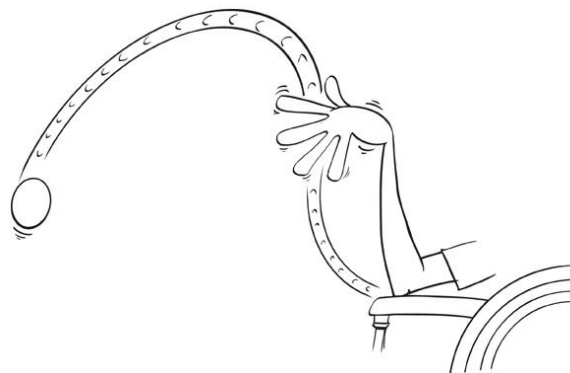


Active Schools Annual Report 2021-2022



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Managers Report

The year 2021 – 2022 saw another challenging year focused on recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The effect that the pandemic had on our children and young people is still becoming evident, and highlighted the importance of supporting their physical, mental and social wellbeing.

Additional funding from sportscotland for an Active Schools Inclusion Coordinator allowed an additional short-term post which made a significant impact to children with additional support needs and was very well received.

Orkney's Active Schools have been integral to the return of extra-curricular activities for the school roll, with a real focus this year in recruiting and supporting the volunteers who are the back-bone to Orkney's high participation levels.

It is truly heartening to see our Active Schools team making positive impacts on our communities, with our children and young people thriving from the opportunities that they have so enthusiastically participated in.

The Annual Report demonstrates the strong partnerships that our Active Schools team has with our schools, community groups and sports clubs, and I look forward to strengthening our existing partnerships and developing new ones.

Sarah Johnston
Sport & Leisure Team Manager

Active Schools Staff

Orkney Active Schools consists of a Team Manager and 1 full time and 3 part-time co-ordinators. During 2021-22, an Active Schools Inclusion Coordinator was recruited which enabled a more focused approach for children with additional needs who find it harder to access physical activity. This post was extremely well received however the funding was only temporary and the post unfortunately wasn't renewed.



Service Manager Garry Burton	
Team Manager Katell Roche	
Active Schools Co-ordinators Michael Swanney Catherine Johnson Kirsty Spence Carolynn Leslie	Active Schools Inclusion Coordinator Rachel Suttie

Each co-ordinator is allocated a cluster of schools which they work in partnership with to increase physical activity amongst the pupils. Listed below are the clusters for each co-ordinator:

Michael Swanney	Catherine Johnson
Stromness Academy Stromness Primary Dounby Primary Stenness Primary Firth Primary Evie Primary	Hope Primary Burray Primary St Andrews Primary Sanday Junior High Stronsay Junior High Westray Junior High
Kirsty Spence	Carolynn Leslie
North Walls Community School Eday Primary Papa Westray Primary Shapinsay Primary Rousay Primary	Kirkwall Grammar Papdale Primary Glaitness Primary Orphir Primary
Rachel Suttie	
All Schools	

Sport for Life

sportscotland Corporate Strategy

[Sport For Life](#), is sportscotland’s corporate strategy, it outlines their vision, mission and assets and the approach they will take. Below is an extract from their Sport for Life.



Our vision

An active Scotland where everyone benefits from sport.

Our mission

To help the people of Scotland get the most from the sporting system.

- Making an impact together
- Making sport more accessible
- Progressing to your level
- Contributing to an active Scotland
- Celebrating the benefits of sport

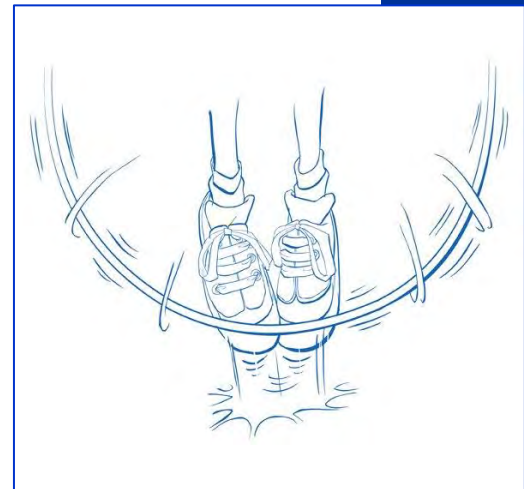
Our assets

From talented people to fantastic facilities and an exceptional natural environment, Scotland’s assets enable people to get active and involved in sport.

Our approach

To help us deliver the many benefits of sport to everyone in Scotland, we’re guided by six key principles.

