
Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	5 November 2024
Report By:	Ruth Binks Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/56/24/HS
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Subject:	Active Schools Performance 2023/24		

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the Active Schools team performance in the school year 2023/2024 and to seek approval of the mandatory accreditation of all affiliated clubs.
- 1.3 Inverclyde Council works in partnership with SportScotland, the national agency for sport, to invest and support our local Active Schools network. Inverclyde is part of a national programme with engagement from all 32 local authorities. This is the 20th year of the joint partnership with SportScotland.
- 1.4 Active schools aim to provide increased high-quality opportunities to take part in sport and physical activity before school, during lunchtime and after school, and to develop effective pathways between schools and sports clubs in the local community.
- 1.5 To foster a more structured and accountable club environment, it is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee endorses the mandatory accreditation of all affiliated clubs through the local Active Schools/Sports Development safe club accreditation scheme. This would ensure that clubs involved with Active Schools adhere to the governance standards set out in the scheme and enhance the Council's partnership status with SportScotland.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee:

- notes the contents of this report, in particular the improvements in performance in 2023/24; and
- agrees to the mandatory use of the Active Schools/Sports Development Safe Club Accreditation scheme.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities and Organisational Development

3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 3.1 Inverclyde Council works in partnership with SportScotland, the national agency for sport to invest in and support our local Active Schools network. Inverclyde is part of a national programme with engagement from all 32 local authorities. That national network consists of Active Schools managers and co-ordinators dedicated to developing and supporting the delivery of high-quality sport and physical activities opportunities for children and young children.
- 3.2 The Active Schools programme is positioned to deliver on the Scottish Government's priorities within the Active Scotland Framework as well as agreed outcomes in the Active Inverclyde Strategy.
- 3.3 Active Schools co-ordinators work with primary, secondary and additional support needs schools and have a key role in developing and supporting the volunteer workforce to deliver extra-curricular sessions.
- 3.4 Collaboration and partnership working is critical to the success of Active Schools. Co-ordinators work closely with parents, school staff and pupils to provide opportunities which meet the needs of young people and connects to physical education and opportunities within the wider community.
- 3.5 Active Schools co-ordinators work with a range of partners out with schools including local sports clubs, sport development officers, community sport hubs, colleges and universities to provided pathways to support young people to sustain their participation and progress in sport should they choose.
- 3.6 The Active Schools team is committed to continuous improvement to ensure progress and provide the best experience for child and young people. Co-ordinators use monitoring and evaluation information to inform planning, enhance existing provision and identify areas for further development.
- 3.7 Active Schools continues to maintain strong school to club links. At present 13 clubs are accredited in terms of being compliant in respect of health and safety, club governance and safeguarding. These clubs are integral to Active Schools delivery not only in terms of extra-curricular clubs but also in relation to supporting events and competitions over the course of the year. In 23/24, 7 schools had school to club links which provided children and young people with the opportunity to take part in activities including athletics, rugby and football.
- 3.8 To further enhance this aspect of our work, it is imperative that all affiliated clubs strictly adhere to the Safe Club Accreditation process, as outlined in the Active Schools/Sports Development Safe Club Accreditation Scheme. This free accreditation scheme provides a structured framework to ensure that sporting organisations meet rigorous safety standards and best practices. Implementing this new approach will have minimal impact on sporting organisations, as much of the required information is already gathered as part of their existing work within schools and community settings.

By obtaining accreditation, clubs demonstrate their commitment to providing a secure and inclusive environment for all participants, including coaches, spectators and volunteers. This formal approach not only enhances the club's reputation but also fosters trust and confidence within the sporting community.

4.0 SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE

4.1 Appendix 1 provides further information on the performance of Active Schools in Inverclyde. A summary of notable successes is provided below:

- The total number of participants in 23/24 has increased to 4903 from 4843 in 22/23;
- The % of total school roll participating in extra-curricular activities in 23/24 has increased to 51% from 50% in 22/23. Local participation is well above the national average of 40%;
- The number of children and young people with ASN participating in extra-curricular activities in 23/24 increased to 873 (18% of total participants) from 778 in 22/23; and
- The % of females participating in extra-curricular activities in 23/24 has remained at 49% which is sitting above the national average of 46%.

