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# Presentation of findings for New South Wales Sydney region government schools, for New South Wales Government Department of Education & Communities - How are primary education health and physical education (HPE) teachers best prepared?

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## Presentation of Findings

### New South Wales – Sydney Region

#### Government schools

#### New South Wales Sydney Region schools (total)

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Total returned surveys                   | <b>26</b>    |
| Total New South Wales government schools | <b>73</b>    |
| % within state                           | <b>35.6%</b> |

**1. Which teachers are responsible for HPE in your school (eg. Classroom, specialist HPE, outsourced)?**

|                                    |    |         |
|------------------------------------|----|---------|
| Classroom teachers                 | 15 | (57.7%) |
| Classroom teachers & outsourced    | 10 | (38.5%) |
| Classroom teacher & HPE specialist | 1  | (3.8%)  |

**2. If HPE is outsourced please give details of what is outsourced and background/qualifications of the people who take the classes?**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Yr 3-6 Friday Sport Specialist company<br>(qualified coaches or teachers) |   |
| Gym (whole school) – one term biennial                                    |   |
| Dance (whole school) – one term biennial                                  | 1 |
| Dance ‘Dance2Bfit’ (qualified instructors)                                | 1 |
| Dance professionals – footsteps   |   |
| In 2 Cricket  |   |
| AFL clinics   | 1 |
| Sports in School Australia<br>10 wk program (biennial)                    | 1 |
| Gymnastics – all trained  | 1 |
| Gymnastics (highly specialised)   | 1 |
| Gymnastics, sportskills, athletic skills                                  | 1 |
| AFL program (8 weeks) NSW AFL – ball skills                               | 1 |
| Dance (K-2, 4-6) qualified company & teacher                              |   |
| Fundamental Movement Skills (1 term)<br>- qualified company               |   |
| Gym (Yr 3-4) – 1 term (qualified instructors)                             |   |
| Various sports sessions   |   |
| basketball, AFL state body  | 1 |
| Gymnastics – trained PDHPE teachers                                       | 1 |
| Trained teachers  |   |
| YMCA Coaches, Sportspro teachers do gymnastics                            |   |
| Gymnastics program (paid by parents)                                      |   |

**3. Do you prefer to have specialist HPE teachers in your school?**

|                           |    |         |
|---------------------------|----|---------|
| Yes                       | 14 | (60.9%) |
| No                        | 9  | (39.1%) |
| No details/Not Applicable | 3  |         |

*Comments explaining why:*

There are certain areas, such as gym, that require specialists; dance used to support 'Spring Showcase' performance and Friday Sport to reduce ratios to 1:15 – to increase 'active time'.

No we need flexibility not one curriculum area.

For specialist areas such as dance and gymnastics as classroom teachers don't always have skills in this area.

Skills taught properly – forces teachers to take class to sport.

Aging staff may not be trained in PE/Sport

I, as principal, would prefer class teachers to take gymnastics as they can all meet the syllabus requirements but they are not confident. If not outsourced it won't be done.

Expertise and safety

Only for gym

Equipment, specialist skills

If the staff are not qualified in some areas then specialists ensure a quality program accompanied by safety.

Would be good for RFF (release from face-to-face) & Sport

I have been in schools where (and have taught) Health and PE as the Release from Face to Face (RFF) program. When taught in this vain, it is a most successful program and a greater emphasis can be placed on living healthy lifestyles.

Yes, specialist brings so much more expertise to the role. Can teach gymnastics.

We know our students best

Excellent programs – especially gymnastics

Preparation to set up equipment

Can look after all aspects ie. Carnivals, sport & PE

Safety, skill knowledge

Better to use internal expertise than having to get parents to pay.

