

# School Games Mark

## 2021/22

Application window runs from  
04 May 2022 – 27 July 2022



# School Games Mark

2021/22



With the School Games continuing to evolve we have taken the opportunity to review the School Games Mark to ensure it's still fit for purpose. This Mark will continue to be positioned as a development tool aimed at helping schools effectively reflect on their engagement in the School Games as well as the difference that they are making for those young people who most need to be physically active.

We want this to be a clear and simple review tool which helps schools to make informed decisions and allows School Games Organisers (SGOs) to gain a better understanding of the needs of the schools that they work with. Based on feedback from both schools and SGOs we have reinstated and refreshed the award levels of Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum for 2021/22, enabling those schools that wish to stretch themselves to do so, whilst supporting all schools to benchmark their provision against a nationally recognised set of criteria.

**The purpose of School Games Mark remains constant;**  
To reward and recognise school's engagement (provision and uptake) in the School Games against a national benchmark and to celebrate keeping young people active.

The **outcomes of School Games Mark** and the School Games are linked. Schools will need to demonstrate how they are/have:

## 1 Maintaining and growing their school's engagement in the School Games and their delivery of 60 active minutes for every child

Supporting schools to prioritise the delivery of 60 active minutes as an entitlement for every child to support improvements in their physical literacy, social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

## 2 Creating positive experiences to ensure physical activity and competition provision is designed to reflect the motivation, competence and confidence of their young people and has a clear intent

Schools will need to demonstrate how they are targeting young people who need the intervention the most (particularly, but not exclusively, those from low socio-economic backgrounds, minority ethnic groups and SEND) to improve their physical literacy, social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

## 3 A clear focus on particular transition points (Yr.3 and Yr.7/8 as well as those in 3 tier systems) and how secondary schools are engaging in the School Games

We want to continue to prioritise the engagement and delivery in secondary schools in the Schools Games but we also want to recognise the impact in early KS2 and other transition points.

## 4 Creating positive experiences that support the character development of their young people

This includes opportunities across the full breadth of the School Games which incorporates the delivery of high quality, inclusive leadership and volunteering.

## 5 Advocated to key stakeholders how the School Games makes a meaningful difference to the lives of children and young people, including engaging and educating their parents

Participation in physical activity and competition will impact on young people's physical, emotional, and social wellbeing and influence the likelihood of continued engagement both at school and in the community, creating habits for life.

**Please consider how you will engage with your School Games Organiser to achieve the above outcomes.**

# School Games Mark

## 2021/22



### Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Legacy

During the 2021/22 academic year the School Games will be supporting the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games (B2022 CWGs) legacy. This is something that your SGO will be driving but we are asking school to consider this too. You will see questions within the School Games Mark application relating to how you are positioning B2022 CWGs as a tool to inspire and engage your young people and community in the School Games.

### Award Levels

Through our discussions with the School Games network, we understand that not every school has the time or desire to undertake an extensive application, nor are all schools keen to progress through the award levels year on year – although we would strongly advocate this. For those schools that might have limited capacity, the **bronze** award will be considered the entry-level and demonstrates that they are providing and engaging their young people in high quality School Games opportunities. This will also evidence that they are an ‘actively engaged school’.

The School Games Mark **silver** and **gold** awards are available to those schools that want to challenge themselves and demonstrate their progress over time against a national benchmark. For those schools that have engaged over a number of years, and/or have previously attained the School Games Mark **platinum** award, they will be asked to demonstrate in more detail the impact and difference they are making.

The platinum award is available to those schools that have achieved the gold award or higher in the last four applicable years (2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19) and are on track to achieve gold in 2021/22. The additional platinum application questions will only become available once the initial application has been submitted.

### The Process

The School Games Mark criteria will be published during the Autumn Term to allow schools to work towards their desired award level. To ensure that the application is not too time consuming, the majority of questions will involve the user answering either a yes/no question or choosing from a list of pre-determined options.

After completing their application schools will be able to view their responses as well as being signposted to some top tips and additional resources to help them on their development journey.

SGOs will need to verify their schools’ applications for all levels of the award and are asked to complete this within two weeks of each application’s submission. They will also be required to leave development comments to aid their school’s future progress.