- Inclusive
- Accountable
- Responsive

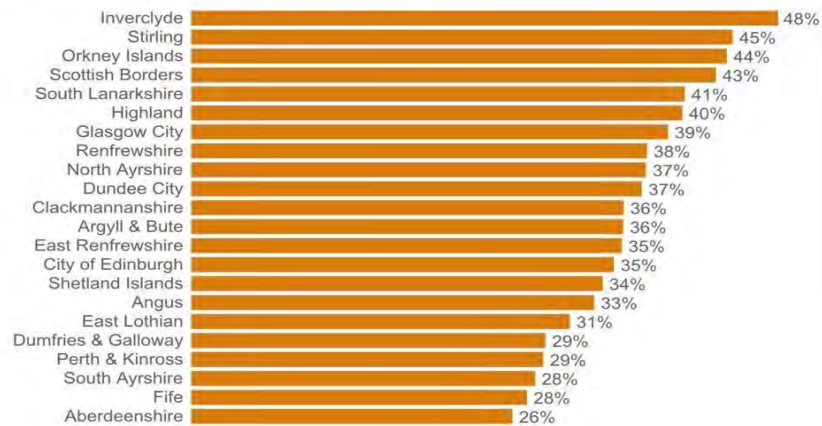


Participation

Active Schools Monitoring Online (ASMO) is a robust monitoring system which gathers, analyses and presents data which looks at participation within extra-curricular activities. During the academic year 2021-22 there was still ongoing restrictions and afterschool activity was slow to start. Orkney did well, with local sporting leagues resuming encouraging volunteers to return and clubs to restart. Orkney was one of the top performing local authorities for school participation. The graph shows the percentage of Orkney's school roll that participated in extra-curricular activity during the school year

Participants

Participants as a percentage of school roll



Academic year
2021-22
Term
Full year
School type
All
Sex
Total



Partnership Working

Over the course of 2021-22 the Active Schools Team worked alongside all Primary and Secondary Schools in Orkney to increase activity amongst pupils. Alongside the schools the Team worked with a number of other partners which are listed below.

- Community Learning Development ,
- Orkney Youth Forum,
- Child Healthy Weight Steering Group,
- Physical Activity and Well-Being Strategy partners.
- National Health Service Orkney,
- Stromness Golf Club.
- Sportscotland.
- Scottish Disability Sport
- Inclusive Orkney
- Scottish Football Association
- Orkney Islands Council Road Safety Officer
- Community Sports Hub Officer
- Pickaquoy Centre



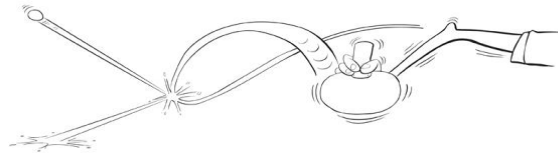
Active Schools coordinators support a variety of programmes including; Bikeability and North Isles Sports day.

Leadership

Young Leaders Training

Leadership is a large part of Active Schools work within schools. The coordinators deliver annually or biannually in schools depending on the school role. The pupils learn about skills and qualities needed for leadership as well as how to plan and run activity sessions. To complete their course young leaders can choose from a variety of leadership tasks, running extra-curricular clubs with support from school staff organising and delivering playground games; and/or running end of term activities.

School	Number of pupils
Rousay	4
North Walls	4
Sanday	5
Hope	14
Burray	5
Stronsay	13
Evie	



Sports Leaders Level 5

Stromness Academy pupils undertook the Sport Leaders qualification in Sports Leadership Level 5 (CSL5). CSL5 is a Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework recognised qualification, that enables successful learners to lead safe, purposeful, and enjoyable sport/physical activity, under indirect supervision. During this course learners were taught important life skills such as effective communication and organisation whilst learning to lead basic physical activities for younger people, their peers, and older persons within the community. The lessons involved both guided & peer-to-peer learning and supervised leadership to ensure that learners have all the skills they need to lead basic physical activities to other people. Sport is used to deliver fun and engaging physical activities with other pupils and within the community. Learner's plan, lead and evaluate sports/physical activity sessions over a number of tutored hours and then demonstrate their leadership skills as part of their assessment.



Sports Leaders participants 21-22	
Kirkwall Grammar School	14
Stromness Academy	3

STROMNESS ACADEMY SPORTS LEADERS



I Can Lead

Kirkwall Grammar School S3 pupils completed the Sports Leaders 'I Can Lead Award'. The course uses sport and physical activity to help learners develop key leadership skills and increase academic performance. The award focuses on personal development and not just sporting ability. It supports academic performance and helps learners become more



community-minded through volunteering opportunities and culminates in an award that will be recognised on a pupils' CV. Leaders, planned and delivered a session's, which included a warm up, a skill development, game and cool down. They then went on to volunteer at a community club of their choice, for 5 hours, to complete their qualifications.