**4. If your school does have a HPE specialist teacher, do they have specific HPE qualifications?**

|                           |    |         |
|---------------------------|----|---------|
| Yes                       | 2  | (28.6%) |
| No                        | 5  | (71.4%) |
| No details/Not Applicable | 19 |         |

**5. On average how much time of PE (lesson) engagement do students in your school receive weekly?**

|                 |    |         |
|-----------------|----|---------|
| None            | 0  |         |
| Half an hour    | 2  | (7.7%)  |
| 1 hour          | 8  | (30.8%) |
| 2 hours         | 14 | (53.8%) |
| 3 hours or more | 2  | (7.7%)  |

**6. When employing staff, do you look at the university certificate/ testamur of potential staff?**

|     |    |         |
|-----|----|---------|
| Yes | 8  | (30.8%) |
| No  | 18 | (69.2%) |

**7. When employing teachers do you peruse university transcripts of results?**

|     |    |         |
|-----|----|---------|
| Yes | 3  | (11.5%) |
| No  | 23 | (88.5%) |

**8. As a Principal, would a course that qualifies teachers to be generalist classroom teachers and HPE specialists be of value?**

|          |    |         |
|----------|----|---------|
| No       | 2  | (7.7%)  |
| Maybe    | 4  | (15.4%) |
| Probably | 9  | (34.6%) |
| Yes      | 11 | (42.3%) |

**9. Would a testamur/ certificate that read “Bachelor of Primary Education (Health and Physical Education)” assist you with the employment of staff?**

|          |    |         |
|----------|----|---------|
| No       | 5  | (19.2%) |
| Maybe    | 11 | (42.3%) |
| Probably | 8  | (30.8%) |
| Yes      | 2  | (7.7%)  |

**10. What are the key attributes of a good HPE teacher?**

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| HPE curriculum knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy | 15 (mentions) |
| Passion/interest/ enthusiasm (children)             | 11            |
| Planning/ assessment and flexibility (organised)    | 9             |
| Rapport/ communication and management skills        | 8             |
| Good teacher/ classroom                             | 7             |
| Cater for all learning needs (empathy & support)    | 6             |
| Engage students & fun                               | 5             |
| Hard worker/ drive                                  | 3             |
| Team player/ team work/ collaboration               | 3             |
| Holistic approach to health & wellbeing             | 3             |
| Introduce a variety of physical activities/ skills  | 2             |
| Athletic/ fitness/ stamina/ active                  | 2             |
| Expertise (specialist training in HPE)              | 2             |
| Advocate of & teaches healthy behaviours            | 1             |
| Inspirational                                       | 1             |
| Safety awareness                                    | 1             |

**11. Are there any other details you would like to add on the issue of quality HPE experiences for children in schools?**

Totally agree but I would be happy if teachers in general primary courses could major in HPE.

All pre-service teachers need to be provided with greater training in this area – has positive results in the classroom and socially.

I do not have the staffing flexibility to employ a specialist HPE teacher.

Having a specialist PE teacher ensures that our students get 1 hour of quality PE instruction every week.

As a state school – I employ teachers with ‘Approval to teach’ and accredited codes. Mostly kids enjoy PE lessons – quality ie. Skills being taught is problematic

**Small sized schools (less than 100 children) New South Wales Sydney Region**

- 1 returned surveys

**1. Which teachers are responsible for HPE in your school (eg. Classroom, specialist HPE, outsourced)?**

|                    |   |          |
|--------------------|---|----------|
| Classroom teachers | 1 | (100.0%) |
|--------------------|---|----------|

**2. If HPE is outsourced please give details of what is outsourced and background/qualifications of the people who take the classes?**

|                           |   |          |
|---------------------------|---|----------|
| No details/Not Applicable | 1 | (100.0%) |
|---------------------------|---|----------|

**3. Do you prefer to have specialist HPE teachers in your school?**

|                           |   |          |
|---------------------------|---|----------|
| Yes                       | 0 |          |
| No                        | 0 |          |
| No details/Not Applicable | 1 | (100.0%) |

