



afPE Taskforce: The future of Physical Education

Background and purpose

The Association for Physical Education (afPE) has a significant and highly respected voice within the PE community, schools, government and the sport and recreation sector. Leading a taskforce of experts across a range of disciplines will allow afPE to:

- Positively influence future public policy around PE;
- Provide government (and ultimately schools) with practical, actionable recommendations for change;
- To support afPE's ambition of putting PE at the heart of school life – understanding and articulating why PE matters and its contribution across the curriculum and to wider social issues;
- To celebrate high quality PE and teachers and to encourage the replication and spread of best practice;
- Allow leading research and insight to be presented in a consolidated way – bringing more focus to the issues that really matter.

Membership

The membership of this taskforce is as follows:

- Edward Timpson CBE, MP (Chair)
- Jason Robinson OBE (Former England Rugby International and Rugby Union World Cup Winner)
- Sue Wilkinson MBE FRSA (afPE CEO)
- Professor Jo Harris (Loughborough University)
- Baroness Amanda Sater
- Gerry Sutcliffe (former MP and Government Minister)
- Samantha Tross MBBS, FRCS, FRCS Ed [Tr & Orth] (Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon)
- Dr Andy-Daly Smith (University of Bradford)
- Dr Alison Murray (University of Roehampton)
- Shaun Dowling (Head of Sport at United Learning)
- Shannon Hussain (newly qualified PE teacher)

We are finalising the final members of our taskforce to ensure that the voices of those participating at the frontline are heard.

We will be inviting representatives from Sport England and the Department for Education to join as observers.

Format

This is a 'task and finish group' – which will deliver its report and recommendations on conclusion to afPE. The group will then be disbanded. The group will undertake the following steps:

- Desk research;
- Call for evidence;
- Taskforce meets and agrees exact remit, timelines and priorities;
- Committee style evidence sessions with key witnesses/contributors;
- Taskforce meets on to address individual issues and to agree policy recommendations;
- Report with focused recommendations is produced and approved by the taskforce.

Note: all research, secretariat services and report drafting to be undertaken by afPE.

Indicative topics to review (taskforce to sign off final version)

- Immediate issues in relation to supporting government and schools in advance of full re-opening;
- Influencing a future curriculum review;
- The future of teacher training;
- The role of PE in achieving broader outcomes – including the health and wellbeing of children, tackling obesity, building character and resilience;
- Extra-curricular provision – including during school holidays.

Selection process

We have selected Taskforce members using the following criteria:

- Professional experience and expertise;
- Diversity of background, experience and thought;
- Creativity – we have sought a blend of experiences and perspectives to ensure that our recommendations are original and different;
- Political experience and knowledge amongst some members;
- Community perspectives to ensure that our recommendations are robust, representative and grounded in reality.

A key aim of this Taskforce is to consolidate a huge wealth of evidence and perspectives into a focused and coherent set of recommendations. Our core group is therefore small, but will seek views and perspectives from a much wider group.

Advisory group

Due to the huge amount of interest received, we will recruit a wider advisory group - open to all who wish to contribute.

This group will:

1. Have the opportunity to submit evidence against the questions drafted by the core group;
2. Be encouraged to submit wider evidence on the key areas of school re-opening, future reviews of the curriculum and teacher training, the role of PE in the delivery of broader social outcomes and extra curricular provision;
3. Have first sight of the recommendations and have further opportunities to input before these are made public;

4. Give oral evidence to the Taskforce - those being called to give evidence will be selected by the core group.

We feel that this is the best way to give everyone a fair chance to input as we simply cannot accommodate hundreds of people around the table, particularly as the issues at stake are pressing. To that end, we want our core group to prioritise those who do not currently have opportunities to influence government policy, to speak at and attend academic conferences or those who have access to institutional and personal communications channels to work alongside our Chair and other Parliamentary partners.

