

VALE SCHOOL SPORT PARTNERSHIP

What did we want to do?

- Create links between primary schools and local tennis clubs
- Increase tennis competition for primary schools
- Extend access and provision of tennis across the Vale
- Provide CPD opportunities for teachers and other staff working in primary schools

What did we do?

- Development Group formed – representatives from LTA, local clubs, local authority, School Sport Co-ordinator and Competition Manager team.
- Primary School programme developed - 5 weeks mini-tennis coaching for each school, followed by a cluster competition at the local community tennis club.
- The winners of each cluster competition were invited to a Vale SSP Finals competition.
- Prior to the programme, each school involved was invited to send a member of staff on a Primary Schools Tennis Teacher Training Course.

What difference has this made?

- 729 children from 16 different schools received tennis coaching as a result of the programme.
- 120 children took part in inter-school cluster tennis competitions.
- 32 children took part in the Vale Finals competition.
- 42 children have joined a community tennis club following the project.

Other Benefits:

- The profile of tennis increased within the local community.
- Increased junior membership in community clubs.
- Increased confidence from community clubs to run future events for younger ages.
- After school clubs are being continued in schools following the project.
- The exposure has opened the eyes of committee members in some community clubs.
- The overall feeling towards junior tennis is improving.
- More children have access to tennis.
- More tennis is being provided in schools.
- Teachers have improved their knowledge of tennis.