Validation will take place at the end of the academic year with some leeway into September 2022 for those SGOs who don’t work over the summer. SGOs will retain the ability to downgrade and upgrade schools based on their own knowledge, their dialogue with the school, and evidence that they have previously seen.

**Please note that School Games Mark application should not include any KS1 provision.**

# School Games Mark

## Bronze Criteria



Before beginning their application, all schools are asked to confirm that the information held about them in the system is correct, to ensure that the application is being completed by the right person from the right school.

- **We have worked with our SGO on at least one of the School Games outcomes (as listed above) this academic year.**

*This will be a yes/no question. Your SGO will verify this so be clear in your mind when and how you have worked with them.*

- **We deliver one or more targeted opportunities for those young people who need it most through the School Games either through intra or inter competition/events.**

*Examples include but aren't restricted to; those young people who have suffered as a result of COVID either emotionally, socially, physically, those young people who do not participate in any after school opportunities, pupil premium, SEND etc.*

*This will be a yes/no question. Your SGO will verify this and may ask to see evidence such as registers of attendance at events.*

- **We believe in the vision and mission of the School Games and are committed to physical activity and delivering positive experiences.**

*This is about how the School Games can make a difference to those young people that are the least active and or addresses inequalities that some young people face through putting PE, School Sport, physical activity and play at the heart of school life. We want every young person to have a positive experience so that they want to do more. This for some young people will mean that we measure success in different ways so that its not always about being the tallest, fastest or strongest and that we prepare them effectively for competitions/events so that they can achieve their personal best.*

*This will be a yes/no question. Your SGO will verify this and may ask to see evidence of information that you share with parents.*

- **We have used the power and inspiration of B2022 Commonwealth Games to engage our young people.**

*This will be a yes/no question. You will also be able to add further evidence of how you have achieved this – your responses will not affect your score.*

# School Games Mark Silver Criteria



## 1 Maintaining and growing your school's engagement in the School Games and your delivery of 60 active minutes for every child

**Your school has a clearly planned approach to 60 active minutes and in particular the 30 minutes that schools are driving within your own timetables.**

*This will be a yes/no question. Your SGO will verify this, and you should be able to evidence how your school is adhering to the Chief Medical Officer's recommendations. Tools such as the Active School Planner or your own timetable overviews would work well for this. This is about your provision over and above your timetabled Physical Education time and how you are encouraging your young people to be physically active across the school day and beyond. You will also be able to add further evidence of how you have achieved this by selecting from a list of options – your responses will not affect your score.*

## 2 Creating positive experiences to ensure physical activity and competition provision is designed to reflect the motivation, competence and confidence of your young people and has a clear intent

**75% of your intra competition offer has clearly defined intent.**

*This will be a yes/no question. Your SGO will verify this, and you should be able to evidence your timetable of intra competitions/events over the year and what difference you are trying to make to your young people. You will also be able to add further evidence of how you have achieved this by selecting from a list of options, including a list of sports and activities – your responses will not affect your score.*

**We have formalised ways of getting feedback from our young people after their inter competition/events experiences to support that we are on board with promoting positive experiences of competition/events.**

*This will be a yes/no question. Your SGO will verify this, and you should be able to evidence your understanding of positive experiences and how you have put this into practice to ensure that young people aren't just being exposed to competitions/events coldly, but that they are adequately prepared and know what to expect so that they can be at their best. You will also be able to add further evidence of how you have achieved this by selecting from a list of options, including a list of sports and activities – your responses will not affect your score.*

## 3 A clear focus on particular transition points (Yr.3 and Yr.7/8 as well as those in 3 tier systems) and how secondary schools are engaging in the School Games

**We understand which young people would benefit from some School Games interventions to aid their transition and have liaised with our SGO about these young people and potential opportunities.**

*This will be a yes/no question. Your SGO will verify this, and you should be able to evidence which groups of young people would benefit most. You will also be able to add further evidence of how you have achieved this by selecting from a list of options – your responses will not affect your score.*

# School Games Mark Silver Criteria



## 4 Create positive experiences that support the character development of young people

**We have a clear process to engage and glean our young people's views on our school sport and physical activity offer.**