**4. If your school does have a HPE specialist teacher, do they have specific HPE qualifications?**

|                           |   |          |
|---------------------------|---|----------|
| Yes                       | 0 |          |
| No                        | 0 |          |
| No details/Not Applicable | 1 | (100.0%) |

**5. On average how much time of PE (lesson) engagement do students in your school receive weekly?**

|                 |   |          |
|-----------------|---|----------|
| None            | 0 |          |
| Half an hour    | 0 |          |
| 1 hour          | 1 | (100.0%) |
| 2 hours         | 0 |          |
| 3 hours or more | 0 |          |

**6. When employing staff, do you look at the university certificate/ testamur of potential staff?**

|     |   |          |
|-----|---|----------|
| Yes | 0 |          |
| No  | 1 | (100.0%) |

**7. When employing teachers do you peruse university transcripts of results?**

|     |   |          |
|-----|---|----------|
| Yes | 0 |          |
| No  | 1 | (100.0%) |

**8. As a Principal, would a course that qualifies teachers to be generalist classroom teachers and HPE specialists be of value?**

|          |   |          |
|----------|---|----------|
| No       | 0 |          |
| Maybe    | 0 |          |
| Probably | 1 | (100.0%) |
| Yes      | 0 |          |

**9. Would a testamur/ certificate that read “Bachelor of Primary Education (Health and Physical Education)” assist you with the employment of staff?**

|          |   |          |
|----------|---|----------|
| No       | 0 |          |
| Maybe    | 1 | (100.0%) |
| Probably | 0 |          |
| Yes      | 0 |          |

**10. What are the key attributes of a good HPE teacher?**

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Understanding of student skills at certain levels | 1 (mentions) |
| Actively involve students                         | 1            |
| Understand huff & puff activities                 | 1            |
| Can teach movement skills and apply to games      | 1            |

**11. Are there any other details you would like to add on the issue of quality HPE experiences for children in schools?**

|                           |   |          |
|---------------------------|---|----------|
| No details/Not Applicable | 1 | (100.0%) |
|---------------------------|---|----------|

**Medium sized schools (100-300 children) New South Wales Sydney Region**

**- 5 returned surveys**

**1. Which teachers are responsible for HPE in your school (eg. Classroom, specialist HPE, outsourced)?**

|                                 |   |         |
|---------------------------------|---|---------|
| Classroom teachers              | 2 | (40.0%) |
| Classroom teachers & outsourced | 3 | (60.0%) |

**2. If HPE is outsourced please give details of what is outsourced and background/qualifications of the people who take the classes?**

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| No details/Not Applicable  | 2 |  |
| Yr 3-6 Friday Sport Specialist company (qualified coaches or teachers) |   |  |
| Gym (whole school) – one term biennial                                 |   |  |
| Dance (whole school) – one term biennial                               | 1 |  |
| Dance ‘Dance2Bfit’ (qualified instructors)                             | 1 |  |
| Dance professionals – footsteps  |   |  |
| In 2 Cricket   |   |  |
| AFL clinics  | 1 |  |

**3. Do you prefer to have specialist HPE teachers in your school?**

|                           |   |         |
|---------------------------|---|---------|
| Yes                       | 2 | (50.0%) |
| No                        | 2 | (50.0%) |
| No details/Not Applicable | 1 |         |

*Comments explaining why:*

There are certain areas, such as gym, that require specialists; dance used to support ‘Spring Showcase’ performance and Friday Sport to reduce ratios to 1:15 – to increase ‘active time’.

No we need flexibility not one curriculum area.

For specialist areas such as dance and gymnastics as classroom teachers don’t always have skills in this area.

Skills taught properly – forces teachers to take class to sport.

