

Questionnaire feedback: June 2021

(Survey open online from Friday 11th June – Friday 25th June 2021)

Surveys completed	
Number of surveys completed	12

*Roles responded	
Role	Number of responses
School ATSA rep (named in Directory)	6
School staff member (attended an ATSA event)	5
Event leader/organiser	3
Headteacher	0
School Governor	1
Community sports group member	1

*some people selected more than one role

Stars (the things you really like about ATSA)

Stars
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Have 'taster' sessions that we can send key groups to eg FSM and SEN. *Have a wide range of sports on offer. *Keep everything local. *The range of different activities/experiences offered to the children. *The handbook makes it easy to plan ahead, has contact details of people arranging the event, the rules and other useful information. *It uses local coaches/clubs for some of its activities which promotes the clubs and increases the chances of children joining them. *The variety of sports that are on offer to school children. *Good communication. *All events advertised through social media. *Well organised. *Bringing the local school communities together. *It's really well organised. *The community aspect, how it brings school staff together under one umbrella. This forms lasting relationships between staff and pupil. As the motto says it truly is friendship through sport. *The variety of sports that children get to take part in, from your usual sports such as football to more niche sports such as crown green bowling and kurling. It also gives an opportunity for all abilities, including inclusive sports such as kurling. *The competitive yet fun element. For example in certain schools sports day is all about fun and taking part but I believe there's still a place for competitive sport with winners and losers, and ATSA finds the balance between competition and fun/enjoyment. *ATSA is an amazing organisation that strives to offer a wide variety of sports, trips, events, competitions inclusive to all children. There is something for everyone! *It is run extremely well and has clear aims and objectives. *Events are very well organised and structured. *Range of events – competitive/ tasters/ experiences/ SEND - inclusive and caters for a wide range of abilities *Provides a great network for staff – both professionally and socially. *Great community links - helps local sports clubs but also attempts to support and improve the local area through various projects. *A variety of competitions and taster sessions of new activities. *Community involvement. *Holiday clubs. *Organising a wide range of sports and activities for primary school children to participate in. *The promotion and publicity of these events. *It seeks to expand its activities every year. *Inclusive every child has an opportunity to take part in a variety of sports and events. *It is a competitive structure with winners and losers, but it doesn't come across like this with the emphasis on participation.

- *The links to community sports clubs is really well established now so if a child enjoys a sport he can be signpost to the community club.
- *Range and quantity of sports.
- *Professionalism and standard of events.
- *Opportunity for CPD and sharing between schools.
- *Having a designated named representative for each member school, all linked on What's App ensures quick and efficient communication to and from the Lead Teacher.
- *I think the ATSA Directory has had a special significance this year. Its format has meant that suitable events were already in place for when restrictions were eased.
- *Continuing to develop ATSA involvement in the local community encourages the children to appreciate the wider role of sport and the positive impact it can achieve on the well-being of others. For example: the Mosaic Project for the Guided Busway.

Wishes (ways that you think we could improve ATSA)

Wish	ATSA response
Have more competitions through the day as it is easier to staff.	<p><i>This is something that I look at each year as I plan the events for the year ahead. When consulting with event organisers and venues, I try to balance the needs of the schools and the availability of resources for each event.</i></p> <p><i>The timing of our events is dictated by many factors. For example: the Yoga Taster Sessions will take place after school at St. George's Central as there are lessons taking place in the hall during the whole day. The events at the Pelican Centre take place during the day as paid swimming lessons take place after school. Kwik Cricket takes place during the day as this event could potentially go on for two or three hours. The KS1 Football takes place after school due to the working commitments of the volunteers at the football club. With some events, if we changed the timing of the event to during the day, the event could simply not take place.</i></p> <p><i>In terms of staffing, each school is different – some schools send teaching staff to events and so events during the day would mean that a class would need to be covered (this may be easy for one school, but difficult for others). Some schools send external coaches/support staff to events and so again some kind of 'cover' may be needed here as well. So for every schools who may find cover after school difficult, there will be other schools who will find cover during the day for teaching and learning equally as difficult.</i></p> <p><i>For many of our events, parents/carers can come to spectate. Traditionally, more parents/carers can attend events to watch their children when they are after school. With more flexible working/people working from home, this may change over time and we may find more people can attend during the day.</i></p> <p><i>Although the dates/times for the large majority of our events have now been set for 2021/2022, I have taken this feedback on board and have already identified one of our larger events which may work better taking place during the day in 2021/2022. I will also look at this in more detail in April 2022 when we are planning for 2022/2023.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
Could have some sort of 'school award' system, which schools could display on website/ certificate for wall? (similar to the 'gold mark' from school games, dependent on number of entries over a year?) Would be a good way to show 'impact' of PE for OFSTED purposes!	<p><i>I have seen how some schools have the ATSA logo on their school website and school letterhead. It is always nice to also see and read about ATSA events on different school newsletters and social media pages.</i></p> <p><i>We could look at developing some form of 'ATSA Award'. I would rather avoid increasing school workload so we could devise a criteria/standard based on the number of events offered in a year. We could maybe have a gold, silver and bronze ATSA award each year? A criteria/standard for schools would be required at gold, silver and bronze standard for this to work. I think this is a great idea!</i></p> <p><i>If anyone would like to support the ATSA Committee with the development of the 'ATSA Award' standards, then please contact me and we could work all work together to have this in place for 2021/2022.</i></p>