Taskforce members – further information

Edward Timpson CBE MP has been the Member of Parliament for Eddisbury since December 2019. He previously served as MP for Crewe and Nantwich. At Westminster, Edward sat on the Children, Schools and Families Select Committee and the Joint Committee on Human Rights, and was also Chairman of the All Party Parliamentary Groups (APPGs) on Adoption and Fostering and on Looked After Children and Care Leavers, Secretary of the APPG for Dairy Farmers, Vice Chairman on the APPG for Runaway Missing Children and Vice Chairman of the APPG on Epilepsy.

This policy expertise and his former job as a family law barrister led to him becoming Minister for Children and Families in September 2012 until May 2017.

Edward was named 'Minister of the Year' in 2014, with his decision to raise the age that children and young people leave foster care from 18 to 21 being cited in particular as an example of his work as Minister for Children and Families.

In 2018 he received a CBE from HM The Queen for Parliamentary and Public Service and also published an independent review for the Government into school exclusions.

Edward was chair of Cafcass and the National Child Safeguarding Panel between 2018 and 2019 and was an advisor to the Board of Trade.

Jason Robinson OBE is a sporting legend who reached the summit in both Rugby League and Rugby Union. He played in three world cup finals, scoring England's only try to help secure the 2003 Rugby Union World Cup. He was awarded the MBE for his role in the 2003 World Cup and the OBE for services to Rugby in 2008. Jason's Rugby League career started at Wigan in 1992 after being talent spotted whilst playing for Hunslett Boys Club. During his Rugby League career he played 281 games, scoring an incredible 171 tries. During his time with Wigan, his wins included a Super League title, four Championships, three Challenge Cups, three Regal Trophy wins, 4 premiership titles and an away win against Brisbane Broncos to win the World Club championship in 1994. He also represented England, Great Britain and the British Lions, finishing as runner up in the England versus Australia Rugby League World Cup Final in 1995.

In 2000 Jason switched codes and joined Sale Sharks. Following his appointment as captain in 2004, Sale Sharks finished third in the table and won the European Challenge Cup. The most successful period in the club's history culminated with a table topping performance backed up by winning the

2005/6 Guinness Premiership final and reaching the quarter finals of the Heineken Cup. Jason was drafted into Sir Clive Woodward's England set up. His speed and agility made him a natural choice for the 2001 British and Irish Lions' tour, scoring five tries in his opening tour match and scoring a scintillating try to set up a memorable first test victory for the tourists. Jason had secured his place as a Lions legend, also touring in 2005.

There followed a England career where he scored 28 tries in 51 caps, the highlight of which was that memorable try in the 2003 World Cup Final. He was appointed captain for his country in 2004 before retiring from international rugby in 2005.

He was tempted back to England for the 2007 World Cup campaign in France, reaching a second consecutive final where England lost to South Africa. Since retiring from rugby, Jason has had a successful and wide ranging professional career. He plays an active role in many charities and social development programmes and is proud to support afPE and the Taskforce.

Sue Wilkinson MBE FRSA was formerly secondary trained in Human Movement Studies and taught in secondary schools and completed outreach work in local schools. Having then been selected to take a lead on a TDA initiative for a Local Authority re: training primary colleagues as specialist in physical education, she then went on to become an Advisory Teacher responsible for first, middle and primary school physical education.

Sue trained as an Estyn and Ofsted team inspector for primary physical education. Whilst working in a Local Authority she was seconded to several Universities working on Initial Teacher Education programmes both in England and Hong Kong. Sue loved this work and became a Director of PE ITE and then as an assistant Director of Teaching and Learning at a Midland University. From there she was then seconded by the British Association of Advisers and Lecturers (baalpe) and the Youth Sport Trust (YST) to work on a national strategy for professional development, including the design of the PESSCL programme.

