

Sport England and its national partners

The AQA specification requires you to have knowledge and understanding of how Sport England works with a range of national partners to contribute to the overall mission to create an active nation. Here are ten examples of partners helping to increase participation, allowing you to broaden your awareness of their positive impacts

1 Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU)

Helps sports safeguard children and young people in and through sport, e.g. by helping them to develop responses, structures and systems for safeguarding via a safeguarding tool (Standards for Safeguarding Children in Sport).

2 Cricket Foundation

Delivers key programmes aimed at increasing opportunities for young people to play cricket, e.g. Chance to Shine Street. It allocates funding to grass roots/youth cricket — Sport England provided a £3 million grant to fund Chance to Shine Street for 3 years in 2017. It has also developed a bank of resources for primary schools to help them deliver high-quality cricket sessions.

3 Football Foundation

Responsible for £30 million of grassroots funding in football and to providing improved community sport facilities in towns and cities across England. Aims to improve the quality and experience of playing football and increase participation and improve general skill levels.

4 Activity Alliance

Formerly the English Federation of Disability Sport. Dedicated to increasing sporting participation and physical activity in disabled people. Its aim vision is to ensure disabled people are active for life (e.g. Get Out Get Active).

In June 2018 Activity Alliance launched a new Inclusive Activity Programme backed by National Lottery and Sport England funding. It will work with UK Coaching and Sport England to engage key groups in specialised training to provide disabled individuals with the best advice and pathways possible to increase physical activity.

5 Sporting Equals

Promotes greater involvement in sport and physical activity by disengaged communities (e.g. black and minority ethnic communities). Advises and supports policy-makers and delivery bodies to improve inclusion of under-represented groups.

An example of a Sporting Equals scheme is the Making Equals project, which tries to engage young people through sport to break down barriers and empower them.

6 SportsAid

Works with national governing bodies (NGBs) to ensure young, talented athletes are funded during the critical early years of their careers to ensure access to the best possible coaching and high-quality facilities to train in. Its ultimate aim is to help young British sports performers who aspire to be elite-level Olympians and Paralympians.

7 UK Coaching

Formerly Sports Coach UK. Helps recruit, develop and retain coaches needed to increase participation in sport and help athletes reach their performance goals. This is achieved through improving coaching systems, providing research, and developing coach-learning and support.

8 Sport and Recreation Alliance

Provides advice, support and guidance to its members, including those who represent NGBs and county sport partnerships (CSPs). Its aim is to provide a 'voice of the sector' to help ensure the growth of the grassroots sport and recreation sector.

9 StreetGames

A national sports charity that brings sport to young people in disadvantaged communities (e.g. Doorstep Sport Clubs, which set up 1,000 youth sports clubs for people aged 14–25 in deprived areas of the country).

10 Women in Sport

Helps sports bodies break down barriers and engage more women and girls in sport. Women in Sport is the only organisation in the UK that researches sport from a female perspective, using the insights gained to drive change through campaigns and partnerships.

Working with NGBs such as British Athletics, the national introduction of Parkrun events has been highly successful in raising participation among women, as has been the development of an online training resource hub for CSPs. Girls Active Awards have also been introduced to celebrate the work of girls involved in leading physical activities.

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