

Questionnaire feedback: April/May 2023

(Survey open online from Friday 21st April – Friday 5th May 2023)

Surveys competed	
Number of surveys completed	10

*Roles responded	
Role	Number of responses
School ATSA rep (named in Directory)	7
School staff member (attended an ATSA event)	2
Event leader/organiser	2
Headteacher	1
School Governor	1
Community sports group member	1

*some people selected more than one role

Stars (the things you really like about ATSA)

Stars
<p>*The ATSA response to the required changes in footwear for the football league were swift and positive in terms of a resolution. An excellent use of combined financial resources. The high school links with facilities have been built over many years and an important part of our development as a group.</p> <p>*It's great to develop a calendar of Inclusive competitions providing 'Access To Success' and importantly that those events are taking place at a location and time that works well for transporting pupils home.</p> <p>*There has definitely been more development for the Sports Council this year with a variety of opportunities for them to organise and participate in.</p> <p>*Inclusive for all pupils.</p> <p>*Provides an enormous range of sporting opportunities for our children.</p> <p>*ATSA is superb at giving young people an extremely broad exposure to sports and activities which they might not otherwise experience. It also allows us, as an organisation, to interact with a wider audience so we can impact more people with our programmes.</p> <p>*Inclusive, gives every child an opportunity to achieve their own potential.</p> <p>*Gives opportunities for children to represent their school and feel proud of this.</p> <p>*It provides numerous and a variety of sporting opportunities for a range of children.</p> <p>*There are a wide variety of sporting competitions and events that provide opportunities for children from all backgrounds to flourish and achieve in sport.</p> <p>*The variety of events that are held. This includes a range of different sports, but also a variety of competition levels.</p> <p>*Competitive, I like the winners and losers aspect, as it realistic for later life.</p> <p>*Inclusive competitions give children the chance to represent their school who may never had this opportunity.</p> <p>*The organisation of ATSA is second to none, it's very easy to deliver our sessions on behalf of ATSA as all of the leg work is already done when it comes to registers, lunches etc.</p> <p>*Opens up new sports to children.</p> <p>*Brings school together and creates a great bond for the community.</p> <p>*It promotes inclusion with the tracking of 'old' and 'new' children – this is something I now really consider when picking teams or groups.</p> <p>*There is a healthy encouragement of competition but with fairness and enjoyment at its heart.</p> <p>*I love the addition of 'Access to Success' events and this is a great step to increase the inclusive element of ATSA.</p> <p>*Children get to try lots of different events.</p> <p>*ATSA provides CPD to staff, helping to keep us up-to-date with the latest developments and gives an opportunity to share ideas.</p> <p>*ATSA celebrates its successes really well making sure to share stories on social media so people know about the great things taking place.</p> <p>*Sport is allowing children of all abilities to join in and enjoy being active.</p> <p>*It is constantly working to improve – what it does so far is never just enough. Each year improvements are clear and appreciated. I often think it can't give us more – then it does!</p> <p>*There is opportunity to come together with other schools and children from the area.</p> <p>*Well organised and structured, including the release of school specific data where number of participants (and 'new' participants) is a great indicator of success and can be incorporated directly into school documents (such as governor reports or sports premium report).</p>

Wishes (ways that you think we could improve ATSA)

Wish	ATSA response
<p>The new 'Access to Success' events are brilliant and just what ATSA needed as parts of its offer. It did become challenging at some of these events when schools just turned up, having not let the organiser know as per the ATSA protocols.</p>	<p><i>I agree that the Access to Success events have been excellent. I thank Miss Oliver for organising these events, Mrs Curran for allowing us to host the events at Rowan Tree and all the staff from the school for supporting the events and for being so accommodating to the visiting schools. These events will now become a permanent 'fixture' in the ATSA calendar for future years.</i></p> <p><i>When organising these events, we felt that 36 would be the maximum amount of children for each event and originally, this was going to be 6 children from each school. However, we then felt that some schools may want the option of bringing one or two children and so we had the idea that schools could do this and join with another school to make a team. This worked well and for the first Access to Success event, a joint team made up of children from St. John's and St. Ambrose Barlow, won.</i></p> <p><i>Having an accurate list of schools taking part helps the event organiser to make a prompt start to the event as staff know which schools (and the number of children from that school) are attending. At these events I have been present myself to witness schools turning up that are not on the list. This has provided an additional challenge for Miss Oliver and the Rowan Tree staff, who, not wanting to turn schools away, have accommodated these unexpected schools. It also become 'awkward' when school names have to be then handwritten onto the pre-typed information that has been well prepared for the event.</i></p> <p><i>For 2023/2024, all the 'Access to Success' events will be included in the ATSA Directory and so this means that the dates of events and the 'cut off' dates for taking part will be known to all schools from the very start of the school year.</i></p> <p><i>We will also continue with the 'flexible' approach with schools selecting the number of children from each school to take part. Therefore when you let Miss Oliver know that you will be taking part in an 'Access to Success' event, it is crucial that you also inform her of the number of children (maximum of 6) that will be attending from your school.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
<p>A way to inform ATSA about what events they would like to attend for each term instead of it being different cut off dates. Makes it easier to manage.</p>	<p><i>You are correct to identify that we need to update the current system. Maybe we could make use of Smart Survey online survey package that I regularly make use of with ATSA, our staff and our parents/carers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>-a 'survey' (list of ATSA events) would be created.</i> <i>-a link would be emailed to all ATSA representatives.</i> <i>-schools register for the events that are within that link.</i> <i>-I could 'close' the survey at an agreed time and so we would have an accurate list of schools.</i> <p><i>Essentially this would mean that I would collect all the information with regards to schools taking part and so this is one less task for the event organiser. It would also means that there would be a reduction in WhatsApp messages with regards to event entries.</i></p> <p><i>This sounds like a great idea as once I have set up one 'survey' of events, there is the facility to copy that survey and amend the wording for a different set of events. It will take some extra time to set up these 'surveys', however, once the system is in place they can be used for years to come.</i></p> <p><i>I will speak with other ATSA Committee members, but I already feel that using this approach would have many benefits and I think it could be achievable from September 2023.</i></p>

