



The Redborne School Sport Partnership has once again provided a high quality PE and sport provision to schools within the Redborne pyramid.

Over the last year, the Partnership has worked with PE teachers, head teachers, local clubs, coaches, national governing bodies and many other organisations to ensure that we give all of our young people as many positive experiences in PE and sport as possible. By providing a wide menu of activity, the Partnership continues to enhance young people's experiences through sport which will encourage them all to lead healthy active lifestyles.

Below are examples of the fantastic work that has taken place during 2010. This of course, and more, is replicated across a further 3 pyramids, a total of 53 schools;

Gym and dance festival – 5 schools took up a 6 week block of free coaching in Street Dance, Gymnastics and Cheerleading. Over 150 pupils from these 5 schools took part in a festival at Redborne Upper School, with 300 parents attending. All profits (over £700) from the night are donated back to the schools to ensure further activity can run in the future. Many thanks to Flitwick and The Firs Lower Schools, Alameda and Woodland Middle schools, and Redborne Upper School. As a result, the SSP has set up a new community dance club at Redborne for all feeder schools.

Redborne Upper School OAA Project – 30 year 9 students from Redborne Upper School took part in a 6 week introductory Wakeboarding class at Wake MK, a further 8 students took part in a Paddlesport project at the Kempston Outdoor Centre. All students enjoyed the activities and as a result reported they felt more positive about taking part in PE and trying new sports in the future.

The Wakeboarding project was so successful that a week's intensive programme was delivered during the summer holidays for 18 students and a further 30 new year 9 students took part in a 6 week programme from September to October.

Coaching - The Redborne Sport Partnership provides high quality coaches for Redborne Pyramid Schools. Over the last 12 months a vast array of activities has taken place on school sites.

All schools are offered numerous activities and others are provided on the request of the school. The coaching programme has ensured that schools can not only offer a wider menu of activity, but the increase in capacity has meant many more pupils can access after school, breakfast or lunch time clubs than ever before.

Across the lower schools (Flitwick, Kingsmoor, Templefield, Russell and The Firs) a total of 69 hours of coaching took place in activities including Martial arts, street dance, gymnastics, Go

Global activities, golf and athletics. Two of the lower schools also took advantage of a full days skipping workshop where all school pupils are involved in learning new and exciting skills which they can then demonstrate during whole school assemblies.

Alameda Middle and Woodland Middle schools were also offered coaching to expand the out of school hours programmes. A total of 351 hours of coaching was delivered across the 2 schools in sports including table tennis, cheerleading, cricket, ultimate Frisbee, rock-it-ball, crazy catch, softball, cycling, American football, cheerleading, basketball and many more.

Finally, Redborne Upper School accessed a total of 85 hours of coaching in a wide variety of sports. These programmes enable ALL young people to experience new sports and to learn new skills they otherwise wouldn't be able to during curriculum time.

Competition – The Partnership coordinates a large network of lower school festivals and competitions including Kwik Cricket, swimming, tennis, tag rugby, key steps Gymnastics and many more. This year has seen a total of over 900 (total) lower school participants from all 6 lower schools taking part in competition that would otherwise not take place.

Middle schools competition has been remodeled of the last 2 years and now schools have the advantage of working alongside the Partnership and the county Competition Managers in a structure which has greater impact and eases pressure on school staff. As a result, adding all squads together, over 800 participants have attended middle school competitions.

Club links – As part of our community cohesion role, work takes place linking community clubs with schools, national governing bodies and other sports agencies. The Partnership has worked alongside clubs through talent spotting at festivals, guidance with Clubmark accreditation, club sessions being based on school site. The team have also worked with students at Redborne Upper School through Leadership Academies to train young people to act as volunteers within community sport.

Leadership & volunteering – This year's Leadership academy attracted over 30 students at Redborne who received qualifications and training which could be utilised at a local level and within school. A programme of training for Year 4 play leaders and lunch time supervisors is also offered to schools. Both Woodlands and Alameda year 8 pupils have been trained and delivered large festivals for local lower schools.

Leadership academy students also deliver a fun multi skills festival during the summer term at all the local lower schools in the pyramid which provides them with invaluable experience developing confidence, communication skills, organisation, motivation and a sense of responsibility.

Physical activity day – both Alameda and Woodland Middle Schools both received a whole school Physical activity day. Pupils were released off timetable and SSP staff worked with the PE

department to develop a programme introducing them to new sports and promoting healthy living.

Swimming – the Partnership helps coordinate the booking of lower school swimming across all schools. Funding also allows middle and lower schools to access Top Up sessions specifically designed for pupils who cannot swim 25metres.

Bikeability – This programme has been delivered to years 5,6 and 7. The Programme teaches cycle safety both in and off school site. Disadvantaged pupils can also access funding for a free bike and safety equipment. These sessions are delivered in partnership with local clubs and the local authority.

Gifted and talented – this year has seen the introduction of a new gifted and talented programme. Pupils from year 7 are invited to Redborne upper school to take part in programmes delivered by the Partnership to expand their knowledge of physical activity but also developing the attitudes and mental approach to being and remaining a gifted and talented performer.

Staff training – The Partnership has introduced PE staff from both Middle and Upper schools to new sports including Rock-it-ball, crazy catch, quick sticks and Boxercise. Sessions delivered provide specific training and resources for all schools. The SSP also runs a comprehensive programme of training and support for all lower school teachers in charge of PE from The Firs, Maulden, Russell, Flitwick, Kingsmoor and Templefield.