In 2003 Sue became the full time Professional Development Manager for baalpe and in 2006 when baalpe and PEA UK merged, she became the national Business Development Manager. Having overseen several national strategies for PE and school sport, and becoming a technical adviser to the TDA, Sue became the Association for Physical Education (afPE) Strategic Lead in 2011. She has authored and co-authored several publications and is currently leading the association's initiatives for Quality Mark, effective use of the Primary PE & Sport Premium and the new trail blazing Level 5 and 6 qualification for primary generalists in PE.

In 2017 Sue was promoted to the role of Chief Executive Officer of afPE and subsequently received an MBE for her services to education. In July 2019, Sue received an Honorary Doctor of Science from the University of Bedfordshire for her outstanding services to physical education.

Professor Jo Harris is Professor in Physical Education and Sport Pedagogy plus Director of Teacher Education at Loughborough University.

Jo taught in secondary schools for 12 years and has been a teacher educator for 29 years. As Director of Teacher Education at Loughborough, Jo has led consecutive Ofsted inspections in which teacher education has consistently been judged 'outstanding'.

Jo has held prominent roles within, and been the recipient of a number of awards from, national physical education subject associations for her significant and sustained contribution to the profession.

Jo's research focuses on health-related learning in physical education and the promotion of active lifestyles in schools and she regularly publishes in professional and academic journals and presents at national and international conferences. In recent years, Jo has attained the status of Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, received awards for research-informed teaching and high quality postgraduate supervision, and co-published a book with Human Kinetics on 'promoting active lifestyles in schools'.

Baroness Amanda Sater is a member of the House of Lords and is a Vice Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Sport and has been a Member of the House of Lords Select Committee on Food, Poverty, Health and Environment.

Amanda has chaired several sports charities including Streetgames, where she is now a Patron, and she is Chair of The Queen's Club Foundation. She has considerable experience in the charitable sector having sat as a Trustee on a number of charity boards including Addaction and The British Lung Foundation, and has served as a School Governor.

As a keen tennis player, including playing for the Junior National Welsh team, Amanda has seen first-hand the power of sport in building confidence and life skills, whatever level of sport is played. She is a strong advocate of how sport and physical activity can transform lives and communities and create positive change. As a Youth Magistrate for over 20 years and as a member of the Youth Justice Board and the Metropolitan Police Authority, she has seen how effective sport can be, particularly when used in early intervention with young people to divert them away from youth crime, as well as in the use of rehabilitation more widely in the criminal justice system.

Gerry Sutcliffe served as Labour Member of Parliament for Bradford South from 1994-2015. In Parliament, he served on the Public Accounts Committee from 1996 to 1998 and was a member of the Unopposed Bills Panel from 1997 to 1999. After the 1997 general election, he was appointed as Parliamentary Private Secretary (PPS) to Harriet Harman, the Secretary of State for Social Security and then served as PPS to Stephen Byers, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury and later Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

From 2003 to 2006 he was Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department of Trade and Industry, with responsibility for employment and consumer and competition policy. In the May 2006 reshuffle he was moved to the Home Office, as Minister for Prisons and the Probation Service. As part of the reorganisation of the Home Office he became Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the newly formed Ministry of Justice in May 2007. He later moved to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport where he served as Minister for Sport. He retains a significant personal and professional interest in a range of issues related to sport and is the Chair of Trustees for the Board of the National Horse Racing College.

Dr Andy-Daly Smith is shortly to commence work as Reader in Physical Activity and Healthy Childhood at the University of Bradford. Previously, Andy was Senior Lecturer in Physical Activity and Behavioural Science at Leeds Beckett University. His research focuses on impact and feasibility of physical activity interventions for children and young people.

Andy has over fifteen years of teaching, research and course management in higher education. He has led the design and delivery of a range of degree programmes, the most recent being the Sport, Physical Activity and Health degree. Passionate about developing highly skilled graduates for employment in the physical activity arena, Andy currently leads the YMCA vocational qualifications fitness centre at Leeds Beckett University. While studying toward their degree, students are able to gain additional vocational qualifications as part of their degree, therefore enhancing their employability.