*This will be a yes/no question. Your SGO will verify this, and you should be able to share your approach with them. You will also be able to add further evidence of how you have achieved this by selecting from a list of options – your responses will not affect your score.*

## 5 Advocated to key stakeholders how the School Games makes a meaningful difference to the lives of children and young people, including engaging and educating their parents

**We communicate our School Games competition logistics to our parents.**

*This will be a yes/no question. Your SGO will verify this, and you should be able to share your approach and evidence with them. You will also be able to add further evidence of how you have achieved this by selecting from a list of options – your responses will not affect your score.*

### B2022 CWGs Legacy

**We have used the power and inspiration of B2022 CWGs to engage our young people and we have seen an uptake in participation, especially from those facing the greatest inequalities, as a result.**

*This will be a yes/no question. You will also be able to add further evidence of how you have achieved this by selecting from a list of options and indicate whether you would like to be a part of the more formal legacy investment evaluation being led by Sport England – your responses will not affect your score.*

# School Games Mark

## Gold Criteria



### 1 Maintaining and growing your school's engagement in the School Games and your delivery of 60 active minutes for every child

**You are delivering 30 active minutes for 30% of your school population and are tracking their 30 minutes take up (or not) beyond school.**

*This will be a yes/no question. Your SGO will verify this, and you should be able to evidence how your school is adhering to the Chief Medical Officer's recommendations. Tools such as the Active School Planner or your own timetable overviews would work well for this. This is about your provision over and above your timetabled Physical Education time and how you are encouraging your young people to be physically active across the school day and beyond. You will also be able to add further evidence of how you have achieved this by selecting from a list of options – your responses will not affect your score.*

### 2 Creating positive experiences to ensure physical activity and competition provision is designed to reflect the motivation, competence and confidence of your young people and has a clear intent

**You have identified those young people that would benefit most from your intra competition offer and can evidence they are engaged in this.**

*This will be a yes/no question. Your SGO will verify this, and you should be able to evidence your timetable of intra competitions/events over the year and what difference you are trying to make to your young people, as well as the uptake and impact. You will also be able to add further evidence of how you have achieved this by selecting from a list of options, including a list of sports and activities – your responses will not affect your score.*

**We provide opportunities for our young people to practice and prepare ahead of all their inter competition experience and give reflection time afterwards in line with positive experiences research.**

*This will be a yes/no question. Your SGO will verify this, and you should be able to evidence your understanding of positive experiences and how you have put this into practice to ensure that young people aren't just being exposed to competitions/events coldly, but that they are adequately prepared and know what to expect so that they can be at their best. You will also be able to add further evidence of how you have achieved this by selecting from a list of options, including a list of sports and activities – your responses will not affect your score.*

### 3 A clear focus on particular transition points (Yr.3 and Yr.7/8 as well as those in 3 tier systems) and how secondary schools are engaging in the School Games

**We have identified those young people that would benefit most and have an offer that focuses specifically on those young people developed with our SGO.**

*This will be a yes/no question. Your SGO will verify this, and you should be able to evidence which groups of young people would benefit most. You will also be able to add further evidence of how you have achieved this by selecting from a list of options – your responses will not affect your score.*

# School Games Mark

## Gold Criteria



### 4 Creating positive experiences that support the character development of young people

**We have a formal structure to engage our young people through Sports Leaders, School Games Crews or Committees and use them to support our offer.**

*This will be a yes/no question. You will also be asked about the types of leadership opportunities that you have provided and how, once engaged, and trained, your young people have helped with the delivery of your School Games offer. Your SGO will verify this, and you should be able to share your approach and evidence with them. You will also be able to add further evidence of how you have achieved this by selecting from a list of options – your responses will not affect your score.*

### 5 Advocated to key stakeholders how the School Games makes a meaningful difference to the lives of children and young people, including engaging and educating their parents

**We share with our parents our competition intent and ask the same of other external providers engaging with our school.**

*This will be a yes/no question. Your SGO will verify this, and you should be able to share your approach and evidence with them. You will also be able to add further evidence of how you have achieved this by selecting from a list of options – your responses will not affect your score.*

### B2022 CWGs Legacy

**We have used the power and inspiration of B2022 CWGs to engage our young people and parents and we have seen an uptake in participation, especially from those facing the greatest inequalities, as a result.**

*This will be a yes/no question. You will also be able to add further evidence of how you have achieved this by selecting from a list of options and indicate whether you would like to be a part of the more formal legacy investment evaluation being led by Sport England – your responses will not affect your score.*



# School Games Mark Platinum



If a school has previously achieved four consecutive gold awards and have met the standard for this year's gold award, then they will be eligible to apply for platinum.

