

Case Study



Extending Activities

Gymnasts have the spring to meet demand for clubs

CSP: CUMBRIA SPORTS PARTNERSHIP	TARGET: BOYS / GIRLS - KEY STAGE 1
DELIVERER: EDEN VALLEY PARTNERSHIP	ACTIVITY: GYMNASTICS



Our objectives:

- Eden Valley Partnership had already identified the need for a gymnastics club through questionnaires and existing work in schools
- They wanted to build on the success of a key steps programme in schools and local gymnastics competitions and provide a pathway for further participation
- Recognising that linking with an existing club was not possible due to one not being available in the local area, it was necessary to start a new club from scratch.

Improvements for term 2:

- Continue working with the gymnastics coach towards making the club self sufficient
- Only 4-5 boys regularly attended the gymnastics club. Feedback suggests that a boys only club would be beneficial by overcoming the intimidation of participating with large numbers of girls in mixed sessions
- To replicate the success of gymnastics by exploring the enthusiasm for other activities not catered for by local clubs such as dance, badminton, table tennis etc



How we achieved it:

- The partnership used their already established modes of engagement with schools to contact children via letters of invitation to join a gymnastics club
- Basing the structure on British Gymnastics recommendations, the club was staffed by a qualified coach, a qualified teacher, Cumbria Sport Development Officer, a parent and a number of young volunteers
- It was also recommended that the size of the club was restricted to 32 members
- Due to the necessity of starting the club from scratch, it was difficult to achieve sustainability within the initial 10 week timescale but work is ongoing to achieve this

Success factors:

- A new club has been started catering for a new activity - gymnastics
- Classes are over subscribed by 25% - the remainder are still on a waiting list
- Attendance in excess of 90% - possibly due to advanced block payment for sessions.
- Feedback suggests that participants are 'desperate to carry on' and 'even the boys want to do it but not with the girls'

"The Extending Activities money has encouraged a more integrated approach towards funding for those sports that are not catered for."

