



The size of the market - student numbers

Colleges - how many and where?

College Sport - key facts

College Sport: who does what?

Who does what at area and local level?

How can you work effectively with Colleges?

Sport in Further Education and Sixth Form Colleges

For sporting organisations aiming to increase participation for 14-25 year olds, there has never been a better time to work with Further Education and Sixth Form Colleges:

- The College sector has launched a national strategy, *Growing Sport, Growing Colleges*, and established networks to implement it
- The 2012 Games provide the greatest ever opportunity for increased participation and profile of sport across Colleges
- A greater focus on 14-25-year-olds within Sport England's Youth and Community Sport Strategy and National Governing Body Whole Sport Plans provide significant opportunity for investment in College sport

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- Colleges educate and train over **3.3 million** people each year
- **861,000** 16 to 18-year-olds choose to study in Colleges (compared with 434,000 in maintained schools, Academies and city technology Colleges)
- Another **56,000** 16 to 18-year-olds study an Apprenticeship through their local College
- **63,000** 14 to 15-year-olds are enrolled at a College: **3,500** full time and **59,500** part-time

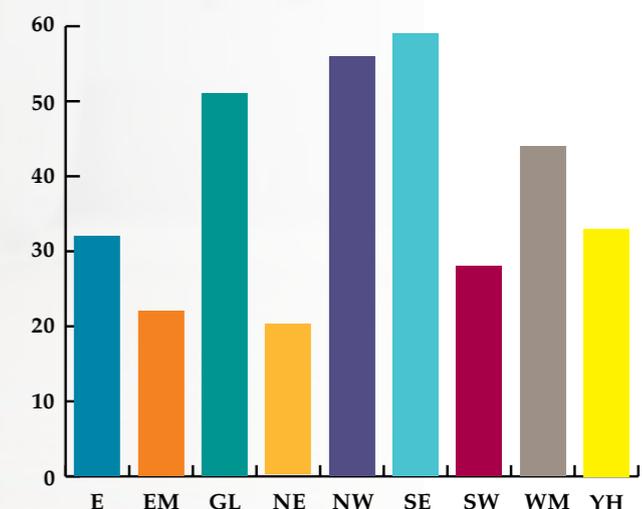
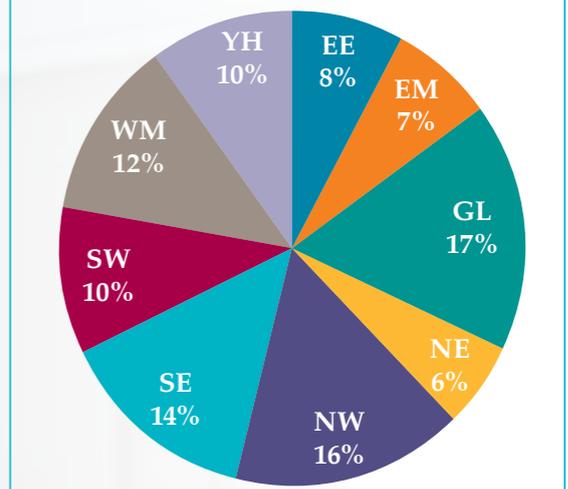
Colleges - how many and where?

There are 345 FE and Sixth Form Colleges in England (April 2012). The graph shows the spread of these Colleges across the nine English regions.

All Colleges are different, and they range in size from under 1,000 to over 70,000 students.

There are an additional 72 National Specialist Colleges, many of which provide inclusive sporting opportunities for a range of students.

% of all age students by region



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Colleges play a significant role in growing sport and working in partnership with community sports organisations.