4.2 Primary school engagement ranges from 70% and above, with five schools having over 90% of their pupils taking part in Active School activities.

4.3 As part of engagement with secondary pupils, leadership programmes continue to strengthen. In 23/24 83% of pupils who engaged in the leadership programmes achieved a qualification/award, an increase of 3% from 22/23. During 23/24 9 sports leaders programme were delivered throughout the authority this included Active Schools/Sports Development summer intake, Lomond View pilot and supporting school's programmes. In addition to Sports Leaders programmes there was the launch of the netball/football leaders SQA programme. Through secondary leadership programmes 953 hours of extra-curricular clubs have been delivered contributing to 4903 children and young people getting access to extra-curricular activities

4.4 The Volunteer workforce which delivers the Active Schools programme is a key strength with almost 5000 children and young people participating in activities delivered by volunteers:

- 353 volunteers have contributed to the delivery of the Active Schools extra-curricular programme. This is starting to return towards pre-covid deliverer levels;
- The volunteers delivered 4044.5 hours of extra-curricular sports provision, which equates to a value of £67,340 (based on what Inverclyde Council currently pays sessional sports coaches); and
- There are 3 main groups of volunteer deliverers; secondary pupils (23%), teachers (28%) and others (37%) of which the majority are primary leaders.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO
Financial		X
Legal/Risk		X
Human Resources		X
Strategic (Partnership Plan/Council Plan)		X
Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		X
Environmental & Sustainability		X
Data Protection		X

5.2 Finance

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A		2022/23			

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

5.3 Legal/Risk

N/A

5.4 Human Resources

N/A

5.5 Strategic

N/A

5.6 Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People

(a) Equalities

This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) process with the following outcome:

	YES – Assessed as relevant and an EqIA is required.
X	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, assessed as not relevant and no EqIA is required. Provide any other relevant reasons why an EqIA is not necessary/screening statement.

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report’s recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
X	NO – Assessed as not relevant under the Fairer Scotland Duty for the following reasons: Provide reasons why the report has been assessed as not relevant.

(c) Children and Young People

Has a Children’s Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – Assessed as relevant and a CRWIA is required.
X	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve a new policy, function or strategy or recommends a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy which will have an impact on children’s rights.

5.7 Environmental/Sustainability

Summarise any environmental / climate change impacts which relate to this report.

Has a Strategic Environmental Assessment been carried out?

	YES – assessed as relevant and a Strategic Environmental Assessment is required.
X	NO – This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme, strategy or document which is like to have significant environmental effects, if implemented.

5.8 Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
X	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 N/A

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 N/A

20 years of Active Schools

Inverclyde Council

Appendix 1

20 years of Active Schools

National data:

- **62.5 million visits by pupils over 3 million sessions**

Inverclyde council:

- **766,000 visits by pupils over 35,000 sessions**

Visits and sessions based on data from 2011/12 onwards when we introduced the current approach and monitoring. The guidance changed from collecting all extra-curricular activity in schools to Active schools supported activity.

Information for 2019/20 and 2020/21 is unavailable. Covid-19 significantly disrupted Active Schools activity. It was not possible to collect monitoring information in these years.

Active Schools

National report 2023-24



Academic year

2023-24

Local authority

National

Number of visits

4,946,234

Number of participants

278,945

Percentage of school roll

40%



Number of sessions

262,107

Number of deliverers

17,847

Percentage of whom are
voluntary

91%



Active Schools

Inverclyde report 2023-24

Number of visits

61,591

Number of participants

4,903

Percentage of school roll

51%



Number of sessions

3,000

Number of deliverers

369

Percentage of whom are
voluntary

96%

Academic year

2023-24

Local authority

Inverclyde



Participants as % of school roll