Andy's teaching focusses on improving physical activity in children and young people. He leads a range of module which develop a student's understanding of the science, programme design and delivery for interventions to tackle the physical inactivity epidemic. He works with students in schools to design and deliver innovative programmes to improve physical activity during the school day. These focus on the development of fundamental movement skills and the design of physically active learning interventions.

Passionate about improving physical activity levels for all, Andy currently co-leads the Yorkshire and Humber Physical Activity Knowledge Exchange. Connecting over 240 practitioners, researchers and commissioners from over 50 different organisations, YoHPAKE plays a significant role in improving physical activity in the region. The purpose of the organisation is to support research informed practice through connecting key stakeholders and ensuring faster knowledge transfer.

Andy's key research interest lies in developing national and international partnerships on research focused around three core themes: (1) to understand the segmented day physical activity patterns of children and young people (2) to investigate the impact of acute bouts of physical activity on cognition and academic performance in children and young people and (3) the feasibility and impact of school-based physical activity interventions for children and young people.

With a specific interest in physically active learning, Andy is working with a range of national and international partners. Working in partnership with Cambridge University, Andy is developing a secondary school physically active learning intervention. This work follows on from research into teacher perceptions of active learning in primary schools. Andy specialises in deploying high quality research designs in translational settings. Examples of this work include the evaluation of the Tagtiv8 physically active learning programme and the evaluation of the Redcar and Cleveland Pedometer Programme. Andy is currently coordinating a team of researchers from across the UK to write a future directions paper for physically active learning. This work will set guidelines for future intervention design and support practitioners and researchers alike in the implementation and evaluation of physically active learning interventions.

Dr Alison Morag Murray is thrilled to collaborate with a wide variety of preservice and in service practitioners to facilitate lifelong developmentally appropriate movement through early years across primary and secondary. The heart of her practice lies with primary physical education (teacher education) from where she shares with many amazing colleagues with and beyond her home base of the University of Roehampton, to extend across the UK, Europe and the US.

Alison studied at Strathclyde University (The Scottish School of Physical Education), Loughborough University and the University of New Mexico, and transferred her teaching qualifications to gain certification in Texas for teaching of PE across all levels. She has supported and/or directed Physical Education Teacher Education across a superb set of schools (University of New Mexico, New Mexico State University, Texas A& M) in the US and now at Roehampton. Having developed practice through voluntary and paid collegiate and professional coaching performance enhancement roles (gymnastics, swimming and track and field) in Mexico, the US and the UK, Alison sees even greater value in playing an active and informed role across the progression of fundamental movement, essential knowledge and competencies in earlier developmental phases. Physical education is a wonderfully rich forum and subject, and way of being which can significantly enhance the self in many distinct yet overlapping ways. Indeed Alison researches through and around the school curriculum to better understand how children and youth develop a tacit awareness of their way of being and of learning as they acquire motor skills and competencies and knowledge in contextually and culturally relevant ways.

Samantha Tross (Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon) MBBS, FRCS, FRCS Ed, FRCS Ed(Tr&Orth) is a Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon practicing in London. She specialises treating conditions of the hip and knee. She became a Consultant in 2005 and was the first female of Afro-Caribbean descent in the UK to do so. In 2018, she scored another first by becoming the first woman in Europe to perform Mako robotic hip surgery.

Miss Tross is currently the Lead Orthopaedic Surgeon at Ealing Hospital, the main base for her NHS work. She specialises in treating conditions of the hip and knee and robotic surgery but also is very experienced in trauma management, both adult and paediatric. She also offers treatment for carpal tunnel syndrome. Miss Tross is part of Kensington Orthopaedics, which supports a multidisciplinary approach to her patient care.

Miss Tross was born in Guyana, South America and came to England aged 11. She graduated from University College London in 1992. Her basic Surgical training was on the Royal London rotation and higher surgical training on Guys & St. Thomas and King's College Hospitals rotation. She subsequently undertook fellowships in Toronto, Canada and Sydney, Australia.

