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Presentation of findings for Victorian East region government schools, for Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) - How are primary education health and physical education (HPE) teachers best prepared?

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Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD)

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Presentation of Findings

Victoria – East Region

Government schools

Victoria East Region schools (total)

Total returned surveys	19
Total Victorian government schools	138
% within state	13.8%

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

Specialist HPE teacher	7	(36.7%)
Classroom teacher	6	(31.6%)
Classroom & HPE specialist	3	(15.8%)
Classroom, HPE & outsourced	1	(5.3%)
Principal	1	(5.3%)
Assistant Principal	1	(5.3%)

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	15	(78.9%)
Active After Schools Community (AASC) trained local sports coaches	1	(5.3%)
Bluearth 2 year program to train all class teachers in importance of physical activity, health and education	1	(5.3%)
Gymnastics, sometimes tennis, swimming – All trained teachers with equipment provided	1	(5.3%)
Use qualified swimming and gymnastics instructors through local indoor pool and gym club	1	(5.3%)

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

Yes	15	(83.3%)
No	3	(16.7%)
No details/not applicable	1	

Comments explaining why:

Qualified to teach skills not just games!

So kids receive quality focussed instruction not a compliance time filler

Ensures integrity of program, suitably skilled and trained staff that improves lesson content and student outcomes and provides safer environment for students and staff

Trained in this specific area. Personally motivated and high interest

No – we are a very small school

It works well but it is unrealistic in the big picture of staffing allocations in smaller – medium schools where all areas need to be addressed

Largely yes so as to have a staff member with passion and drive for learning area

Our school community highly values physical activity. As a school we have a commitment to the health of individuals

Expertise

Quality of program, wide range of sporting interest & knowledge

It is important the correct skills and attitudes are taught, especially with fundamental motor skills and human body functionality

Focussed, expert teaching, increased responsibility with sport coordination & cluster responsibilities

Our school needs someone to provide APT for class teachers. It is preferable to have a qualified specialist take these classes. Some of our class teachers feel less able to teach Health & PE

Superior quality program

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

Yes	7	(58.3%)
No	5	(41.7%)
No details/Not Applicable	7	

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	9	(47.4%)
2 hours	9	(47.4%)
3 hours or more	1	(5.3%)

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

Yes	13	(68.4%)
No	6	(31.6%)

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

Yes	10	(52.6%)
No	9	(47.4%)

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	(10.5%)
Probably	5	(26.3%)
Yes	12	(63.2%)

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

No	2	(10.5%)
Maybe	6	(31.6%)
Probably	4	(21.1%)
Yes	7	(36.8%)

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

HPE curriculum knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy	13 (mentions)
Planning/ assessment and flexibility (organised)	11
Passion/ interest/ enthusiasm (children)	9
Cater for all learning needs (empathy & support)	6
Introduce a variety of physical activities/skills	5
Rapport /communication and management skills	5
Commitment/ to school life	4
Relationship building	3
Hard worker/drive	2
Fitness	2
Good teacher/classroom	2
Role model for healthy living	2
Engage students	2

Involved in sport/ active	2
Team work	1
First Aid qualifications	1
Specialist training in HPE	1
Teach team work & collaboration	1
Coaching qualifications in various sports	1
Health promotion	1
Leadership	1
Initiative	1

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

Small schools cannot access specialist PE teachers so are disadvantaged. Shared specialist roles would be good

Extremely important. We promote team work, confidence, collaboration as important skills & dispositions. HPE is one avenue we achieve this P-6.

Physical education would help provide students who have difficulty in academic areas find an area where they are successful. Helps with health concerns

Skills for the teacher – First Aid, AUSTSWIM, Bike Ed

The need for HPE teachers to be taught behaviour management strategies which reflect their role as a specialist teacher. Assessment techniques and evaluation in the HPE area

I believe very strongly in children being exposed to as much Health & Physical Education as possible throughout schooling – it should not be seen as less important than any other subject/ curriculum area

Student teachers need to spend time in schools, with children & working with experienced HPE teachers prior to completing course

Small sized schools (less than 100 children) East

- 6 returned surveys

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

Classroom teacher	3	(50.0%)
Specialist HPE teacher	1	(16.6%)
Classroom & HPE specialist	1	(16.6%)
Principal	1	(16.6%)

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	5	(83.3%)
Active After Schools Community (AASC) trained local sports coaches	1	

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

Yes	4	(66.7%)
No	2	(33.3%)

Comments explaining why:

Qualified to teach skills not just games!