I Can Lead Candidates

Competition Organiser Training

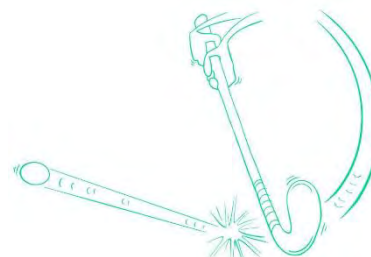
sportscotland's Competition Organiser training is aimed to help develop young people as leaders in sport. Young people can make a valuable contribution to influencing, leading and delivering sport. This training equips pupils with the skills, knowledge and understanding of the role of event/competition organising, learning to plan, organise and deliver events and competitions. It enables young people to experience and identify the essential aspects of well-organised, safe, fun, fair and inclusive intra-school competition. Pupils learn the acronyms SMILES and STEP and use these principles to adapt their sessions. All participants were involved in delivering competition to other pupils in their schools.



COMPETITION ORGANISER TRAINING



Competition Organiser Training (COT)	
School	Number of Pupils
Stronsay Junior High	8
Westray Junior High	10
Orphir Primary	17
Kirkwall Grammar School	22



Young Ambassadors

The Young Ambassadors (YA's) programme is funded by the National Lottery and is a key element of **sportscotland's** contribution to developing young people as leaders in sport. Young people make a meaningful and important contribution as leaders in sport and should have access to a range of opportunities of leadership roles which reflect their interests and abilities.

Each year two pupils from every secondary school in Scotland can be selected as Young Ambassadors to promote sport and motivate and inspire other young people to get involved in sport in their schools, clubs and local communities.

There have been nearly 6,000 Young Ambassadors in Scotland since the programme started in 2012, and around 650 new Young Ambassadors annually have the opportunity to attend one of the national conferences in order to provide understanding of the role.

Young Ambassador roles can include promoting sport, motivating, and inspiring other young people to get involved in sport within their school, clubs, and community organisations

- to influence six key aspects of school sport:
- extra-curricular sport provision
- links to community sport opportunities
- opportunities for competition
- celebration of pupil achievements in sport
- leadership opportunities for young people
- PE in schools



As role models and leaders for other young people, Young Ambassadors can have a pivotal role within their school and wider community.

Sportscotland's annual Young Ambassadors Conference did not take place in 2021 due to the ongoing restrictions. Instead, the usual face to face conference that takes place in Inverness was rearranged to take place on Microsoft Teams. The Young Ambassadors delivery team put workshops together that they delivered to the new Young Ambassadors on-line.

During 2021/22 **sportscotland's** focus was on developing resources, tools and online training to support and influence new and existing YAs. There were opportunities for the YA's engage with the project, via CPD sessions/webinars, as well as networking opportunities for both YAs and mentors. Online resources were available to support YA's as well as a [Instagram](#) page and [YouTube](#) channels. Active Schools Orkney recruited seven YA's from the five secondary schools in Orkney during 2021/22 (See pictures at side). During the year the YA's supported various activities in their schools such as Active Girl's Day, keeping their school activity noticeboard updated, helping with extracurricular activities.



sportscotland
the national agency for sport



EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Afterschools Clubs

With the lifting of restrictions afterschool activity was slow to restart due to various reasons. Many of the volunteers did not return therefore some schools have struggled to restart clubs. The return of the local Primary leagues encouraged schools to organise the restart of their Football and Netball Clubs. Active Schools offered support, training, advice and help to clubs restarting. Along with this there were new clubs that started during this academic year. Burray Primary school who had not had a netball club in nearly thirty years saw the resurgence of their club when two parents offered to deliver sessions to P4-7 pupils. After several weeks of training Burray Primary Netball Club entered two teams into Netball Orkney's Primary Knockout Competition a fantastic opportunity for all pupils involved. Evie Primary School pupils also had the opportunity to attend a new extracurricular club when their Sports Committee, supported by their Active Schools Coordinator, ran afterschool activity sessions. They ran sessions for pupils over 8 years and under 8 years, every alternative week, during term 3. Sessions varied each week with basketball, football and multi-games being the most popular sessions.



Orphir Afterschool Club

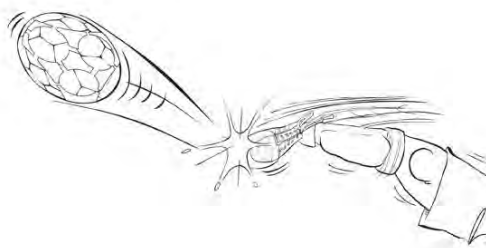


Burray Netball Afterschool Club

SCHOOL SUPPORT

Papdale Primary Football

Active Schools provided support for a group of Primary 4 boys, who were struggling with playing football with others, during break times, it was identified that the group included two children that were have difficulty interacting with others and one pupil who was at risk of exclusion from the school. Active Schools coordinators ran a 6-week block of football at lunchtime in the school providing the children with opportunities to discuss and learn the rules and the importance of following them in a game. Throughout the six weeks, the children created their own rules to help make football inclusive, fair, and fun for all these included respect others, they shared the rules with the whole school at an assembly. Further to the sessions a contract was created, by the pupils, for pupils playing football which stipulated the rules and the repercussions of rule breaking.



