

A HANDY GUIDE FOR CHAMPION SCHOOLS

What is Get Set for Community Action?

Get Set for Community Action is a brand new programme, which aims to strengthen relationships between young people and their local communities through the Olympic Values (friendship, excellence and respect) and the Paralympic Values (courage, determination, equality and inspiration).

Thousands of 14-19 year olds – ‘Action Leads’ – will work in teams across the UK, building relationships with local community groups to plan and deliver at least two projects each, in the run-up to the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

What is a ‘Champion School’?

There will be 100 Champion Schools recruited by the Youth Sport Trust. They will support 3-5 local schools (Cluster Schools) to take part in the Get Set for Community Action programme, while also working with their own community partner(s). They will also act as champions of good practice, providing case studies for us to share with and inspire other schools.

What is a Cluster School?

A Cluster School is recruited by one of the 100 Champion Schools recruited by the Youth Sport Trust. They will run Get Set for Community Action projects in their community, with the help of their Champion School.

What’s expected of us as a ‘Champion School’?

As with all schools taking part, Champion Schools will establish teams of up to 10 young people (Action Leads) who will set up, run and report on at least two projects per team with local Community Partners, between November 2015 and September 2016, with the second project focused on the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Expectations of a Champion School include:

- A teacher and two Action Leads from your school will attend the National Training Day on Wednesday 25 November 2015.
- Your school will host a training day for you and your Cluster Schools and Community Partners in the Spring Term, date tbc

- Your school will take part in the full monitoring and evaluation programme including:
 - Ensuring Action Leads evaluate and report on their projects using the tools provided on the website (questionnaires and feedback on their project, including community partner participant numbers)
 - Ensuring that Action Leads and lead teachers complete online questionnaires at three key points in the programme (start, mid-year and end)
 - Hosting a visit from our research team if selected.

How do we recruit cluster schools?

There are lots of ways to recruit cluster schools – you just need to think creatively! Some ideas on where to start include:

- Do you have any existing secondary school partnerships that you can use?
- Which secondary schools are nearby or local to your area?
- Do any of your local schools have specialist facilities that you think may be useful for community projects?
- Do any of your local schools have a student population that represents different groups from your local community?

How do I find a Community Partner?

This could be a community organisation you already work with, or it could be someone completely new. Have a look at existing links or think about a group you would like to work with, or a project you would like to run and what kind of partner it would suit. For example, if you are thinking you would like to run a sports day, you could target community organisation with a focus on young people.

Action Leads can find out more in the How to Guide. Team Coordinators can find out more in the Team Coordinator Handbook.

What about training and support?

Lots of additional support is available to Champion Schools. Not only do you get access to a lot of great resources on our website, one teacher and two students from your team will also be invited to a national training day on Wednesday 25th November. Champion Schools will then host a training event for their Cluster Schools and each school's Community Partner during the spring term. This will comprise of lots of fun workshops on how to lead and manage a project, and it will be delivered by the Get Set for Community Action professionals. All you have to do is provide space to host it!

Help! Where can I get an answer to any questions?

Every Champion School will have a access to the Development Manager from the Youth Sport Trust (YST), to help support them. You will be given their details once you have been confirmed as a Champion School.

What do we get for taking part in the programme?

Champion Schools will be paid £1,000 as a contribution to services, to cover teaching and administrative time dedicated to the programme including the attendance of two young people at the National training day

As Action Leads, your students will learn new skills and make a difference in your community. To recognise their achievements, they will be presented with a certificate at the end of the programme, plus there's loads of chances to win other rewards, including an athlete visit to your school! Students could also choose to discuss the skills developed in their CV, UCAS form or personal statement.

The skills required within Get Set for Community Action link to curriculum requirements for PSHE, Citizenship and Health and Wellbeing. They can also link to spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (SMSC).