Wish	ATSA response
<p>Less use of the Whatsapp group. This should be used solely by Mr Grogan to give notifications or by people who lead the activities. It should not be used for people asking to attend events or ask questions (this should be done by email). Excessive use of the system is leading to people missing important information and being barraged by messages.</p>	<p><i>Protocols for the use of the ATSA WhatsApp group (and other key messages) are communicated to schools at the start of the year at the annual ATSA meeting. The attendance of ATSA representatives from schools at this meeting has steadily decreased over time. This is slightly disappointing as it means that some schools are not represented and do not hear first-hand any reminders or updates to ATSA procedures and protocols. This then puts those schools, especially those who have a new staff member as their ATSA representative, at a disadvantage.</i></p> <p><i>I personally prefer using WhatsApp/text messages to send and receive ATSA information as I do not have school emails on my phone and so I can access information when I am off-site. I will continue to use the WhatsApp group to provide reminders of when to enter events and when 'cut off' dates are due. It was agreed that school ATSA representatives would make use of a personal message to me for individual, school based entries, pupil numbers feedback and queries as opposed to the main ATSA group. Therefore, if people could please stick to this so as to keep 'traffic' in the main group to a minimum.</i></p> <p><i>At the end of the year, I will send out information about the date and time of the annual ATSA meeting that will take place in September 2023. If schools could please note the date and ensure that they are represented as, although we do have a lot of long standing ATSA representatives, there is always additional information each year to communicate to schools and ALL staff would benefit from hearing those updates.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
<p>Sometimes messages in the 'WhatsApp' group can be easily missed due to the volume of updates and messages. Could there be an email too if events are cancelled or changed?</p>	<p><i>I did receive some feedback last year regarding the use of email for communicating cancellations and changes to ATSA events. This year, where there has been any cancellations or a change to an event, I believe I have followed this approach, with an email to schools in the first instance. I have then on some occasions followed this up with a reminder in the ATSA WhatsApp group. Therefore, to my knowledge, this approach is already in place.</i></p> <p><i>There was an event that was recently cancelled at a very late stage. The decision to cancel this was made in response to a concerning community-based incident. I was out of school at the time and so did not have access to emails. Therefore I sent a WhatsApp message via the main group at 14:08. The organiser of this event ensured that each participating school received a phone call and then followed this up with a message in the group later that day.</i></p> <p><i>Communication is key in all relationships and so if ever anyone is unsure of anything, at any time, the please send me a message (via any method) and I will ensure that you receive the most up to date and accurate information.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
<p>I think health & well-being should be improved, dietary delivery, warm ups injury prevention, preparation for activities and peer lecturers.</p>	<p><i>What a fantastic idea. Please contact me personally and we could meet up to discuss potential ideas for how this could be rolled out across our schools.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
<p>Another option would be to target parents/carers, where events are held that involve children and their adult. This would supports ATSA's engagement with the local community.</p>	<p><i>Boxing for Better provide after school sessions where an adult from home accompanies and takes part in the session with their child. Although I have not communicated this to Dave from Boxing for Better, I did consider using an 'ATSA' approach with these sessions in that they could be held centrally for all ATSA families to access. This is something that I will discuss with Dave when planning for 2023/2024.</i></p> <p><i>Should anyone have any other ideas where we have engage families then please feel free to let me know.</i></p>

