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Presentation of findings for South Australia Adelaide region government schools, for South Australian Department of Education and Child Development (DECD) - How are primary education health and physical education (HPE) teachers best prepared?

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Development

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Presentation of Findings

South Australia – Adelaide Region

Government schools

South Australia Adelaide Region schools (total)

Total returned surveys	21
Total South Australian government schools	37
% within state	56.8%

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

Classroom and Specialist HPE	11	(52.4%)
Specialist HPE	5	(23.8%)
Classroom teachers	2	(9.5%)
Classroom and NIT teacher	2	(9.5%)
Teacher (Non Instructional Time - NIT)	1	(4.8%)

Qualified teachers - NIT (Non Instructional Time) did not study PE at university but love of PE in my opinion is more important (and their skills as a teacher)

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	15	(71.4%)
Dance (Footsteps Dance – private business)	3	
Associations eg. Cricket SA	1	
Gymnastics teacher	1	
Swimming/aquatics (DECD trained instructors)	1	
Gymnastics (Tri skills)	1	

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

Yes	18	(85.7%)
No	2	(9.5%)
No details/Not Applicable	1	(4.8%)

Comments explaining why:

Not possible as our school is too small
 They can concentrate on delivering an R-7 program and overtime they can set challenges for the student's ability range
 To guarantee we do our best for children's development leading to a healthier and fitter society
 Skill and expertise is valuable. Focus on this curriculum area (difficult for class teacher to access equipment/ prepare).
 Structured lessons and continuum of learning
 As a primary school it is easier to have HPE as a NIT subject.
 Better curriculum – health and safety issues on top of resourcing, equipment is better maintained
 Broader range of skills and knowledge to assist students
 In order that children benefit from a skill development program, not just an activity/ games program which often happens with class teachers only providing HPE
 Many of our staff are over 50 years and have some difficulties with running specialists programs due to health, mobility issues
 My background is secondary PE (trained specialist PE degree at Adelaide Teachers College). I also moderated Year 12 PE for 12 years. Crucial for a trained specialist to teach such important/ valuable lifelong skills.
 Undecided – depends on quality of specialist. My worry is that some class teachers abdicate too much responsibility
 So PE is done and done correctly!
 Appropriate subject knowledge, guaranteed regular PE lessons for all classes, better relationships with students and greater awareness of abilities, disabilities and attitudes to PE.
 Provide a specific and devise program with the appropriate skill level and knowledge. The specific skills of PE can be covered by someone with the skills themselves and who also have the passion for the teaching of PE.
 Long term and valued program
 Constant contact with students via PE lessons, yard duty roles, sports coaching roles and coordinator of sport within an R-7 school. Benefits include ongoing liaison with teachers, parents and sport committees.
 An ageing population means older teachers are less likely to take PE lessons.

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

Yes	13	(68.4%)
No	6	(31.6%)
No details/Not Applicable	2	

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	4	(19.0%)
2 hours	15	(71.4%)
3 hours or more	2	(9.5%)

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

Yes	12	(60.0%)
No	8	(40.0%)
No details/Not Applicable	1	

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

Yes	4	(19.0%)
No	17	(81.0%)

Yes, when employing contracts

Checking qualifications is not applicable as it is managed by DECD
Department HR does the screening

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

No	1	(4.8%)
Maybe	2	(9.5%)
Probably	6	(28.6%)
Yes	12	(57.1%)

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

No	3	(14.3%)
Maybe	6	(28.6%)
Probably	4	(19.0%)
Yes	8	(38.1%)

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

HPE subject knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy	15 (mentions)
Rapport/ communication and management skills	9
Passion/ interest/ enthusiasm (children)	8
Cater for all learning needs (empathy & support)	5
Planning/ assessment and flexibility (organised)	5
Introduce a variety of physical activities/ skills	5
Relationship building	4
Engage students	4
Team player/ team work/ collaboration	3
Willing to do extra-curricular activities	3
Role model for healthy living	2
Good teacher/classroom	2
Understanding of curriculum (all areas)	1
Safety awareness	1
First Aid qualifications	1
Involved in sports & high skill level	1
Strong literacy, numeracy & research skills	1
Be involved practically in lessons	1
Willingness to learn	1
Expertise (specialist training in HPE)	1
Innovative/ initiative	1
Commitment to school life	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 8

I answered no to Question 6 & 7 because we do not employ!