Sports Days

Sports Days is one of the highlights of the school calendar. They take place in many shapes and forms for various age groups. Twenty twenty-two saw the welcome return of these events. Sports days are a big undertaking for schools to organise, and are usually done by the PE staff, however when requested Active Schools Coordinators are on hand to support the delivery of these days.



Stromness Academy Tug o War



Active Schools Coordinators can undertake a range of tasks on Sports days; officiating, supplying equipment, organising games and activities, helping to set up equipment, as well as supervising participants. Helping organise and support Secondary Sports Leaders who volunteer to help can also be part of the tasks coordinators help with.

Stromness Academy Sports Leaders at Stromness Primary School Sports Day



Stromness Academy Sack Race



St Andrews Primary School Netball

Bikeability

Bikeability Levels 1 & 2

Bikeability Scotland is the national cycle training programme for school children, building the skills and confidence they need to cycle on the road. All schools in Orkney aim to offer this training to upper primary pupils either annually or biannually. Learning to cycle on the road is an essential life skill. Orkney schools aim to offer every pupil the chance to develop these skills during their school time. Bikeability is a comprehensive training programme that covers everything from pre-ride safety checks and road signals to hazard awareness and bike checks.



The benefits of Bikeability Scotland can include:

- Improving pupil's hazard awareness
- Improving pupil's confidence to cycle more after training
- Promoting active lifestyles, with pupils more likely to cycle after training.

Due to the lack of volunteers after the pandemic the Active School Coordinators helped deliver this year's Bikeability in schools. This helped Orkney keep up to date with the delivery of this training.

School	Level	Number of pupils
Sanday	1 & 2	18
Dounby	2	34
Hope	1	10
Stromness	2	16
Orphir	2	6
St Andrews	1	25
Evie	2	13
Firth	2	13
Shapinsay	2	8
Kirkwall Grammar	2	5



Some of the pupils who participated in Bikeability sessions delivered by Active Schools

Bikeability Scotland Awards

In November 2021, recognition was given to volunteer, Alex Clark who has been volunteering in Orkney schools for several years. Alex was a highly commended runner up in the Bikeability Scotland Awards Instructor of the Year category which is presented by Cycling Scotland. Alex, dubbed 'the Flying Instructor', delivered mainly on island schools, travelling to the isles around Orkney, including; Rousay, Eday, Papa Westray and Westray Primary Schools. Alex delivers to a high standard, delivering dynamic and engaging cycling sessions making participation fun for the pupils. He was paramount during 2021 to the delivery of Bikeability to pupils in the island schools that may have otherwise missed out on this important life skill.



Alex Clark Bikeability Volunteer

Bikeability Scotland Tutor (BSI) Training

In May Active Schools Coordinator Kirsty Spence and OIC Road Safety Officer Yvonne Scott ran a 2-day BSI course to up skill new school volunteers to deliver Bikeability. There were representatives & volunteers from Shapinsay, Eday, Papdale and Westray that attend. This now increases the number of Bikeability Trainers that can deliver in schools.

Play on Pedals

Play on Pedals, is an initiative which is aimed at giving preschool children the opportunity to learn to ride a bike before starting school. Play Together on Pedals provides training for new instructors and instructor trainers who play a vital role in the everyday implementation of the initiative. In September Cycle Scotland Tutors delivered Play on Pedals training to 4 Coordinators and 10 School Staff in Orkney. There are now trainers in most nursery's along with a newly qualified tutor who can deliver courses locally.

Bikeability Scotland Instructor Training (BSI)

Every two years Bikeability Trainers need to refresh their delivery skills and update any new guidelines that have been introduced. Cycling Scotland tutors were on island to deliver training on the updated guidelines to the Active Schools Team in September. The training consisted of a classroom-based workshop as well as on road training allowing instructors to familiarise themselves with the changes.



Stromness Transition Sport

The first Transition Sport Day, since restrictions were lifted, took place at Stromness Academy in June. Primary 7 pupils from the Academy's feeder schools were invited to attend the Academy for an activity filled day to help ease the transition from Primary to Secondary school. Active Schools supported Physical Education staff and the Academy's Sports Leaders, with the delivery of a variety of activities which included rugby, netball, team challenges and ultimate dodgeball.