St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery
Darlington Street • Tyldesley • M29 8DH

Telephone: 01942 883773
Twitter: @MrGSGC

Email: headteacher@admin.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk
Facebook: Atherton and Tyldesley Sports Association

Website: www.atsa.org.uk
Instagram: atsa2011

Wish	ATSA response
<p>I don't think there's much that could improve it, possibly 1 or 2 more events in Autumn term as there seems to be most events post-Christmas. For example: any indoor events could be in Autumn Term and Spring, then all outdoor ones in Summer. But apart from that it's hard to suggest much improvements as I believe it works really well.</p>	<p><i>Thanks for your feedback. Including the initial meetings in September, with the current plan of events for 2021/2022, there will be 23 events during the Autumn Term, 22 events during the Spring Term and 35 events during the Summer Term. In the Spring and Summer Term we also have the football and netball leagues (I have only counted these as one event in the numbers above).</i></p> <p><i>Last year, we moved Futsal so that it now takes place in the Autumn Term in an attempt to have more indoors events take place during the Autumn Term. At that time, we found it difficult to move any other events.</i></p> <p><i>For next year, indoor events such as Kickstarters, Yoga and Zumba Taster Sessions will take place throughout the whole school year with sessions planned every half term aimed at different year groups. Could we move these all of these to take place in the Autumn Term?</i></p> <p><i>A potential barrier as we move towards the end of the Autumn Term is that there are sometimes 'commitments' with the use of school halls as traditionally, there are stages for Christmas plays in place. This does hinder indoor events at this time. This is not necessarily an issue in the Summer Term when halls may be used for end of year productions as most events at this time are outside (apart from the few taster sessions above). I will also look at this in more detail in April 2022 when we are planning for 2022/2023.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
<p>Push for more schools to participate in the cycle speedway activities at Gin Pit. The sessions can be extended to cater for more schools.</p>	<p><i>The speedway facilities and activities at Gin Pit in Astley are fantastic. A real hidden gem! This type of event sums up ATSA for me as cycle speedway is not necessarily an event that a child would have access to at school as part of their usual PE provision. How will the children ever know if they enjoy something or are good at something unless they have to the opportunity to 'have a go'. This event provides children with that opportunity.</i></p> <p><i>We would never force schools to enter any events as we know that there are many more things on offer for schools apart from sport and I would want to promote skills, knowledge and learning across a whole range of areas.</i></p> <p><i>If more schools became involved, maybe this is one of the events that we could change so that it started during the school day (as mentioned in a previous 'wish')? There are limited lanes on the track for racing and so only a certain amount of schools can participate at any one time, but we could maybe offer slots in the afternoon for schools to sign up to and then also after school too? This approach would obviously depend on the availability of the volunteers at Astley and Tyldesley Cycling Club.</i></p> <p><i>Over the next few weeks, I will liaise with Astley and Tyldesley Cycling Club with regards to their availability if we took the approach above and I will make any amendments to the 2021/2022 ATSA Directory.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
<p>Would more virtual competitions between the ATSA schools provide opportunities for children to have extra physical activity in the coming year?</p>	<p><i>The current guidance and risk assessments that are in place mean that we can accommodate all ATSA schools in our current offer of events during this Summer Term. Our aim for 2021/2022 is to have a full offer of face-to-face events and so hopefully more schools will become involved with our events as restrictions ease.</i></p> <p><i>Given that we have taken the positive step of hosting 'face to face' events, wouldn't we want to continue to move forward with them? I agree that we maybe need to develop some virtual events, to take place should there be further local or national lockdowns. We could ask the Sports Council members who will be new in post in September 2021. It would be good for them to maybe take a lead on this during the 1st half of the Autumn Term.</i></p>