**4. If your school does have a HPE specialist teacher, do they have specific HPE qualifications?**

|                           |   |          |
|---------------------------|---|----------|
| Yes                       | 0 |          |
| No                        | 2 | (100.0%) |
| No details/Not Applicable | 3 |          |



**5. On average how much time of PE (lesson) engagement do students in your school receive weekly?**

|                 |   |         |
|-----------------|---|---------|
| None            | 0 |         |
| Half an hour    | 1 | (20.0%) |
| 1 hour          | 1 | (20.0%) |
| 2 hours         | 3 | (60.0%) |
| 3 hours or more | 0 |         |

**6. When employing staff, do you look at the university certificate/ testamur of potential staff?**

|     |   |         |
|-----|---|---------|
| Yes | 2 | (40.0%) |
| No  | 3 | (60.0%) |

**7. When employing teachers do you peruse university transcripts of results?**

|     |   |         |
|-----|---|---------|
| Yes | 1 | (20.0%) |
| No  | 4 | (80.0%) |

**8. As a Principal, would a course that qualifies teachers to be generalist classroom teachers and HPE specialists be of value?**

|          |   |         |
|----------|---|---------|
| No       | 1 | (20.0%) |
| Maybe    | 1 | (20.0%) |
| Probably | 1 | (20.0%) |
| Yes      | 2 | (40.0%) |

**9. Would a testamur/ certificate that read “Bachelor of Primary Education (Health and Physical Education)” assist you with the employment of staff?**

|          |   |         |
|----------|---|---------|
| No       | 1 | (20.0%) |
| Maybe    | 3 | (60.0%) |
| Probably | 1 | (20.0%) |
| Yes      | 0 |         |

**10. What are the key attributes of a good HPE teacher?**

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Extensive knowledge and skill in PDHPE                        | 3 (mentions) |
| Enthusiastic  | 3            |
| Accommodating different needs (differentiation)/ skill levels | 2            |
| Flexibility with time tabling                                 | 1            |
| Quality teacher – student centred lessons                     | 1            |
| Good interpersonal skills                                     | 1            |
| Organised   | 1            |
| Practical   | 1            |
| Skilled   | 1            |
| Energetic   | 1            |
| Engage students   | 1            |
| Physically fit to lead by example                             | 1            |
| Encourage fitness and participation                           | 1            |
| Ability to complete appropriate program & assessment          | 1            |
| Behaviour Management  | 1            |

**11. Are there any other details you would like to add on the issue of quality HPE experiences for children in schools?**

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| No details/Not Applicable | 5 (100.0%) |
|---------------------------|------------|

**Large sized schools (300-600 children) New South Wales Sydney Region**

**- 13 returned surveys**

**1. Which teachers are responsible for HPE in your school (eg. Classroom, specialist HPE, outsourced)?**

|                                 |   |         |
|---------------------------------|---|---------|
| Classroom teachers              | 8 | (61.5%) |
| Classroom teachers & outsourced | 5 | (38.5%) |

**2. If HPE is outsourced please give details of what is outsourced and background/qualifications of the people who take the classes?**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Sports in School Australia                    |   |
| 10 wk program (biennial)                      | 1 |
| Gymnastics – all trained                      | 1 |
| Gymnastics (highly specialised)               | 1 |
| Gymnastics, sportskills, athletic skills      | 1 |
| AFL program (8 weeks) NSW AFL – ball skills   | 1 |
| Dance (K-2, 4-6) qualified company & teacher  |   |
| Fundamental Movement Skills (1 term)          |   |
| - qualified company                           |   |
| Gym (Yr 3-4) – 1 term (qualified instructors) |   |
| Various sports sessions                       |   |
| basketball, AFL state body                    | 1 |
| Gymnastics – trained PDHPE teachers           | 1 |
| No details/Not Applicable                     | 6 |

**3. Do you prefer to have specialist HPE teachers in your school?**

|                           |   |         |
|---------------------------|---|---------|
| Yes                       | 6 | (50.0%) |
| No                        | 6 | (50.0%) |
| No details/Not Applicable | 1 |         |

*Comments explaining why:*

Aging staff may not be trained in PE/Sport

I, as principal, would prefer class teachers to take gymnastics as they can all meet the syllabus requirements but they are not confident. If not outsourced it won't be done.