Stromness Academy pupil Transition Sports helpers



P7 pupils taking part in Dodgeball during Transition Sports

Golf Sessions

Active Schools coordinators worked closely with and supported the visits to local golf clubs by professional coaches from Inverness. They enhanced the link from school to club by delivering club golf sessions in school and supporting the transfer of pupils from school to club as well as helping with the delivery of the sessions. This has been an excellent way of promoting the nearby golf clubs to pupils in the schools. These sessions have helped increase the participation numbers in both participating clubs.

Westray Golf Club

Westray Golf Club received two visits from the 'Roving Pro' during 2021. Active Schools coordinators delivered Club golf sessions to primary pupils in Westray as well as supporting the transfer of pupils from school to club.



Westray pupils

Stromness Golf Club

Inverness Golf club professional coach, Mel Douglas visited Orkney and delivered taster sessions to Primary Schools in Orkney. In partnership with Stromness Golf club pupils from the west cluster schools were offered sessions. Unfortunately, some sessions had to be cancelled due to the heavy rain, however, the pupils from Stromness Primary school braved the weather elements and had a thoroughly enjoyable session.



Stromness pupils

Rugby Taster Sessions

Dounby Primary School

National Schools Rugby Week took place in March. This is a new initiative from the Scottish Rugby Union aimed at increasing participation at grass roots. Taster sessions and kit were offered to schools to encourage them to sign up to this initiative. Dounby Primary School received rugby sessions delivered by the local Development Officer along with new rugby balls.



Dounby Primary pupils

Secondary Rugby Festival

During May, Active Schools worked in partnership with the Orkney Rugby Club Development Officer to organise a Rugby festival for S1-3 pupils at Kirkwall Grammar School (KGS). Stromness Academy pupils were invited to attend along with KGS pupils. A grand total of ninety-seven girls and boys participated. Active Schools supported the Orkney Rugby Development Officer who organised coach and official volunteers to help deliver the festival.



S1-3 Rugby Festival participants

FARR High School Visit

Farr High School Caithness contacted Active Schools to see if they could help organise a visit to one of Orkney Schools. The Secondary 1-4 pupils and staff were on a school trip to Orkney and thought it would be good to link into an Orkney school whilst they were here. Stromness Academy offered to host the pupils and staff and organise activities for them to take part in. During the afternoon pupils took part in: football, volleyball, rounders relay races and a tug of war.

Activity	Age group
Outdoor 7-a-side girl's football	S1 - 4
Outdoor 7-a-side boy's football	S1 - 4
Volleyball	S1 – 6 mixed
Rounders, Fun races & tug of war	S1 - 6 mixed

The football was played in a round robin format with Stromness having 2 mixed age group boy's and girl's teams and Farr having 1 girls' team and 1 boys' team. Volleyball was on offer for those who didn't want to take part in the football and pupils were mixed into teams with Stromness Academy pupils. The last session of the day was aimed at being a fun session with both school's pupils mixed into teams to take part in rounders, relay races and a tug of war competition.



Football participants from Farr Junior High and Stromness

North Isles Sports

North Isles Sports is an annual competition between Junior High Schools and Senior North Isles Teams. It is hosted each year by a different island on rotation. The Active Schools team support and help coordinate the event alongside the hosting island. Due to the Covid 19 pandemic this event had not taken place since 2019, however 2022 saw the return of the event which took place on the island of Sanday. This year participants from Papa Westray, Westray, Stronsay & Sanday all took part. A very competitive competition saw several records fall along with very competitive netball and football games. Results for the schools competition are below.

North Isles Sports



CUP	WINNER	2nd	3rd
Girl Champion	Grace Muir (Sa)		
Boys Champion	Connor Harcus (W)		
Junior Relay Quaich	Westray	Sanday	Stronsay
Junior Football	Sanday	Westray	Stronsay
Junior Netball	Sanday	Stronsay	Westray
Schools Cup	Westray	Sanday	Stronsay

National Initiatives

Scottish Women and Girl's in Sport

A national initiative that aims to increase woman and girl's activity. Active Schools took to social media to promote this initiative to schools and communities by highlighting some of their favourite stories from our schools about women and girls who participate in sport and physical activity.

Female pupil's and staff from KGS were interviewed by a member of the Active Schools Team to find out why sport and physical activity were important to them. One of the key messages from the interviewees was the benefit of physical activity on their mental health. They also highlighted the importance of being inclusive and promoting sport to others regardless of their ability.



Active Girl's Day

Stromness Academy Young Ambassadors and Sports Leaders organised a "girls only" day, which formed part of the annual celebrations linking to Scottish Women and Girl's in Sport. Pupils enjoyed an active lunch time consisting of netball, fun challenges, and volleyball activities. All participants had the opportunity to take part in all of the taster sessions which were well received by those who participated. As well as the activities the leaders set up a "wishing tree" and all participants were encouraged to write there suggestions for further sessions. The school then worked with the P.E department and Active Schools, to offer girl's only activities that had been suggested.