I do think specialist PE teachers are a great asset – most classroom teachers teach PE badly!

Engaging, age appropriate skill development including game sense and broad curriculum knowledge

Sequential skill development relevant to age group - Provide students an understanding of their bodies/ how they work

We would rather focus on strong generalist teachers with a HPE focus.

Physical activity is vital for children in schools however they need more than the one hour block provided by specialist HPE, to also include daily fitness for at least 20 mins/ day, promotion of out of school sports (competitive) and SAPSASA.

A solid involvement with a research topic at/during university qualifications related to Human Movement, student well being, nutrition etc. Therefore, indicating a solid background to support and be in behind HPE school programs.

Small sized schools (less than 100 children) Adelaide Region

- 4 returned surveys

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

Classroom teachers	1	(25.0%)
Specialist HPE	1	(25.0%)
Classroom and NIT	2	(50.0%)

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	3	(75.0%)
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Qualified teachers - NIT (Non Instructional Time) did not study PE at university but love of PE in my opinion is more important (and their skills as a teacher)

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

Yes	3	(75.0%)
No	1	(25.0%)

Comments explaining why:

Not possible as our school is too small
 They can concentrate on delivering an R-7 program and overtime they can set challenges for the student's ability range
 To guarantee we do our best for children's development leading to a healthier and fitter society

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

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

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	(25.0%)
2 hours	3	(75.0%)
3 hours or more	0	

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

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

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

Yes	1	(25.0%)
No	3	(75.0%)

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

No	1	(25.0%)
Maybe	1	(25.0%)
Probably	1	(25.0%)
Yes	1	(25.0%)

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

No	3	(75.0%)
Maybe	0	
Probably	0	
Yes	1	(25.0%)

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

HPE subject knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy	2 (mentions)
Cater for all learning needs (empathy & support)	2
Introduce a variety of physical activities/ skills	2
Passion/ interest/ enthusiasm (children)	1
Engage students	1
Rapport/ communication and management skills	1
Role model for healthy living	1
Team player/ team work/ collaboration	1
Understanding of curriculum (all areas)	1
Willingness to learn	1
Relationship building	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 2

I answered no to Question 6 & 7 because we do not employ!
I do think specialist PE teachers are a great asset – most classroom teachers teach PE badly!

Medium sized schools (100-300 children) Adelaide Region

- 8 returned surveys

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

Classroom teachers	0	
Specialist HPE teacher	1	(12.5%)
Classroom and Specialist HPE	6	(75.0%)
Teacher (Non Instructional Time - NIT)	1	(12.5%)

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	6	(75.0%)
Associations eg. Cricket SA	1	(12.5%)
Gymnastics teacher	1	(12.5%)

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

Yes	8	(100.0%)
No	0	

Comments explaining why:

Skill and expertise is valuable. Focus on this curriculum area (difficult for class teacher to access equipment/ prepare).

Structured lessons and continuum of learning

As a primary school it is easier to have HPE as a NIT subject.

Better curriculum – health and safety issues on top of resourcing, equipment is better maintained

Broader range of skills and knowledge to assist students

In order that children benefit from a skill development program, not just an activity/ games program which often happens with class teachers only providing HPE

Many of our staff are over 50 years and have some difficulties with running specialists programs due to health, mobility issues

My background is secondary PE (trained specialist PE degree at Adelaide Teachers College). I also moderated Year 12 PE for 12 years. Crucial for a trained specialist to teach such important/ valuable lifelong skills.

