



RAISE Active Schools Programme FAQs

The RAISE Active Schools Programme will deliver a curriculum-aligned, multi-sport Physical Education model in participating primary schools. It will be delivered by the Irish FA Foundation, Ulster GAA, Ulster Rugby and Ulster Hockey through a collaborative, whole-school model.

Is there a cost to schools?

Participation is free of charge to schools and the spaces are limited.

How many pupils will be involved?

The RAISE Active Schools Programme is expected to engage 9,600 pupils and provide 96,000 participation opportunities across 96 primary schools.

How will the Programme deliver on RAISE objectives?

The Programme aims to tackle educational disadvantage by enhancing pupil engagement, attendance and wellbeing across RAISE localities.

A framework aligned to the Northern Ireland Curriculum underpins delivery, focusing on movement skills, teamwork, creativity and leadership.

What will participating schools receive?

- A structured multi-sport Physical Education programme delivered by qualified coaches from two different sports;
- Consistent weekly delivery across the Programme block of 10 weeks with all sessions delivered in addition to existing Physical Education provision;
- Opportunities for staff to take part in weekly “micro-CPD,” co-delivery and observation;
- A suite of teacher resource materials to support sustainable Physical Education delivery;
- Participation in multi-sport festivals.

All delivery is in addition to existing Physical Education provision.

What is expected from participating schools?

Schools participating in the RAISE Active Schools Programme will be expected to make a number of commitments. Participation in the Programme indicates agreement with expectations and commitments listed below to support effective delivery and impact.



- Active teacher commitment to programme delivery, including attendance at all facilitated sessions, proactive participation in co-delivery where appropriate, and full engagement with weekly “micro-CPD” activities;
- Timetabled access to classes to enable consistent programme delivery across the agreed block;
- Nomination of a school lead to act as the main point of contact for programme delivery and communication;
- Engagement with monitoring and evaluation, including completion of agreed feedback, surveys or data collection required to support programme reporting and learning.

What is the timeline for delivery?

The RAISE Active Schools Programme will be delivered across three blocks during the 2026/27 academic year:

- Block 1: September – December 2026
- Block 2: January – March 2027
- Block 3: April – June 2027

Each participating school will be allocated one delivery block.

Allocation will be managed by the Programme delivery team and will take account of:

- geographical location;
- school timetable readiness;
- coaching team availability;
- the need to distribute delivery evenly across the academic year.

Where possible, a school’s preferred delivery window, as indicated through their Expression of Interest, will be considered, although this cannot be guaranteed.

A small number of multi-sport celebration festivals will take place in June 2027, open to participating schools.

What are the longer-term benefits for participating schools?

The RAISE Active Schools Programme places a strong emphasis on building capacity within schools and ensuring sustainability beyond the life of the initiative.

The programme embeds teacher professional learning through weekly “micro-CPD,” co-delivery opportunities and resource packs, supporting long-term improvements in Physical Education provision and strengthening learning behaviours aligned to improved educational outcomes.