



Active Insight: Evidence in Action



Tip #539: Partnering with Local Providers

Overview

Partnerships support students to investigate and apply strategies for active participation beyond school. Connecting with local providers builds clear pathways, enhances engagement, and supports wellbeing. This approach promotes lifelong involvement in physical activity through community links. It encourages students to explore local opportunities, develop positive participation habits, and build confidence across community movement settings. Embedding partnerships within learning experiences strengthens belonging, motivation, and ongoing participation well beyond the school gate. Strong community links make physical activity a natural part of daily life.

Key Teaching Ideas

Develop partnerships that connect students with community opportunities for ongoing physical activity participation. Teachers can use local providers, shared experiences, and practical pathways to strengthen engagement and confidence. Encourage students to explore community movement options and apply active lifestyle strategies beyond school settings. Provide opportunities for reflection, goal setting, and building awareness of local participation pathways. Foster supportive environments that build wellbeing, belonging, and lifelong participation. Strong partnerships signal to students that physical activity is valued both inside and outside school.

Practical Application

- **Organise Guest Coaching Sessions:** Partner with a local sporting organisation to run a four-week introductory program during school hours, allowing students to learn specific skills directly from community coaches in a familiar environment.
- **Arrange Local Club Visits:** Organise an excursion to a nearby sports facility or recreation centre so students can experience the venue firsthand, reducing the anxiety of visiting a new place independently.
- **Share Information Flyers:** Distribute digital and physical brochures provided by local clubs at the start of each season, ensuring families have direct access to registration details and contact information for community programs.
- **Use Community Noticeboards:** Dedicate a specific section of the school newsletter or website to highlight achievements of students in community sport, while also promoting upcoming local events and accessible activity options.
- **Host Come-and-Try Events:** Coordinate with several local providers to run a mini-expo at the school, where students can briefly try different activities like martial arts, dance, or team sports during their lunch break.



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Next Steps

Strengthen partnerships to build pathways. Community connections help support sustained participation, confidence, and involvement in physical activity beyond school. Explore [Active Education Australia Resources](#).

References and Research

1. Australian Curriculum: Health and Physical Education (v9) – Encourages students to access and evaluate community health and physical activity information.
2. Australian Sports Commission. (2019). Australian Physical Literacy Framework – Defines physical literacy as the development of physical, psychological, social and cognitive capabilities that support lifelong participation in physical activity.