

Step in to Sport

Step into Sport Pathway



Introduction

Step into Sport targets 11 – 19 year olds by providing a simple framework of co-ordinated opportunities at a local level, to enable young people to begin and sustain an involvement in leadership and volunteering in sport.

Background to the Step into Sport programme

Step into Sport is part of the Government's PE and Sport Strategy for young people (PESSYP) - formerly known as the PE, School Sport and Club Links strategy (PESSCL).

The PESSCL Strategy went live in April 2003. Between 2003 and 2008 the Government has invested £1.5 billion to deliver PE and Sport for young people through the strategy.

The strategy has been developed by, and is the joint overall responsibility of, the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

Since the Prime Minister's announcement and subsequent extension of the strategy, DCSF and DCMS will also work closely with the Department for Universities, Innovation and Skills (DUIS) in relation to 16-19 year olds and develop strong links to Department of Health programmes.

The strategy's overarching aim is to create a world-class system for PE and sport for children and young people. This aim will support delivery of PSA 22 which will "Deliver a successful Olympic Games and Paralympic Games and get more children and young people taking part in high quality PE and sport."

Step into Sport Programme 2008-11

Aim

The ultimate aim is to increase the quantity, quality and diversity of young people engaged in volunteering and leadership, with consequent benefits to schools, clubs, the community and the young people themselves. In essence the Step into Sport programme is the tool which enables schools to grow young people as leaders and deploy them as active volunteers both within the school and community settings.

Objectives

The objectives of SiS are to develop leadership **through** sport, and leadership **in** sport with the overall aims of the programme being to drive; 'personal change' in young people by supporting the development of inter-personal skills, self confidence and a sense of responsibility and 'structural change' through our work with key agencies to offer broader opportunities for young people to make a formal and valued contribution to the delivery of sport.

Outcomes of the Step into Sport programme

A clearly defined pathway of leadership and volunteering in both school and community settings for KS3 – KS5 (aged 11-19). The National Governing Bodies' sports specific qualifications and Sports Leaders UK generic leadership qualifications to be aligned to developments in the 14-19 curriculum, including the emerging 'Sports Diploma'. Effective support for young people, at a local level is in place to enable them to become effective school-based and community-based volunteers. There are a broad range of roles for young people to engage in as leaders and volunteers, with specific pathways where required. There will be six main roles: Coaching, Officiating, Event Volunteering, Team Manager, Sports Administration, IT and Media Roles. These roles are outlined in the 'Creating High Quality Placements for Young Volunteers' resource.

Management of the Step into Sport programme

Both the Youth Sport Trust and Sport England, with the support of Sports Leaders UK, manage the programme on behalf of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and the Department for Children Schools and Families.

DCMS and DCSF provide funding and monitor, control and assess the delivery.

The Youth Sport Trust jointly manages and leads the development of the programme. It provides communication, training and development support to the School Sport Partnerships to embed the programme into the curriculum and to ensure that there is a supply of young volunteers ready to take up mentored volunteer opportunities. They ensure that Step into Sport supports the delivery of high quality physical education and the national curriculum.

Sport England jointly manages and leads the development of the programme. It provides communication, training and development support to the County Sports Partnership and National Governing Body network. Sport England supports the development of sports volunteers, by providing funding and support to 49 County Sports Partnerships to develop and broker high quality opportunities in the community for the young volunteers. 23 national governing bodies of sport are also supported to implement volunteer support strategies and establish a network of volunteer co-ordinators for their respective sports to receive, develop, and deploy young volunteers.

Sport Leaders UK will ensure continuous improvement, development and modernisation of the Awards structure to ensure where possible, all levels are re-positioned in line with the relevant qualification framework. All Quality Assurance levels will be maintained (manage, accredit and verify) for all relevant courses, to ensure the required continued presence on the QCA Framework. To support this there will be an enhanced website and database providing customers with an online service. Sports Leaders UK believes that everyone has the potential to make a meaningful contribution to their local community given the right opportunity and motivation.

Step into Sport Targets

The targets are:

- To increase the percentage of young people aged 14-19 from school sport partnerships actively involved in sports leadership and volunteering from 18% in 2008 to 22% in 2010, with a floor target of 12% per partnership by 2010.
- To Increase the percentage of young people aged 11-19 from school sport partnerships actively involved in sports leadership and volunteering from 15% in 2008 to 18% in 2010.

- To continue the work to encourage young leaders and volunteers are representative of the demographic profile of pupils within each school sport partnership by using research and development work to identify and target under-represented groups