sports clubs.
- Through four levels of competitive sport, young people have the opportunity to get involved, have fun, challenge themselves and progress.
- Inspiring all young people.

#### **The School Games helps our pupils:**

- Become more determined and demonstrate resilience
- Understand and demonstrate the importance of respect for officials, peers and the rules of the game
- Learn to develop self-control and manage emotions
- Experience being part of a team and understand their contribution to it
- Win with pride and lose with grace
- Learn the importance of practice and preparation
- Learn how to set realistic goals and work towards achieving them
- Aspire to improve and challenge themselves; working towards their personal best
- Have fun and enjoy themselves!

#### **School Games Mark**

The School Games Mark is a Government led awards scheme launched in 2012 to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community. Schools in England are able to assess themselves across bronze, silver and gold levels of the Mark.