Expertise and safety

Only for gym

Equipment, specialist skills

If the staff are not qualified in some areas then specialists ensure a quality program accompanied by safety.

Would be good for RFF (release from face-to-face) & Sport  
 I have been in schools where (and have taught) Health and PE as the Release from Face to Face (RFF) program. When taught in this vain, it is a most successful program and a greater emphasis can be placed on living healthy lifestyles.

**4. If your school does have a HPE specialist teacher, do they have specific HPE qualifications?**

|                           |    |          |
|---------------------------|----|----------|
| Yes                       | 0  |          |
| No                        | 2  | (100.0%) |
| No details/Not Applicable | 11 |          |

**5. On average how much time of PE (lesson) engagement do students in your school receive weekly?**

|                 |   |         |
|-----------------|---|---------|
| None            | 0 |         |
| Half an hour    | 1 | (7.7%)  |
| 1 hour          | 4 | (30.8%) |
| 2 hours         | 7 | (53.8%) |
| 3 hours or more | 1 | (7.7%)  |

**6. When employing staff, do you look at the university certificate/testamur of potential staff?**

|     |   |         |
|-----|---|---------|
| Yes | 6 | (46.2%) |
| No  | 7 | (53.8%) |

**7. When employing teachers do you peruse university transcripts of results?**

|     |    |         |
|-----|----|---------|
| Yes | 2  | (15.4%) |
| No  | 11 | (84.6%) |

**8. As a Principal, would a course that qualifies teachers to be generalist classroom teachers and HPE specialists be of value?**

|          |   |         |
|----------|---|---------|
| No       | 0 |         |
| Maybe    | 2 | (15.4%) |
| Probably | 7 | (53.8%) |
| Yes      | 4 | (30.8%) |

**9. Would a testamur/ certificate that read “Bachelor of Primary Education (Health and Physical Education)” assist you with the employment of staff?**

|          |   |         |
|----------|---|---------|
| No       | 3 | (23.1%) |
| Maybe    | 3 | (23.1%) |
| Probably | 6 | (46.1%) |
| Yes      | 1 | (7.7%)  |

**10. What are the key attributes of a good HPE teacher?**

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Good behaviour management                                 | 4 (mentions) |
| Organisation  | 3            |
| Enthusiasm  | 3            |
| Skill   | 2            |
| Flexibility   | 2            |
| Expertise in HPE  | 2            |
| Able to work as part of a team                            | 2            |
| Ability to teach the skills with a level of understanding | 1            |
| Knowledge   | 1            |
| Ability to engage   | 1            |
| Holistic approach to health & wellbeing                   | 1            |
| Knowledge of curriculum outcomes                          | 1            |
| Knowledge of syllabus                                     | 1            |
| Knowledge of child development skills                     | 1            |
| Passion for HPE that can be passed on to students         | 1            |
| Personally fit  | 1            |
| Motivated   | 1            |
| Interest & ability in athletic sports                     | 1            |
| Helps with the engagement/ coordination of students       | 1            |
| Inspire & motivate students                               | 1            |
| Passion for changing student ability in HPE               | 1            |
| Interpersonal skills                                      | 1            |
| Work beyond HPE   | 1            |
| Understand and cater for students with special needs      | 1            |
| Attitude – love of physical activity                      | 1            |
| Plan according to promote welfare of students             | 1            |

***11. Are there any other details you would like to add on the issue of quality HPE experiences for children in schools?***

Totally agree but I would be happy if teachers in general primary courses could major in HPE.

All pre-service teachers need to be provided with greater training in this area – has positive results in the classroom and socially.

I do not have the staffing flexibility to employ a specialist HPE teacher.

