Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Plymouth Institute of Education

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Presentation of findings for Victorian Inner 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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10.13140/2.1.4509.6328 Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD)

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Presentation of Findings

Victoria – Inner East Region	
Government schools	
Victoria Inner East Region schools (total)	
Total returned surveys	13
Total Victorian government schools	138
% within state	9.4%

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

Classroom teacher	1	(7.7%)
Specialist HPE teacher	4	(30.7%)
Classroom & HPE specialist	6	(46.2%)
Classroom & outsourced	1	(7.7%)
Principal	1	(7.7%)

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	12	(92.3%)
Swimming program – AUSTSWIM, Gymnastics program – coaches AASC programs	1	

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

Yes	12	(92.3%)
No	1	(7.7%)

Comments explaining why:

We are a small rural school (35 children) and therefore cannot afford specialist teachers on top of classroom teachers.

They have the expertise to lead HPE and Sport. The correct skills are vital for children to learn.



They give a fuller, richer & rigorous HPE program.

Would be catering for student needs and development of physical skills. Physical skill development correlates with academic achievement from handwriting/PMP programs and coordination etc.

Specialised, ease of set up, continuity and coverage of VELS/AUSVELS Specialised program, time release

They then become part of a whole team approach – build relationships & partake in other PD/ functions

Important part of curriculum. We are a 'Go for your life' school. Fitness & wellbeing of children is important

To ensure continuity and quality of the PE program

HPE is considered an important part of our program and specialist teachers offer a quality program

They can run better PE programs due to their additional training in PE

For the benefit of the students

Quality program

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

Yes	6	(60.0%)
No	4	(40.0%)
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	5	(38.5%)
2 hours	6	(46.2%)
3 hours or more	2	(15.4%)

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

Yes	9	(69.2%)
No	4	(30.8%)



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

Yes	5	(38.5%)
No	8	(61.5%)

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

No	1	(7.7%)
Maybe	4	(30.8%)
Probably	2	(15.4%)
Yes	6	(46.2%)

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

No	2	(15.4%)
Maybe	4	(30.8%)
Probably	4	(30.8%)
Yes	3	(23.1%)

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

HPE curriculum knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy	11 (mentions)
Passion/ interest/ enthusiasm (children)	7
Planning/ assessment and flexibility (organised)	6
Rapport /communication and management skills	5
Good teacher/classroom	4
Commitment/ to school life	3
Introduce a variety of physical activities/skills	2
Relationship building	2
Hard worker/work ethic	1
Innovative/ initiative	1
Safety awareness	1
Cater for all learning needs (empathy & support)	1
Role model for healthy living	1



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

Small school – need to have staff that are multiskilled. One staff member has whole school responsibility for HPE coordination.

From a small school perspective we love the opportunity to be involved in coaching opportunities, and experiences with elite or experienced sportsmen/women.

All schools should have PE specialists to decrease the obesity level in children. More PE teachers allows for more time to be given, allocated for physical activity.

AUSTSWIM, First Aid

Have seen great variation in teaching levels

HPE is important as it helps our children to be healthy and live a full life. It also helps them focus on other parts of their education. It helps them with values eg. teamwork, collaboration



Small sized schools (less than 100 children) Inner East

- 4 returned surveys

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

Classroom teacher	1	(25.0%)
HPE Specialist	1	(25.0%)
Principal	1	(25.0%)
Classroom teacher & outsourced	1	(25.0%)

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%)
Swimming program – AUSTSWIM, Gymnastics program – coaches AASC programs	1	(25.0%)

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

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

Comments explaining why:

We are a small rural school (35 children) and therefore cannot afford specialist teachers on top of classroom teachers.

They have the expertise to lead HPE and Sport. The correct skills are vital for children to learn.

They give a fuller, richer & rigorous HPE program.

Would be catering for student needs and development of physical skills. Physical skill development correlates with academic achievement from handwriting/PMP programs and coordination etc.

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	1	(25.0%)
3 hours or more	2	(50.0%)

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

Yes	4	(100.0%)
No	0	

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

Yes	2	(50.0%)
No	2	(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	(25.0%)
Probably	0	
Yes	3	(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	1	(25.0%)
Probably	0	
Yes	3	(75.0%)

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

HPE curriculum knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy	5 (mentions)
Passion/ interest/ enthusiasm (children)	2
Cater for all learning needs (empathy & support)	1

Data - Victoria Inner East Region



Role model for healthy living	1
Introduce a variety of physical activities/skills	1
Commitment/ to school life	1
Good teacher/classroom	1
Innovative/ 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 school – need to have staff that are multiskilled. One staff member has whole school responsibility for HPE coordination.

From a small school perspective we love the opportunity to be involved in coaching opportunities, and experiences with elite or experienced sportsmen/women. All schools should have PE specialists to decrease the obesity level in children. More PE teachers allows for more time to be given, allocated for physical activity.



Medium sized schools (100 – 300 children) Inner East

- 7 returned surveys

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

Classroom teacher	0	(0.0%)
Specialist HPE teacher	2	(28.6%)
Classroom & specialist HPE	5	(71.4%)
Classroom, specialist HPE & outsourced	0	(0.0%)
Assistant Principal	0	(0.0%)

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

7

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

Yes	7	(100.0%)
No	0	(0.0%)

Comments explaining why:

Specialised, ease of set up, continuity and coverage of VELS/AUSVELS Specialised program, time release

They then become part of a whole team approach – build relationships & partake in other PD/ functions

Important part of curriculum. We are a 'Go for your life' school. Fitness & wellbeing of children is important

To ensure continuity and quality of the PE program

HPE is considered an important part of our program and specialist teachers offer a quality program

They can run better PE programs due to their additional training in PE

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

Yes	4	(66.7%)
No	2	(33.3%)
No details/not applicable	1	



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

None	0	
Half an hour	0	(0.0%)
1 hour	2	(28.6%)
2 hours	5	(71.4%)
3 hours or more	0	(0.0%)

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

Yes	4	(57.1%)
No	3	(42.9%)
No details/not applicable	0	

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

Yes	3	(42.9%)
No	4	(57.1%)

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	(28.6%)
Probably	2	(28.6%)
Yes	3	(42.9%)

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	2	(28.6%)
Probably	4	(57.1%)
Yes	0	(0.0%)

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

Planning/ assessment and flexibility (organised)	5 (mentions)
Passion/ interest/ enthusiasm (children)	3
HPE curriculum knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy	5



Rapport /communication and management skills	4
Introduce a variety of physical activities/skills	1
Commitment to school life	2
Relationship building	2
Hard worker	1
Exemplary teaching ability	1
Good teacher	2
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?

AUSTSWIM, First Aid

Have seen great variation in teaching levels

HPE is important as it helps our children to be healthy and live a full life. It also helps them focus on other parts of their education. It helps them with values eg. team-work, collaboration



Large sized schools (300-600 children) Inner East

- 2 returned surveys

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

Classroom teachers	0	
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?

2

No details/Not Applicable	
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3. Do you prefer to have specialist HPE teachers in your school?

Yes	2	(100.0%)
No	0	(%)

Comments explaining why: For the benefit of the students 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	2	(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	1	(50.0%)
No	1	(50.0%)

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

Yes	0	(%)
No	2	(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	(50.0%)
Maybe	1	(50.0%)
Probably	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	1	(50.0%)
Maybe	1	(50.0%)
Probably	0	
Yes	0	

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

Planning/ assessment and flexibility (organised)	1 (mention)
HPE subject knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy	1
Passion/ interest/ enthusiasm/ motivated/energy	2
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?

2

No details/Not Applicable