16-19 – the SSP has looked to increase the uptake of physical activity within the sixth form at Redborne to engage students who can no longer access curriculum PE. Projects including dodgeball, multi sports festivals, fitness pilates, leisure centre gym project, free gym and swim, netball, rounders, basketball and N-ERGY lunchtime club have all been delivered at Redborne Upper School.

All of the above merely scratches the surface of the work the Partnership does within schools and the community. The current government have cut funding directly to the scheme nationally which means as a result, from August 2011 the above and much more will not take place. If you would like to support our campaign of keeping the Partnership in place, please contact James Stephenson on stjstephenson@redborne.beds.sch.uk or write to James directly at Redborne Upper School.

RSP and Science

The summer term of 2010 saw Redborne Science department working very closely with both middle and lower schools.

Firstly the Middle School Challenge ran once again for those quiet but hardworking Yr 8 students who can so easily be overlooked. This challenge involved students from Woodland, Alameda and Fullbrook. Staff from the schools attended with selected students and they spent one afternoon completing a number of practical tasks working in teams using Redborne's laboratories and technicians to prepare resources.

We also invited about 15 of the most able budding scientists from both Woodland and Alameda to attend Redborne on three afternoons in the summer term. They completed a frog dissection in Biology, diffused ammonia with hydrochloric acid in Chemistry and designed their own rocket powered cars using paper and technical Lego in Physics. This was an ideal opportunity to provide stretch and challenge to relevant students whilst freeing up demands on colleagues in Middle Schools.

Redborne school farm also opened its doors to all students in Yr 5 from Woodland and Alameda. With the time and commitment given by the farm manager, technicians and Redborne students a total of 5 classes from Woodland and 5 from Alameda all visited the farm over several weeks. Each class visit involved students touring the farm, meeting and feeding the animals and completing a quiz. Students and teachers from Middle schools took away further resources as well as fond memories of Redborne school farm.

Finally the Redborne Science Roadshow hit the road for the first time and we took off to Templefield lower. A number of exciting, appropriate activities to fit in with children's current curriculum were selected for each year group. Redborne staff spent an afternoon working with Lower school colleagues delivering the following activities.

Activity	Description of experiment
Human Hovercrafts to Year 4	Students sit on a plastic tray which hovers above the ground (30 mins)
Water rockets to Year 2	Students design rockets out of water bottles and fire using water pressure (1 to 2 hours)
Air rockets to Year 2	Students design rockets out of paper tubes and fire using air pressure (1 to 2 hours)
Exploding Film Canisters to Year 3	Water and Antacids to make film canisters explode (30 mins)
Making pan pipes with Year 3	Straws and card (and lots of breath) to make a musical instrument (1 hour)

After a very successful year we will plan and run all of these activities again this year and hope to see the Redborne roadshow grow in size visiting an increased number of Lower schools.



Central Bedfordshire
Training Schools Partnership

One of Redborne Upper's three Specialisms is Training School. Training Schools were set up to innovatively lead the way in recruiting, training and developing their staff and to share their expert knowledge and practice with other schools. Since Redborne Upper achieved this specialist status in 2004 we have invested even more heavily than before in staff development, running bespoke programmes to support our newly qualified teachers, those teachers in the early part of their careers and those that take on middle management roles and responsibilities. We have used our observatory to encourage staff to film their teaching practice so they can reflect on how they can do better and we have run sessions to train staff so they can coach and mentor each other. But having Training School status requires us to share our expertise across many schools and we have been extremely pro-active in offering these sorts of training opportunities to other schools.

Following the creation of the Redborne Schools Partnership, we have been particularly focused in working with our own pyramid of schools. A project focusing on how to meet the needs of all our Gifted and Talented pupils ran last year with 8 of the 9 Redborne pyramid schools participating. The four meeting programme led to improved practice in participating schools and helped forge even closer links between the RSP schools. There was also a 4 meeting programme with Redborne, Woodland and Alameda staff working together to enhance assessment practices and a five session programme, again for a group of Redborne, Woodland and Alameda, to help raise their teaching from 'good' to 'outstanding'. This programme has gone on to be offered to other schools further afield and is now accredited by the University of Bedfordshire (so participants can earn Masters level credits , if they wish).

We have also run a very successful Action Research Project with 8 staff (3 from Woodland Middle, 3 from Alameda Middle and 2 from Redborne Upper). The participants set themselves a "question", for example: "If I set targets that are worded in a really child friendly way and then build time into my lessons for the children to learn how to accurately assess their own work and their friends' work, will the children achieve better results?". The participants then researched their question by trying out new strategies or new ways of working to see if they could positively affect the standards their pupils achieved. This work proved to be very powerful. All participants, whatever the focus they had chosen, reported significant benefits to pupil learning

and motivation. Their work has been shared across departments and across the three schools to inspire and encourage other teachers to use some of these new strategies to further improve learning.

Whilst the Government's new White Paper now focuses on Teaching Schools and does not use the term Training Schools, it is the intention of the Redborne Schools Partnership, to continue to focus on staff development to help maintain the high standards of teaching and learning our children benefit from. It is hoped that Redborne Training School will be successful in its bid to become a newly designated Teaching School in 2011.