- **23%** of 16-18 year-old students participate in activities organised by Colleges
- Colleges organise an average of **512** sessions and events per year (spread over **54** different activities)
- Some Colleges have larger sports development teams than local authorities
- Colleges have formed an average of **nine** club links

Colleges provide a workforce for sport:

- Colleges train over **75,000** students each year in industry-related sports-related qualifications
- Over **35,000** students regularly volunteer in sports programmes at College (coaching, administrating, officiating, organising)

Colleges provide competitive opportunities at all levels:

- Over **70,000** students compete intra-College; over **50,000** students compete inter-College
- British Colleges Sport runs a robust competition programme at a local, regional and national level in more than **15** different sports - **six thousand** fixtures in nine months
- More than **2,000** of the best College athletes perform at the BCS National Championships each year

Colleges provide a general enrichment and physical activity programme for all students to take part:

- An average of **20** sports are offered per College
- The Healthy FE Programme provides tools and guidance to help Colleges improve the health and well being of staff and students
- The Sportivate programme has helped Colleges deliver over 400 new participation programmes each year

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Colleges contribute to a quality stock of facilities:

- Over **70%** of Colleges provide indoor and outdoor sports facilities
- **7%** have specialist national, regional or area-based specialist provision, such as swimming pools, indoor domes, or sports-specific NGB centres

Colleges educate, support and train elite athletes:

- Specialist support for elite and talented athletes is available in at least **50 Colleges**, through provision of Academies and by supporting athletes in national and international squads

Colleges contribute greatly to inclusive sports provision:

- Ethnic minority students make up **20%** of students in Colleges, compared with **13%** of the general population
- **13.3%** of 16 to 18-year-olds in Colleges are from a disadvantaged background, compared with **8.3%** in maintained school sixth forms and Academies
- National Specialist Colleges support General FE Colleges by providing specialist advice and guidance on integrating disabled students into mainstream provision

With over **three million** young people and adults studying at Colleges, there is huge potential to grow sport even further.



College Sport: who does what?

The national lead for sport in Colleges is provided by the **Association of Colleges Portfolio Group for Sport**, which is responsible for all seven areas of *Growing Sport, Growing Colleges* and is your first point of contact.



British Colleges Sport (BCS) is the delivery arm for College sport, taking the lead for areas 3 and 4 above. BCS organises a competition framework throughout the UK, runs representative teams in five sports, and manages the highly successful Lead Further programme.

Who does what at area and local level?

- **Strategic sports groups** have been created in each region, comprising key College representatives and a County Sports Partnership (CSP) representative.
- **Head of Sport networks** in each region provide a vital communication link from Colleges to community sport
- **Competition and participation committees** organise fixtures, regional championships and squads for the national championships. BCS regional co-ordinators operate in all nine English regions.
- **Colleges** themselves provide a range of quality programmes. College Principals and Senior Managers, Heads of Student Services, and Heads of Sport / Leisure and Public Services are the key contacts for sport in Colleges.

150 full time Sports Development professionals will be working in Colleges from April 2013 as part of Sport England's strategy.

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Use the networks:

All Colleges are different, and Colleges are independent, autonomous organisations. The networks that have been established to implement *Growing Sport, Growing Colleges* are the best method of introducing programmes to the sector.

Think about College objectives:

A growing bank of evidence exists to demonstrate the impact that sport can have on raising levels recruitment, retention, achievement and outcomes for learners, whether that be progression to HE or on to sustainable employment. Community sport initiatives will be welcomed by Colleges if they can show the link to these objectives.

Plan early:

College staff plan their programmes with a 3-6 month lead time, so last minute programmes are always difficult to introduce. Colleges will appreciate enough notice to publicise programmes and gain sign up from students in advance.

Adapt the sport:

Colleges have varying degrees of physical space: some have large eight court halls whilst others use catering spaces or shared hallways. Allow for exam periods in January and June.

Get to know the quality of Colleges through visits and meetings:

98% of Colleges inspected are judged satisfactory or better by Ofsted for the quality of their provision, and FE success rates are **81%**. Employers, including those in the leisure industry, use Colleges to train their staff. Colleges depend on quality provision for survival, and this involves community links at its core.

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