Active Girl's Day at Stromness Academy

Inclusion Coordinator



During 2021- 2022 funding from **sportscotland** enabled Orkney Islands Council to employ an Inclusion Coordinator. Our new coordinator quickly set about contacting schools and organising supporting activity for pupils requiring additional support. To introduce herself to people in Orkney the Inclusion Coordinator was interviewed by a Kirkwall Grammar School pupil for the local newspaper 'The Orcadian' in their 'Peedie Orcadian insert'.

In the brief time our Inclusion Coordinator was in post she was involved in several small projects in schools and also work with other partners to support 'inclusion for all' at different events and initiatives, information on these is listed below.

Glaitness Primary School

The Inclusion Coordinator was contacted by a teacher of pupils with additional support needs from Glaitness, to support increased provision of movement and activity for pupils during the school week. The Inclusion Coordinator set up spaces for the exploration of equipment for the staff and pupils to engage with. The sessions developed into semi-structured sessions by providing challenge through obstacle courses and target games. The aim was also to support the teacher in providing ideas and activities to use in the future.

Kirkwall Grammar School

Physical Education (P.E.) staff had identified a group of secondary 3 pupils, who were struggling to engage and participate in mainstream P.E lessons. P.E. staff work in collaboration with Active Schools to target support for this group. The group were given the opportunity to take part in P.E. lessons in a smaller group. To find out if these sessions had made a difference to how the group felt about taking part in P.E. the coordinator collated feedback. Looking at their levels of enjoyment in the smaller inclusive group compared to their mainstream sessions. The findings revealed that the group felt more comfortable and confident to engage in physical activity in a smaller group. The pupils stated that they were more active and had better opportunities over the course of the sessions compared to their mainstream P.E lessons. As the weeks past the group started to express that they felt more engaged in P.E lessons thus providing evidence the small focus groups helped reduce anxiety around physical activity and increased the pupil's confidence.



The Hub

The Active Schools worked in partnership with Community, Learning and Development (CLD) from Orkney Islands Council in their 'Streetwork' initiative. Resulting from the feedback from young people of Orkney, CLD through funding created 'The Hub', which offers young people that attend Kirkwall Grammar School, opportunities to attend free activities, with the aim to appeal to recognised target groups, to develop inclusion across the community.

Thank The Hub It's Friday

All activities are FREE!

FRIDAY, 21 JANUARY 2022	
Registration (Young Scot Card required)	1:15pm onward
Football	1:30pm - 2:30pm (S1 - S3) 2:30pm - 3:30pm (S4 - S6)
Racket Sports (Badminton, Short Tennis, Table Tennis)	1:30pm - 3:30pm (S1 - S6)
Cinema: Spiderman: No Way Home (cert 12A)	1:30pm
Gym (induction required)	1:30pm - 3:30pm (ages 14+)
Movie III (Dance with Emma)	2pm - 2:45pm (S1 - S6)
Pool Inflatables	2pm - 3pm (S1 - S6)

Come along to The Pickaquoy Centre and register for any of the activities from 1:15pm. Be sure to bring suitable clothing for the activity of your choice - changing facilities will be available.

Please note: we will ask for parental contact details at registration along with your Young Scot card images may be taken at the event for promotional purposes.

The Hub based at the Pickaquoy Centre from December 2021- July 2022 saw two hundred and twenty-two young people attend over the course of the duration.

Papdale Inclusion Activity Physical Activity (P.E.)

The Active Schools Inclusion Coordinator was approached to help support P.E. sessions for children who were unable to attend mainstream P.E due their learning disability. The aim was to boost their engagement in sport and physical activity. Support and resources were provided for Curriculum Support Assistants to help incorporate sport and activity into the pupils daily timetable. Initially Active Schools delivered sessions, to allow staff to observe, then the staff delivered sessions with the coordinator to oversee, to support and enable confidence to be built using the resources.

Dounby Primary

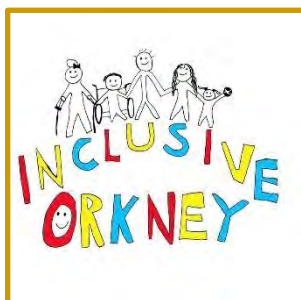
Active Inclusion Coordinator worked closely with a class at Dounby Community School to become more inclusive for a pupil with a physical disability. The aim was to create a better awareness of disabilities in sport. Sessions explored several sports and games tailored for disability to enhance the classes awareness of the barriers and other sports which are tailored as a parasport. The class explored, played, and discussed a variety of parasports and tailored games and activities for those with a range of disabilities. Following the development of awareness, the class had the challenge to design a suitable parasport or game to deliver to their school peers. The delivery was held in accordance with the whole schools Health and Wellbeing Week, the P6's played a big part in creating an enjoyable and inclusive games day.