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

Yes	4	(50.0%)
No	4	(50.0%)

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	(12.5%)
2 hours	7	(87.5%)
3 hours or more	0	

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

Yes	4	(50.0%)
No	4	(50.0%)

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

Yes	1	(12.5%)
No	7	(87.5%)

Checking qualifications is not applicable as it is managed by DECD
Department HR does the screening

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	2	(25.0%)
Yes	6	(75.0%)

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	3	(37.5%)
Probably	1	(12.5%)
Yes	4	(50.0%)

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

HPE subject knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy	7 (mentions)
Rapport/ communication and management skills	4
Passion/ interest/ enthusiasm (children)	2
Planning/ assessment and flexibility (organised)	2
Relationship building	1
Good teacher/classroom	1
Safety awareness	1
First Aid qualifications	1
Engage students	1
Involved in sports & high skill level	1
Role model for healthy living	1
Strong literacy, numeracy & research skills	1
Team player/ team work/ collaboration	1
Be involved practically in lessons	1
Willing to do extra-curricular activities	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

6

Engaging, age appropriate skill development including game sense and broad curriculum knowledge
 Sequential skill development relevant to age group. Provide students an understanding of their bodies/ how they work

Large sized schools (300-600 children) Adelaide Region

- 9 returned surveys

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

Classroom teachers	1	(11.1%)
Specialist HPE	3	(33.3%)
Classroom and Specialist HPE	5	(55.6%)

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	6	(66.7%)
Swimming/aquatics (DECD trained instructors)	1	(11.1%)
Dance (Footsteps Dance – private business)	3	(33.3%)
Gymnastics (Tri skills)	1	(11.1%)

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

Yes	7	(77.8%)
No	1	(11.1%)
No details/Not Applicable	1	(11.1%)

Comments explaining why:

Undecided – depends on quality of specialist. My worry is that some class teachers abdicate too much responsibility

So PE is done and done correctly!

Appropriate subject knowledge, guaranteed regular PE lessons for all classes, better relationships with students and greater awareness of abilities, disabilities and attitudes to PE.

Provide a specific and devise program with the appropriate skill level and knowledge. The specific skills of PE can be covered by someone with the skills themselves and who also have the passion for the teaching of PE.

Long term and valued program

Constant contact with students via PE lessons, yard duty roles, sports coaching roles and coordinator of sport within an R-7 school. Benefits include ongoing liaison with teachers, parents and sport committees.

An ageing population means older teachers are less likely to take PE lessons.

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

Yes	8	(88.9%)
No	1	(11.1%)

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	(22.2%)
2 hours	5	(55.6%)
3 hours or more	2	(22.2%)

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

Yes	7	(77.8%)
No	2	(22.2%)

No, we use the staff we have.

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

Yes	2	(22.2%)
No	7	(77.8%)

Yes, when employing contracts

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

No	0	
Maybe	1	(11.1%)
Probably	3	(33.3%)
Yes	5	(55.6%)

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	3	(33.3%)
Probably	3	(33.3%)
Yes	3	(33.3%)

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

HPE subject knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy	6 (mentions)
Passion/ interest/ enthusiasm (children)	5
Rapport/ communication and management skills	4
Introduce a variety of physical activities/ skills	3
Planning/ assessment and flexibility (organised)	3
Cater for all learning needs (empathy & support)	3
Willing to do extra curricula activities	2
Relationship building	2
Engage students and fun	2
Willingness to learn	1
Expertise (specialist training in HPE)	1
Team player/ team work/ collaboration	1
Good teacher/ classroom	1
Innovative/ initiative	1
Commitment to school life	1

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

We would rather focus on strong generalist teachers with a HPE focus.

Physical activity is vital for children in schools however they need more than the one hour block provided by specialist HPE, to also include daily fitness for at least 20 mins/ day, promotion of out of school sports (competitive) and SAPSASA.

A solid involvement with a research topic at/during university qualifications related to Human Movement, student well being, nutrition etc. Therefore, indicating a solid background to support and be in behind HPE school programs.