Through the platinum award, we want to learn where schools are in their engagement with the evolution of the School Games. We want to understand what it takes to be a fully engaged and committed school so that we can help others on their journey of change. As a result, we will look for some narrative from these schools to demonstrate the impact and meaningful difference they are making. This will be in the form of a case study submitted alongside their application. All applications which we receive will also be entered into our newly revamped Impact Awards where schools will be in with a chance of gaining further recognition nationally.

Schools are asked to select one of the following areas for their case study. They can make their submission in a number of ways, e.g. a narrative written by a third party, a written case study, a video case study, a submission led by young people etc.

The options are shown below:

- **Demonstrate how you are engaging those young people that need it the most in the School Games and evidence how you know they are benefiting**
- **Demonstrate how you are a physically literate school and how this positively impacts on your young people**
- **Demonstrate how you are developing and co-creating your offer with your young people**
- **Demonstrate your understanding of young people's motivations and how you build this into your offer**
- **Demonstrate how you have embedded positive experiences of competition into your offer and how this has made a difference to your uptake**
- **Demonstrate how have you ensured that you have developed and maintained 60 active minutes across your school.**

*Please use the Impact Awards case study template that you can download from your dashboards to see the prompt questions that we would like schools to respond to.*

## **Terms and Conditions:**

If you include personally identifiable information about others in your case study, including images, you must ensure that: you are entitled to disclose that information to the Youth Sport Trust; you have obtained any required consents from, given such notices to, or otherwise taken such actions as are required in order for the lawful processing of that personal data by you, in accordance with data protection legislation; and you provide confirmations of all necessary consents and notices to the Youth Sport Trust.

Where the data subject of such personal information is a child under 13 years of age (minimum) you shall, in particular, ensure that you have obtained the valid consent of the parent or holder of parental responsibility of the child to the processing of that personal data. We will share your case studies, either wholly or partially, internally and/or externally, including via websites, social media platforms and printed materials. By submitting your application you are agreeing to the use of the information by the Youth Sport Trust in this way and confirming that all the appropriate approvals have been secured and supplied to us. If at any point the data subject withdraws consent you must communicate this to us immediately so we can ensure that their personal data is not shared in any future digital or printed publications and is deleted from any website or social media platform, where possible.

Given that your case study may be shared online and/or via social media, please ensure that it does not include recognisable images of young people along with other identifying information, such as your school's name, due to the potential safeguarding risks this presents.

# Appendix 1



## About your School – non scoring

The following information is automatically populated into your application and cannot be changed unless stated below.

- Your name (editable)
- Your role in school (editable)
- School name
- SGO name
- Preferred school name (editable)
- Type of school
- Number of students in Year 3-13
- Number of students in Year 12-13
- Number of Free School Meals (FSM)
- Number of Pupil Premium (PP) on roll
- Number of Looked After Children (LAC) on roll
- Number of English as a Second Language (ESL) on roll
- Number of Special Educational Needs (SEND) on roll

## Engagement with SGO – non scoring section

We would like to find out more about your relationship and engagement with your SGO. In this section you will be asked additional questions which will not affect your score.

- Support from your SGO during the academic year with your own School Games provision over and above the competitions/events that you have engaged with
- Ongoing support from your SGO over the academic year with 60 active minutes agenda
- Any other comments on your school's engagement with your SGO or their School Games offer

## Additional optional questions

To support local and national conversations we will ask two additional non-scoring questions. These are optional and will not affect your score.

You will be asked how strongly you agree with the following statement: 'Your school / educational establishment has provided all students in the Autumn, Spring and Summer term with two hours of timetable Physical Education per week (within the curriculum only) and have extra curriculum provision inclusive of physical activity in additional to this – applicable to years 3-11 only.

You will be asked to list any external providers within your curriculum provision.