Apart from her clinical work Miss Tross is an Educational Supervisor, Faculty Group Leader and Director of Core Surgical Training for her hospital, overseeing the training of junior doctors in her Trust. She is an Associate Editor of the Journal of Medical Case Reports, Examiner for Imperial Medical School exams and recipient of a Black British Business STEM Award for her work promoting science and medical careers to her community. Miss Tross regularly presents at Orthopaedic conferences and is an Associate Professor In Orthopaedics for the University of the Caribbean.

Miss Tross has been profiled in an educational series by Verna Wilkins which is part of the national curriculum for schools, She has been included in the Black Powerlist of 100 most Influential Black Britons since 2009 and was named in Tatlers 100 most Influential doctors in the UK in 2013. She has been featured in the BMJ Careers in 2018 and the Metro and Stylist magazine in 2019. In the same year, she was awarded the WINTRADE Award for Women in the Public Sector and was the keynote speaker for the Mayor's black history month event at City Hall.

Outside of work, Miss Tross enjoys travel, dancing and fine dining.

Shaun Dowling is Head of Sport at United Learning - a national group of primary, secondary and all-through schools across the state and independent sectors. In this role he supports Heads of PE and Directors of Sport in further improving the quality of their PE curriculum, school sport programmes and physical activity provision, and ensures they're using the power of sport to assist young people with their wider educational development.

United Learning schools are located in cities, urban and coastal towns and villages across the country, from Cumbria to Dorset. Many are embedded in or host their local school sport partnerships; 36 secondary schools are involved in the Sport England Teacher Training CPD programme; all schools are members of afPE; and many schools are progressing in their Quality Mark awards for the School Games.

In 2016/17 Shaun led the Working Group of the PE/sport network of United Learning as they produced their PE and Health Curriculum and Assessment Framework.

The United Learning PE/sport network has collaborated on an inclusive girls project (X-Elle),

RideABC for Sport Relief in 2018 and 'Challenge 2020', a project aiming to increase levels of physical activity ahead of the Tokyo Paralympic and Olympic Games.

Shaun is a former Head of PE and Director of Specialism who progressed to Deputy Headship in two specialist sports colleges.

Having trained at the West Sussex Institute of Higher Education, Shaun later gained his MA(Ed) from Southampton University. He achieved his NPQH before the opportunity arose to undertake a national role in the education team at the Youth Sport Trust (YST). He has other wide ranging experience, including:

- Curriculum, teacher-training and sports & school leadership work in America, South Africa and Iraq;
- Appearance before the Education Select Committee to give evidence on 'School Sport following London 2012';
- Co-wrote and edited 'The A-Z of School Improvement through PE and Sport: Principles and Practice';

Shaun is Chair-elect of SLQ Sports Leaders and several of his articles have been published in PEA/afPE journals, particularly on the theme of Specialist Sports Colleges.

Shannon Hussain is a current newly qualified teacher of Physical Education. Shannon read her undergraduate degree in BSc Sport and Physical Education at the University of Bedfordshire, followed by teacher training of PGCE Secondary Physical Education, also at the University of Bedfordshire. Shannon has recently completed her NQT year at Biddenham International School and Sports College and is passionate about joining the afPE National Task Force as it is important to review and improve the current education and opportunities being provided for young people.

Shannon looks forward to the opportunity to join a fantastic team of experts during this early stage of her career and the chance to delve into how we as educators can improve students' lives physically and how we educate them to maintain a healthy active lifestyle throughout the rest of their lives. Shannon is joining the Taskforce to offer an insight into current delivery in education and to ensure that as we move forward as a profession, we can implement what is right and what is going to work. Shannon believes that PE is a vital part of the curriculum due to the significant impact it can have on everyone's life and developing a love for sports and physical activity is something we as PE teachers all strive for.