Wish	ATSA response
<p>Sports have well established path ways. I would love to see the same with heritage, well-being and art. It would be great if ATSA had a representative from the children on the 'For Tyldesley' forum.</p>	<p><i>You are correct when you say that well-established sporting pathways are already in place. They have been in place for many years in our area. For example: Atherton Cricket Club, was originally founded in 1872, Tyldesley Swimming and Water Polo was founded in 1876 and Atherton Collieries was founded in 1916. All of these clubs cater for both children and adults in our area and have done for a long time.</i></p> <p><i>I am currently working with the 'For Tyldesley' group on:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>-the Tyldesley mosaic project and</i> <i>-a schools heritage project (September 2021 start).</i> <p><i>Whenever I have met with 'For Tyldesley' members, children being on the forum has never been mentioned. This is something we could easily have in place in the same way that we have Sports Council members in place. There is a heritage project for Tyldesley schools due to start in September and so there may be some progress with this once the project starts. Maybe this project will be the start of a pathway with heritage, well-being and art?</i></p> <p><i>If anyone has any ideas or knowledge/skills in heritage, well-being and art then we could maybe start to develop these pathways through the 'All Being Well' project so that we can start to make progress in this area.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
<p>Support to schools who struggle with transport issues. That is the main barrier to our school (St Richard's) participating in most of the after school events.</p>	<p><i>When planning ATSA events, I always look to make use of a wide range of venues to ensure that all schools are able to access events. I am grateful for all the venues who volunteer to host an event.</i></p> <p><i>Ease of accessibility was one of the main drivers for creation of ATSA in 2011. At this time, a local high school acted as the main organiser of sporting events via the SSCO scheme and was also used as the venue for all sporting events in Atherton. It was then decided to close the school. This venue was in walking distance for most schools in our group at the time and the alternative suggested venues for sporting events for Atherton schools were in Leigh and Lowton.</i></p> <p><i>From what I have observed, schools who do regularly take part in ATSA events either make use of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>*Sports Premium funding to pay for transport to ATSA events. I know some schools who regularly make use of private minibus companies to transport children to events that take place during the school day or after school. I believe that this is still an allowable use of the Sports Premium funding;</i> <i>*parents/carers to transport children in cars and/or</i> <i>*school staff.</i> <p><i>Pre-COVID, parents/carers usually remain at events to watch their children. In terms of school staff, I see a variety of approaches. A number of staff from a school will drive children to events and then stay with the team to support them at the event.</i></p> <p><i>However, more recently, I have seen staff drop children at an event, ensure all the children are safe with the lead staff member remaining at the event and then one staff member has left to return to school/go home etc. Schools seem to have some system in place whereby staff volunteer on a needs basis/rota basis etc.</i></p> <p><i>I am always on the lookout for schools to volunteer to lead/host events and so maybe this is something that could be discussed within your locality so as to potentially start to remove this barrier within your school/locality.</i></p> <p><i>Providing transport (for example: a minibus) is not something ATSA is looking at doing this time.</i></p>

Wish	ATSA response
<p>Instead of all schools getting a certificate give certificates out for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.</p>	<p><i>For ATSA Competitions, the event winners currently receive a trophy and each team member receives a medal. All participants currently receive a certificate at all ATSA events (Competitions, Taster Sessions etc). We did have some certificates designed to give to schools who came 1st, 2nd and 3rd but we feel we got this slightly wrong as these were A4 sized certificates and, for me, there was an error in the way that these certificates were designed.</i></p> <p><i>In my opinion, the whole ethos of primary school (and ATSA in particular) is about providing children with as many different learning/sporting opportunities to foster a life-long love of learning/sport. Therefore, I still feel that there is a place for every participant to receive something from our events...it may be the only event that the child takes part in that year. Even though the outcomes of sport can be very black and white in terms of success and failure, I would still want the children to have something positive from our events that they can take forward with them in the future.</i></p> <p><i>We are currently re-designing our certificates and so when we have our new design in place, we could ask BDP to provide us with a 1st, 2nd and 3rd version of our newly designed certificates for individual children? Therefore, a suggestion moving forwards could be that all participants receive a 'normal' certificate and the winners receive the 1st placed certificate and the runners-up receive the 2nd placed one etc?</i></p> <p><i>I will discuss this with the ATSA Committee members over the next few weeks to coincide with our newly designed certificates.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
<p>Excellent job, nothing particularly requires changing</p>	<p><i>Many thanks for the feedback.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
<p>I don't think there is anything at the moment.</p>	<p><i>Many thanks for your feedback.</i></p>

July 2021