



# Football Development Fund

In the 2021/22 season, the ESFA provided the opportunity for County Schools' FA's (CSFAs) to utilise funding from the Football Development Fund to encourage players who didn't already represent their school to take part in schools' football. Additional funding was available to provide Continual Professional Development (CPD) for both teachers and Adults other than Teachers (AOTTs).

The Football Development Fund facilitated the opportunity for over 5,000 new players to take part in schools' football activity and for 80 teachers to attend CPD courses, to improve the standards of coaching in schools.

Activity took place in North Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, Cheshire, Merseyside, Leicestershire & Rutland, Lincolnshire, Cornwall, Devon, Oxfordshire, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Sussex.





## Girls' Football:

One of the beneficiaries of the fund was Oxfordshire CSFA who provided activity specifically targeting girls in Oxfordshire who hadn't previously had the opportunity to play. Dean Woodham of Oxfordshire CSFA said, "Thanks to the Football Development Fund we were able to target new audiences in a way that was different to the 'normal' approach". South Yorkshire CSFA continued the theme of giving girls the opportunity to play: their festivals gave over 200 girls from 9 schools the opportunity to experience footballing activity. The County also organised a CPD course in which 16 teachers were able to improve their football coaching knowledge.



## Women's Euro England 2022:

Cambridgeshire CSFA organised an event linked to the Women's Euro England 2022. Each team that entered were given a coloured/printed t-shirt that corresponded with a country competing at the finals, to create further excitement around the upcoming European tournament. 94 girls took part in the event from 9 schools, with a new scoring system being introduced where teams scored their opposition on values rather than goals scored. This gave the participants a fantastic introduction to football whilst also increasing the excitement for the Women's Euro England 2022.



## Confidence Building:

Cheshire CSFA created two events which took place in June 2022. The County invited children in years 7 and 8 who were on the SEN register and didn't play for the school team to attend the festival. 15 schools were invited along to the Cheshire FA Football Centre in Northwich to take part in the "Festival of Fun". At the end of the festivals, every player that participated received a certificate and awards were given to a player from each team for qualities such as sportsmanship, showing respect, football skill and enthusiasm.

A pupil attending the event said "I thought it would be more competitive but it's really not, it's really good. The icing on the cake was our Goalie, Oscar, winning a medal. It was the first time he had ever played and always wanted to play in goal; the absolute joy he held in that medal is one that he will remember for a very long time!!"

## Looking to the future:

Cornwall CSFA also organised 2 events with 270 girls taking part. There was sufficient interest in these events that Cornwall will now be running additional girls' competitions in the 22/23 season, to ensure these girls can continue their journey in football.

Ray Brown, secretary of Cornwall CSFA, informed us about his particular highlight from his event saying "a young deaf girl took part in our activity, playing as goalkeeper with her signer standing alongside the goal for support".

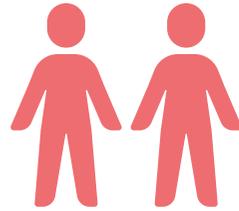
The ESFA is delighted to see such a positive outcome from this fantastic event. The Association is looking to continue this wonderful progress by offering the Football Development Fund to CSFAs in the coming 2022/23 season. Keep an eye on the ESFA website for further updates.



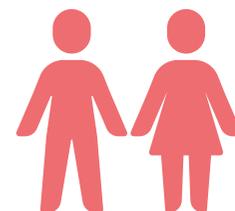


TOTAL PARTICIPANTS

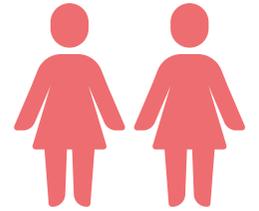
5,217



207  
Boys' Teams



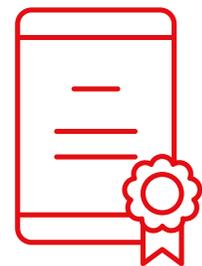
126  
Mixed Teams



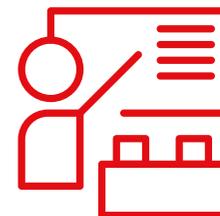
356  
Girls' Teams



13 CSFA  
Applications



5 CSFA  
CPDs



81 Teachers & AOTTs  
attended CPD