Wish	ATSA response
<p>We found it difficult this Easter sharing a drop off and pick up point with another holiday club which was taking place at a local school. It would work better if we had an exclusive drop off and pick up point so we could deliver session without interruption from other groups.</p>	<p><i>Firstly, may I thank you for working with ATSA to provide sessions as part of the All Sports Holiday Provision. A simple idea in 2018 has now progressed to something that is slowly becoming one of the most prominent 'branches' of ATSA.</i></p> <p><i>Can I also thank all the schools and staff who support the ATSA All Sports Provision sessions. Although I was personally looking to reduce the amount of work I undertook in the holidays with these, I feel we have reached a tipping point whereby more effort is actually going to be required. This is because we now have ten schools involved and there are also new providers looking to lead sessions. Therefore, I will need all the support I can get from schools with this in 2023/2024.</i></p> <p><i>When we look to plan venues for 2023/2024, consideration will be given so as to ensure that all sessions can run smoothly.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
<p>Possibility of another ATSA 'branch' which is adult focused. Perhaps this could involve teaching staff, where ATSA offers CPD on a yearly basis to teachers or support staff.</p>	<p><i>CPD opportunities have been previously been provided through ATSA. Many years ago there was an introductory session to VX. In conjunction with a teaching school we also organised the FA Primary Teachers Awards for staff and students within ATSA/ATHOS. More recently Mr Cooke organised training around the Real PE resource.</i></p> <p><i>I had previously looked at organising an ATSA Conference where speakers from the world of sport/leadership come to a central venue to speak to PE/school leaders.</i></p> <p><i>Mr Cooke currently leads termly PE meetings organised via the ATHOS Consortium. At these meetings, recent PE developments and other current issues are discussed. Maybe the dates of these meetings could be included within the 2023/2024 ATSA Directory as it would be good to see more PE leaders/ATSA representatives attend these termly meetings. Feedback from ATSA staff at these meetings could shape the future PE CPD opportunities for our group of schools.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
<p>Recognition of Sports Leaders involvement at events by in some way accrediting it in our Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards</p>	<p><i>It is fantastic how we have young sports leaders supporting our events. I thank all the schools that provide students to support our events in this way. If you look at the ATSA awards criteria, not every 'strand' of ATSA is covered. This was purposeful to ensure that there was an element of inclusivity and achievability for schools with the awards.</i></p> <p><i>For example: ATSA All Sports Provision is not included. If this was to be included (at maybe Gold level) then this year, only ten schools could achieve that standard. Plus, there are school who organise their own holiday provision and so would be excluded from achieving a higher award because they have well established holiday clubs in place.</i></p> <p><i>There are currently approximately three school who would benefit from Sports Leaders being included in the Awards Criteria. If we were to include this as part of an awards criteria, then we would have to increase the opportunities for Sports Leaders to be involved in our events. I am not sure how we could do this given a team leader/event organisers primary focus may be on their own team.</i></p> <p><i>Everything that is currently included in the ATSA Awards Criteria is achievable for all schools within ATSA. Where schools fall short on the Gold Award is with this element of the criteria:</i></p> <p><i>'Either a staff member from school organises an ATSA event OR the school is used as a venue for an ATSA event'</i></p> <p><i>This is a great bit of feedback and we will work towards providing more opportunities in this area, however, maybe we need to start with the adults being leaders (of events) and then maybe the children can follow suit.</i></p>

Wish	ATSA response
<p>This isn't directly to ATSA... but it would be better if all teams/schools stuck to rules. Unfortunately, we noticed a girl or two playing for both the girls and mixed team. There might be genuine reasons for this but it didn't seem fair. This didn't directly impact us, but I guess it would have done other teams who did better.</p>	<p><i>As I have mentioned in an earlier response:</i></p> <p>'.....(and other key messages) are communicated to schools at the start of the year at the annual ATSA meeting. The attendance of ATSA representatives from schools at this meeting has decreased over time. This is slightly disappointing as it means that some schools are not represented and do not hear first-hand any reminders or additions to ATSA procedures and protocols. This also puts those schools who have a new staff member as their ATSA representative at a disadvantage.'</p> <p><i>This 'rule' is what I would call an 'ATSA specific rule'. Something like this would have most likely been a key message I would have communicated to schools at the initial meeting each September. Although the ATSA Directory is well-presented, I would think that very few people actually sit down and read it. For the meeting at the start of the year, I draw out the key points for the year moving forwards and so it is essential that the ATSA representative from your school attends.</i></p> <p><i>In terms of dealing with this, 'in the moment'....was there something that you could have undertaken at the time of noticing this? I understand how approaching the individual school could have been 'awkward' and so, as there was a 'lead' ATSA staff member present for all fixtures, could you maybe have informed them? It may not have been the same 'lead' staff member each week and so they may not have noticed this. If doing this felt uncomfortable, could you have messaged me? I receive lots of feedback of this nature and deal with many issues on an individual basis (and so unless it involves your school, you will never know that I do that). Please feel free to make use of the well-established lines of communication we have in place, at the time of any concern so that they can be addressed 'in the moment'.</i></p> <p><i>May I take this opportunity to remind all schools of the ATSA 'rule' with regards to the football leagues:</i></p> <p>Children will only be permitted to play in one football league. For example, if you have a girl who represents your school in the Mixed Football League then this girl CANNOT also play in the Girls' Football League. Schools must decide which team some of their children are going to play for and then stick to their decision.</p> <p><i>Moving forwards, if all schools could please bear this in mind when selecting their teams for the ATSA football leagues.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
<p>I ran the Atherton football league and it was a really enjoyable experience.</p>	<p><i>Many thanks for your feedback.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
<p>Nothing really.</p>	<p><i>Many thanks for your feedback.</i></p>



Mr M Grogan
Friday 19th May 2023