Dounby Pupils taking part in Parasports

Inclusive Orkney

In 2021, the Inclusive Orkney charity was launched. 'Inclusive Orkney' is a free charitable service, operating across the Orkney Isles, with a focus on policy level advocacy, signposting to services and deliver opportunities to those with additional support needs.' The Active Schools Coordinator for inclusion worked in partnership with the charity to help the launch activity sessions. They also worked collaboratively with key partners to deliver opportunities and raise awareness of the need for activities for children with additional support needs. The Co-ordinator attended several meetings to support the launch and the charities plans for bi-weekly sessions.



[\(3\) Inclusive Orkney | Facebook](#)

Parasport Festival

On the 25th March 2022, Orkney held its first Parasport Festival delivered by Scottish Disability Sport in partnership with Orkney Islands Council and Active Schools. The festival provided a range of sporting experiences and opportunities for young people aged five to eighteen with down syndrome and physical, visual, and hearing impairments. This consisted of badminton, athletics, rugby, boccia, kayaking and swimming. The success of the festival was recognised both local and nationally through the media, from the local paper 'The Orcadian', to national papers, 'The Press and Journal'. National recognition was gained when local MSP Liam McArthur attended the festival, and later placed a motion at the Scottish Parliament. The parasport festival was recognised in parliament and commended for its success.



***S6M-03871 Liam McArthur: Orkney's Inaugural Parasports Festival**—That the Parliament recognises Orkney's first Parasports Festival, which was held on 25 March 2022 in the Pickaquoy Centre, Kirkwall; understands that the festival, delivered by Scottish Disability Sport, in partnership

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with Orkney Islands Council, Orkney Active Schools, Inclusive Orkney and local sports clubs, provided a range of sporting activities for young people aged five to 18 with a physical, visual or hearing impairment to try, including badminton, boccia, athletics, swimming, kayaking and rugby; believes that this is an excellent initiative to inspire young people with disabilities and to highlight what opportunities in sport are available locally and nationally; commends Scottish Disability Sport for continuing to develop opportunities and improvements for children, athletes and players with a physical, sensory or learning disability in Scotland, as well as contributing to UK and international initiatives, and thanks all the local volunteers from Orkney Islands Council, Active Schools and Inclusive Orkney for their hard work to deliver the hugely successful inaugural event.

Supported by: Kenneth Gibson*, Sandesh Gulhane*, Martin Whitfield*, Edward Mountain*, Emma Roddick*, Douglas Ross*, Miles Briggs*, Willie Coffey*, Pam Duncan-Glancy*, Karen Adam*, Stuart McMillan*, Jeremy Balfour*, Bill Kidd*, Audrey Nicoll*, Annabelle Ewing*, Paul Sweeney*, Colin Beattie*, Tess White*, Russell Findlay*, Ariane Burgess*, Douglas Lumsden*, David Torrance*, Sharon Dowey*

It is paramount to highlight the importance of the event for the young people taking part. With children from various schools coming together to celebrate the festival, we asked them to sum up the day in one word (see picture below). Observations and informal discussions for feedback was on going from both SDS and Active Schools throughout the day. One child in attendance had never been in a swimming pool before, they stated it was "The best day ever". This shows how important it is to provide children with barriers opportunities and experience in sport.





Para Sport participants having fun at the 1st festival at the Pickaquoy Centre

Orkney Sports Awards

Active Schools organised and coordinated the Annual Sports Awards 2021 which was due to take place on the 21st January, however it was delayed when restrictions were announced due to the rise in Covid 19 cases over the festive period. The team work hard to rearrange the postponed event and a week later on Friday the 28th the awards eventually took place (albeit a restricted event!) at the Orkney Theatre. This was the first awards to take place since the 2020 lockdown. It saw the return of Orkney's Sporting Community coming together to celebrate the sporting achievements of



2021. Due to the the on-going restrictions the awards were not open to the public but only to finalist's and invited guests. Host's, Liam McArthur and Robbie Fraser, over saw the evening's proceedings and managed the itinerary and kept the event running smoothly. Several of the guest speakers that would have normally attended the event spoke through pre-recorded videos. Jacqueline Lynn – Head of School and Community Sport for **sportscotland**, thanked the Orkney Sporting Communities coaches and volunteers for their commitment over the last year through very difficult circumstances. Ms Lynn also spoke about how she was looking forward to working with the community of Orkney to support the organising of the 2025 Island games. She finally congratulated all the nominees and finalists and wished everyone an enjoyable evening.



The guest's then heard from Shannon Tait who is a member of the recently formed Inclusive Orkney Group. She gave the audience an insight to what the groups aims are and what they have been up to since the formation of the group. Shannon encouraged any sporting groups that would be keen to support Children with Additional Support Needs to get in touch with them. There was also a review of sport during 2021 which highlighted key sporting events and achievements. This was kindly put together by Adam Harcus. After the guests enjoyed this review of sport the winners of the awards were announced.