So kids receive quality focussed instruction not a compliance time filler

Ensures integrity of program, suitably skilled and trained staff that improves lesson content and student outcomes and provides safer environment for students and staff

Trained in this specific area. Personally motivated and high interest

No – we are a very small school

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

Yes	3	(100.0%)
No	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	0	
1 hour	2	(33.3%)
2 hours	3	(50.0%)
3 hours or more	1	(16.7%)

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

Yes	4	(66.7%)
No	2	(33.3%)

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

Yes	3	(50.0%)
No	3	(50.0%)

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

No	0	
Maybe	1	(16.7%)
Probably	1	(16.7%)
Yes	4	(66.7%)

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

No	1	(16.7%)
Maybe	2	(33.3%)
Probably	1	(16.7%)
Yes	2	(33.3%)

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

HPE curriculum knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy	3 (mentions)
Passion/ interest/ enthusiasm (children)	3
Planning/ assessment and flexibility (organised)	3
Cater for all learning needs (empathy & support)	2
Good teacher/classroom	2

Role model for healthy living	1
Introduce a variety of physical activities/skills	1
Commitment/ to school life	1
Team work	1
Relationships	1
First Aid qualifications	1
Involved in sport	1
Rapport /communication and management skills	1

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

Small schools cannot access specialist PE teachers so are disadvantaged. Shared specialist roles would be good

Extremely important. We promote team work, confidence, collaboration as important skills & dispositions. HPE is one avenue we achieve this P-6.

Physical education would help provide students who have difficulty in academic areas find an area where they are successful. Helps with health concerns

Medium sized schools (100 – 300 children) East

- 11 returned surveys

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

Classroom teacher	3	(27.3%)
Specialist HPE teacher	5	(45.4%)
Classroom & specialist HPE	1	(9.1%)
Classroom, specialist HPE & outsourced	1	(9.1%)
Assistant Principal	1	(9.1%)

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 9

Bluearth 2 year program to train all class teachers in importance of physical activity, health and education

Gymnastics, sometimes tennis, swimming – All trained teachers with equipment provided

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

Yes	9	(90.0%)
No	1	(10.0%)
No details/not applicable	1	

Comments explaining why:

It works well but it is unrealistic in the big picture of staffing allocations in smaller – medium schools where all areas need to be addressed

Largely yes so as to have a staff member with passion and drive for learning area

Our school community highly values physical activity. As a school we have a commitment to the health of individuals

Expertise

Quality of program, wide range of sporting interest & knowledge

It is important the correct skills and attitudes are taught, especially with fundamental motor skills and human body functionality

Focussed, expert teaching, increased responsibility with sport coordination & cluster responsibilities

Our school needs someone to provide APT for class teachers. It is preferable to have a qualified specialist take these classes. Some of our class teachers feel less able to teach Health & PE

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

Yes	3	(42.9%)
No	4	(57.1%)
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	6	(54.5%)
2 hours	5	(45.5%)
3 hours or more	0	

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

Yes	7	(63.6%)
No	4	(36.4%)
No details/not applicable	0	

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

Yes	5	(45.5%)
No	6	(54.5%)

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	(9.1%)
Probably	4	(36.4%)
Yes	6	(54.5%)

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

No	1	(9.1%)
Maybe	3	(27.3%)
Probably	3	(27.3%)
Yes	4	(36.4%)

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

HPE curriculum knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy	8 (mentions)
Planning/ assessment and flexibility (organised)	7
Passion/ interest/ enthusiasm (children)	5
Introduce a variety of physical activities/skills	4
Rapport /communication and management skills	3
Commitment to school life	3
Cater for all learning needs (empathy & support)	3
Hard worker/drive	2
Fitness	2
Role model for healthy living	1
Active	1
Specialist training in HPE	1
Teach team work & collaboration	1
Coaching qualifications in various sports	1
Health promotion	1
Leadership	1
Engage students	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?

Skills for the teacher – First Aid, AUSTSWIM, Bike Ed

The need for HPE teachers to be taught behaviour management strategies which reflect their role as a specialist teacher. Assessment techniques and evaluation in the HPE area

I believe very strongly in children being exposed to as much Health & Physical Education as possible throughout schooling – it should not be seen as less important than any other subject/ curriculum area

Student teachers need to spend time in schools, with children & working with experienced HPE teachers prior to completing course

Large sized schools (300-600 children) East

- 2 returned surveys

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

Specialist HPE	1	(50.0%)
Specialist HPE & classroom teachers	1	(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 1

Use qualified swimming and gymnastics instructors through local indoor pool and gym club

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

Yes	2	(100.0%)
No	0	

Comments explaining why:

Superior quality program

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

Yes	1	(50.0%)
No	1	(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	(50.0%)
2 hours	1	(50.0%)
3 hours or more	0	

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

Yes	2	(100.0%)
No	0	(%)

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

Yes	2	(100.0%)
No	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	0	
Yes	2	(100.0%)

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	(50.0%)
Probably	0	
Yes	1	(50.0%)

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

HPE curriculum knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy	2 (mentions)
Planning/ assessment and flexibility (organised)	1
Passion/ interest/ enthusiasm (children)	1
Rapport /communication and management skills	1
Cater for all learning needs (empathy & support)	1

Engage students	1
Relationship building	1
Initiative	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
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