**Very Large sized schools (600 children and more) New South Wales Sydney Region**

- 7 returned surveys

**1. Which teachers are responsible for HPE in your school (eg. Classroom, specialist HPE, outsourced)?**

|                                    |   |         |
|------------------------------------|---|---------|
| Classroom teachers                 | 4 | (57.1%) |
| Classroom teachers & outsourced    | 2 | (28.6%) |
| Classroom teacher & HPE specialist | 1 | (14.3%) |

**2. If HPE is outsourced please give details of what is outsourced and background/qualifications of the people who take the classes?**

|  |   |         |
|--|---|---------|
| No details/Not Applicable                      | 4 | (57.1%) |
| Trained teachers                               | 1 | (14.3%) |
| YMCA Coaches, Sportspro teachers do gymnastics | 1 | (14.3%) |
| Gymnastics program (paid by parents)           | 1 | (14.3%) |

**3. Do you prefer to have specialist HPE teachers in your school?**

|     |   |         |
|-----|---|---------|
| Yes | 6 | (85.7%) |
| No  | 1 | (14.3%) |

*Comments explaining why:*

Yes, specialist brings so much more expertise to the role. Can teach gymnastics.  
 We know our students best  
 Excellent programs – especially gymnastics  
 Preparation to set up equipment  
 Can look after all aspects ie. Carnivals, sport & PE  
 Safety, skill knowledge  
 Better to use internal expertise than having to get parents to pay.

**4. If your school does have a HPE specialist teacher, do they have specific HPE qualifications?**

|                           |   |         |
|---------------------------|---|---------|
| Yes                       | 2 | (66.7%) |
| No                        | 1 | (33.3%) |
| No details/Not Applicable | 4 |         |

**5. On average how much time of PE (lesson) engagement do students in your school receive weekly?**

|                 |   |         |
|-----------------|---|---------|
| None            | 0 |         |
| Half an hour    | 0 |         |
| 1 hour          | 2 | (28.6%) |
| 2 hours         | 4 | (57.1%) |
| 3 hours or more | 1 | (14.3%) |

**6. When employing staff, do you look at the university certificate/ testamur of potential staff?**

|     |   |         |
|-----|---|---------|
| Yes | 2 | (28.6%) |
| No  | 5 | (71.4%) |

**7. When employing teachers do you peruse university transcripts of results?**

|     |   |          |
|-----|---|----------|
| Yes | 0 |          |
| No  | 7 | (100.0%) |

**8. As a Principal, would a course that qualifies teachers to be generalist classroom teachers and HPE specialists be of value?**

|          |   |         |
|----------|---|---------|
| No       | 1 | (14.3%) |
| Maybe    | 1 | (14.3%) |
| Probably | 0 |         |
| Yes      | 5 | (71.4%) |

**9. Would a testamur/ certificate that read “Bachelor of Primary Education (Health and Physical Education)” assist you with the employment of staff?**

|          |   |         |
|----------|---|---------|
| No       | 1 | (14.3%) |
| Maybe    | 4 | (57.1%) |
| Probably | 1 | (14.3%) |
| Yes      | 1 | (14.3%) |



**10. What are the key attributes of a good HPE teacher?**

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| A good teacher                         | 1 (mentions) |
| Able to support students               | 1            |
| Knowledge of syllabus                  | 1            |
| Knowledge of quality teaching practice | 1            |
| Current knowledge                      | 1            |
| Exemplary management strategies        | 1            |
| Quality program                        | 1            |
| Data collection/ sharing               | 1            |
| Dedication                             | 1            |
| Wide area of skills and abilities      | 1            |
| Ability to cater for slow to catch on  | 1            |
| Enthusiasm and encouragement           | 1            |
| Commitment to Health & Safety          | 1            |
| Able to make FMS enjoyable             | 1            |

**11. Are there any other details you would like to add on the issue of quality HPE experiences for children in schools?**

Having a specialist PE teacher ensures that our students get 1 hour of quality PE instruction every week.

As a state school – I employ teachers with ‘Approval to teach’ and accredited codes.

Mostly kids enjoy PE lessons – quality ie. Skills being taught is problematic