Cambridgeshire County Council Physical Education Advisory Service

Welcome to the PE & School Sport Newsletter

Friday 20 November 2026

Welcome to the Physical Education Newsletter for Cambridgeshire and beyond.

This will be an exciting year for Physical Education and school sport, with some quite significant changes to the landscape imminent.

These include the evolution (or is it revolution) from the Primary PE and Sport Premium to the PE and School Sport Partnerships Network, the establishment of the enrichment framework, and the Curriculum and Assessment Review.

We will continue to provide updates and guidance on these key developments throughout the year. Please make us your first port of call for all things PE.

The Enrichment Framework - You cannot celebrate what you cannot see

We are excited to share details of a free to attend online seminar about The Enrichment Framework.

The session will help schools understand and share ideas about responding strategically to the new DfE Enrichment Framework.

Participants will explore how to make extra-curricular provision more purposeful, equitable and accessible, while embedding enrichment within whole-school improvement.

This workshop will not advocate for offering more activities, but rather encourage schools to think strategically about why enrichment matters, who it is for, and how its wider impact can be captured.

Details:

Monday 7 December

Time – 3.45pm – 5.00pm

Cost – Free to Cambridgeshire LA schools (Academies - £20)

Booking is essential – Please book **here** (Please note it is in the PE section)

Water safety is now statutory in primary RSHE: what's changed, and what it means for Year 6 swimming

The Department for Education's revised guidance on relationships, sex and health education (RSHE) has added a personal safety strand to primary health education. **Water safety is now part of it.** Most of the conversation about PE this year has been about money: the transition payment, the conditions of grant and the new Partnerships Network. A quieter change came in on 1 September, and it lands in a different part of the curriculum.

What the new RSHE guidance says about water

The revised guidance was announced in July 2025 and came into effect on 1 September 2026. It is statutory guidance, issued under section 80A of the Education Act 2002.

Under **Health and wellbeing: Personal safety**, it lists two things for primary pupils:

· about hazards (including fire risks) that may cause harm, injury or risk, and ways to reduce risks

· how to recognise risk and keep safe around roads, railways (including level crossings) and **water, including the Water Safety Code**

(Source: DfE, RSHE statutory guidance for introduction 1 September 2026, primary personal safety, p24.)

The guidance doesn't mention swimming. RSHE covers what children know about water: how to spot danger, what to do, and how to get help. The pool still sits in PE.

To support schools, the National Water Safety Forum launched a water safety education framework in June 2026. It sets out what children should know at each stage, with practical examples of how to teach it.

four-point check for your school

If you're a head, PE lead or RSHE lead, these four questions will tell you where you stand.

1. **Is water safety, including the Water Safety Code, in this year's RSHE scheme of work, and does your RSHE policy reflect the new guidance?**

2. **Do you know where this year's Year 6 stand on all three measures?** Not just 25 metres: strokes and self-rescue too. If your Year 6 swam in Year 4 or 5, their figures may be out of date.

3. **Have you planned top-up lessons for the pupils who haven't met the standard?** If they are going to swim before July, summer-term pool time needs booking now.

4. **Are your Year 6 percentages ready to publish by 31 July 2027?** That is the deadline for your PE and sport premium report.

If any of those is a "not sure", please reach out to the PE Advisory service to walk you through where your school stands on each requirement and what to do next.

We can offer

- Whole school assemblies about water safety
- Pupil workshops addressing key issues around risks around water
- Staff training about Keeping Children Safe around Water

https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/cambridgeshire-services-to-schools/cambridgeshire-physical-education/be-water-smart

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Introducing Equal Play in PE

A brand new, free programme from ParalympicsGB, partnered with NatWest Thrive. Designed with teachers and grounded in research, it gives you the tools to include every child, in every PE lesson.

- **The Goal:** To tackle the gap in school sport, where only 1 in 4 disabled children regularly participate in physical education (PE). The broader Equal Play campaign aims to ensure no child is left on the sidelines.
- **The Problem It Addresses:** Research surveying over 150 UK teachers found that while 95% encounter physical or sensory needs in class, only 45% feel confident supporting physical needs, and fewer than 1 in 10 feel very confident delivering parasports. Many teachers rely on social media (28%) or AI (23%) for ideas due to a lack of formal training.

What you'll get:

- **Videos showing how ParalympicsGB athletes adapt physical activity**
- **Real classroom footage of inclusive PE in action**
- **Simple guides to adapting any activity**
- **Pupil-friendly participation cards**
- **Ready-to-use inclusive lesson progression**

https://www.getset.co.uk/equalplaype

Cambridgeshire PE and Outdoor Learning Conference

The Wonderful Everyday

Every Child - Every school - Every day

We are excited to announce details of the 2027 PE and Outdoor Learning Conference

Date - Wednesday 3 February 2027 (please note the change from previous communications)

Venue - Grafham Water Centre

Cost - £99 for Cambridgeshire schools and settings / £110 for out of county

This will be an opportunity to come together to celebrate the power of PE and outdoor learning in the lives of young people, and embrace the changes that are ahead within the curriculum and beyond.

The day promises to be exciting, innovative and cutting edge, with a variety of practical and discussion based workshops.

There will be the popular market place, networking spaces, soapbox moments, and delegates will have an opportunity to have a choice of complementary practical sessions provided by Grafham Water Centre at the end of the conference.

Booking details will be shared with schools and settings shortly

Save the date - Wednesday 3 February 2027

Forthcoming courses and training

02/12/2026	Inspiring leadership in PE programme
13/01/2027	Developing an inspirational PE curriculum for the 21st century
21/01/2027	Safe practice in Physical Education
04/02/2027	Inclusive PE

11/02/2027 What does outstanding Physical Education look like in primary schools?

Details about course contents and booking details **here**

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