This year's winners are listed below:

Award	Winners
Sportsperson of the Year	Matthew Byers - Weightlifting
Young Sportsperson of the Year	Max Linklater - Athletics
Team of the Year	Orkney Rugby Football Club Men's First XV
Young Team of the Year	Orkney Rugby Football Club U16 Boy's Team
Volunteer of the Year	Michael Swanney - Football
Coach of the Year	John Cairns - Athletics
School Sport Volunteer of the Year	Melissa Lindsay - Netball
Performance of the Year	Orkney FC Milne Cup

Category Winners 2021



As well as the annual awards there were two Service to Sport Awards presented and three sports people inducted into the Orkney's Sports Hall of Fame. The Service of Sport is a prestigious award presented to persons in the community that have given a long service to their sport/s by going above and beyond to see sport develop in Orkney. Fraser Murray received a Service to Sport Award for his voluntary contribution to Orkney Athletics Club over numerous years. Calvin Poke also received a Service to sport for his contribution to Sandwick Parish Football Team and Sandwick Football Club.

Service to Sport Award Recipients 2021



Fraser Murray



Calvin Poke

Hall of Fame Inductees 2021



Betty Stanger



Rognvald Omand



Melvin Wick

Hall of Fame

The Hall of Fame was introduced during in 2020, when the public and sports clubs were asked to nominate athletes and volunteers that have had a legendary effect on sport in Orkney. Numerous nominations were received and this year three more athletes were chosen by a panel to be inducted. Betty Stanger (Squash), Melvin Wick (Badminton) & Rognvald Omand (Swimming) all received this honor

Sponsors

Orkney Sports Awards is a highly valued local event and we are exceedingly lucky to have the support of our local community. Orkney Sports Awards trophies are kindly sponsored by various companies that are represented below;



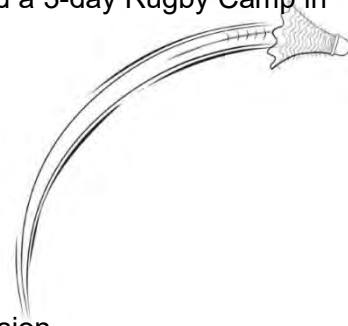
Holiday Programmes

Summer Programme

The Active Schools Team coordinated an all-inclusive summer programme during July 2022. Funding from the Scottish Government enabled the recruitment of extra staff to deliver sessions in different parishes on the mainland as well as the North and South Isles throughout the holidays. Weekly sessions took place in St Andrews, St Margaret's Hope, Dounby and Stromness 2-day camp taking place on Westray, Sanday, Stronsay, North Walls, Rousay and Shapinsay. The sessions had a variety of activities each day with lots of fun games as well as sport related activities. The coordinators also supported the delivery of dance sessions which were delivered by a local Dance teacher and a 3-day Rugby Camp in partnership with the Orkney Rugby Club.

Over the course of the summer the programme:

- Delivered 6 weeks of multi-activity sessions
- Visited 6 island schools
- Visited 5 mainland school catchment areas
- Delivered a total of 71 activity sessions
- Had 801 participates
- Saw an average number of 11 participants at each session



Various Summer Programme sessions with participants and Instructors

Easter Programme

During the Easter holidays, the Active Schools team were organised and supported the delivery of a range of activities. The team worked in partnership with local clubs to offer

- A come and try cycle session around the Picky track
- ASN friendly sessions for P1-4 and P5+
- 2- day netball camp
- 3 -day rugby camp
- Multi-activity drop -in sessions for P1-4 and P5+



Easter Rugby Camp



Easter Netball Camp

Networking

During the year the Active Schools Team took opportunities to network with Active Schools colleagues in other council areas. Some meetings took place through local channels and some through **sportscotland** groups as well as opportunities to promote the work of Active Schools at a local level.

- Meetings with Western Isles and Shetland Active Schools,
- Active Schools Comms group meetings
- Sportscotland Hot Topics Active Schools workshops.
- Orkney Island's Council's Councilors' Induction Day
- Local Professional Officers group meeting



Orkney Islands Council's Councilors' Induction Day

Continuous Lifelong Professional Learning

The Active Schools Coordinators continually strive to improve the service they provide by attending and completing a variety of workshops each year. Although ongoing restrictions during this academic year, restricted face to face training the Team managed to complete several opportunities to improve their skills.

- Evolve Excursion Training,
- I Learn online training,
- SAMH training,
- Child protection Guidance training,
- Sportscotland Equalities Workshop
- Midas – Minibus assessment
- Recruitment & Selection policy training
- Child Wellbeing & Protection (CWPS) tutor training.



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