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# Presentation of findings for Victorian North Central 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 – North Central Region

#### Government schools

#### Victoria North Central Region schools (total)

Total returned surveys	<b>10</b>
Total Victorian government schools	<b>138</b>
% within state	<b>7.2%</b>

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

Classroom teacher	4	(40.0%)
Specialist HPE teacher	4	(40.0%)
Classroom & outsourced	1	(10.0%)
Classroom & HPE specialist	1	(10.0%)

**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	9	(90.0%)
Blueearth program	1	(10.0%)

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

Yes	5	(50.0%)
No	5	(50.0%)

*Comments explaining why:*

HPE teachers have a unique set of skills to breakdown skills and outstanding classroom management skills in a large outdoor space. Also well developed voice control

If everyone is responsible for HPE then everyone does it. We are a small school and can't afford additional staff

Yes, definitely. They certainly have more skill knowledge and understanding of the process of skill development

Small school of 24 students. It is not viable for us to employ a specialist HPE teacher. Beneficial for classroom teacher to conduct HPE as it builds the child/teacher relationship and allows the children & teacher to see a different aspect of each other

We are a very small rural school and therefore cannot finance a specialist – only 2 classes

HPE is an important curriculum area and a specialist teacher has the knowledge, skills and motivation to teach students and best support their physical development  
Expertise with the curriculum and good role model as an active adult

2 teachers trained in delivering Blueearth program. Rest of HPE delivered by classroom teachers. Expectation that all teachers teach HPE

It is vital that all students develop the necessary coordination and physical skills to be successful in all areas of their education

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

Yes	4	(50.0%)
No	4	(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	6	(60.0%)
2 hours	4	(40.0%)
3 hours or more	0	

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

Yes	7	(70.0%)
No	3	(30.0%)

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

Yes	5	(50.0%)
No	5	(50.0%)

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

No	1	(10.0%)
Maybe	3	(30.0%)
Probably	0	
Yes	6	(60.0%)

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

No	1	(10.0%)
Maybe	4	(40.0%)
Probably	3	(30.0%)
Yes	2	(20.0%)

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

HPE subject knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy	9 (mentions)
Planning/ assessment and flexibility (organised)	6
Passion/ interest/ enthusiasm	4
Rapport /communication and management skills	4
Cater for all learning needs (empathy & support)	4
Engage students	2
Introduce a variety of physical activities	1
Personality	1
Expertise	1
Team Player	1
Innovative	1

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

It is an undervalued area – not everyone can simply teach PE like other curriculum areas

Attitude, fun-loving, encouragement – should be a time students learn, but love to learn

In primary schools we are after (primarily) generalist classroom teachers. It may be a benefit for some schools to have particular PE skills but when employing I would be looking for someone with strong literacy and numeracy skills. I work extensively with beginning teachers, many lack basic literacy skills

We also run the Active After School Program (3 hours per week), which complements the HPE program

Play is very important, sportsmanship, values, being inclusive, fairness, proper equipment, problems associated with rural sized schools ie. Numbers, ages on teams

Early experiences will shape and influence children; attitudes to sport and physical fitness/activity for the rest of their lives. It is imperative that they are taught well

**Small sized schools (less than 100 children) North Central**

- 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	(16.7%)
Classroom teacher & outsourced	1	(16.7%)
Classroom teacher & HPE specialist	1	(16.7%)

**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	5	(83.3%)
Bluearth program	1	(16.7%)

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

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

*Comments explaining why:*

HPE teachers have a unique set of skills to breakdown skills and outstanding classroom management skills in a large outdoor space. Also well developed voice control

If everyone is responsible for HPE then everyone does it. We are a small school and can't afford additional staff

Yes, definitely. They certainly have more skill knowledge and understanding of the process of skill development

Small school of 24 students. It is not viable for us to employ a specialist HPE teacher. Beneficial for classroom teacher to conduct HPE as it builds the child/teacher relationship and allows the children & teacher to see a different aspect of each other

We are a very small rural school and therefore cannot finance a specialist – only 2 classes

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

Yes	1	(25.0%)
No	3	(75.0%)
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	3	(50.0%)
2 hours	3	(50.0%)
3 hours or more	0	

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

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

No	1	(16.7%)
Maybe	2	(33.3%)
Probably	0	
Yes	3	(50.0%)

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

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

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

HPE subject knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy	5 (mentions)
Planning/ assessment and flexibility (organised)	3
Cater for all learning needs (empathy & support)	3
Rapport /communication and management skills	3
Passion/ interest/ enthusiasm	2
Engage students	2
Introduce a variety of physical activities	1

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

It is an undervalued area – not everyone can simply teach PE like other curriculum areas

Attitude, fun-loving, encouragement – should be a time students learn, but love to learn

In primary schools we are after (primarily) generalist classroom teachers. It may be a benefit for some schools to have particular PE skills but when employing I would be looking for someone with strong literacy and numeracy skills. I work extensively with beginning teachers, many lack basic literacy skills

We also run the Active After School Program (3 hours per week), which complements the HPE program

**Medium sized schools (100 – 300 children) North Central**

**- 3 returned surveys**

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

Classroom teacher	1	(33.3%)
Specialist HPE teacher	2	(66.7%)

**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	3	(100.0%)
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**3. Do you prefer to have specialist HPE teachers in your school?**

Yes	2	(66.7%)
No	1	(33.3%)

*Comments explaining why:*

HPE is an important curriculum area and a specialist teacher has the knowledge, skills and motivation to teach students and best support their physical development Expertise with the curriculum and good role model as an active adult  
2 teachers trained in delivering Bluearth program. Rest of HPE delivered by classroom teachers. Expectation that all teachers teach HPE

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

Yes	2	(66.7%)
No	1	(33.3%)

**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	(66.7%)
2 hours	1	(33.3%)
3 hours or more	0	



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

Yes	2	(66.7%)
No	1	(33.3%)

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

Yes	0	
No	3	(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	1	(33.3%)
Probably	0	
Yes	2	(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	0	
Maybe	0	
Probably	2	(66.7%)
Yes	1	(33.3%)

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

Planning/ assessment and flexibility (organised)	3 (mentions)
HPE subject knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy	3
Passion/ interest/ enthusiasm	1
Cater for all learning needs (empathy & support)	1
Personality	1
Expertise	1
Team player	1
Innovative	1

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

Play is very important, sportsmanship, values, being inclusive, fairness, proper equipment, problems associated with rural sized schools ie. Numbers, ages on teams

Early experiences will shape and influence children; attitudes to sport and physical fitness/activity for the rest of their lives. It is imperative that they are taught well

**Very large sized schools (600 children & more) North Central**

- 1 returned survey

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

Specialist HPE (P-12 school)	1	(100.0%)
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**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%)
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**3. Do you prefer to have specialist HPE teachers in your school?**

Yes	1	(100.0%)
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*Comments explaining why:*

It is vital that all students develop the necessary coordination and physical skills to be successful in all areas of their education

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

Yes	1	(100.0%)
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**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	1	(100.0%)
No	0	

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

Yes	1	(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	1	(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	0	
Probably	1	(100.0%)
Yes	0	

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

HPE subject knowledge & dev appropriate pedagogy	1 (mention)
Passion/ interest/ enthusiasm	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?**

No