



# BSF design guidance: PE & Sport

The following guidance documents and publications will support schools and local authorities with the output specifications for sports (and arts) spaces in their Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme. The publications may also be of help to architects.

In addition there are design checklists specific to Building Bulletin 98 available at [www.bsf-culture.co.uk](http://www.bsf-culture.co.uk), which also provides electronic links to many of the documents listed here.

All Sport England publications are available to download from [www.sportengland.org](http://www.sportengland.org)

- *Designing for Sport on School Sites*

This publication (pictured below) acts as an overview of the key issues surrounding the design of sports facilities on school sites, particularly with regard to community use.



- *Building Schools for the Future:*

*A guide to the potential VAT issues of community use and possible solutions.*

Covering issues such as basic principles for VAT recovery, PFI, conventional contracts, ICT contracts, Voluntary Aided (VA) schools, Academies and extended schools

- *The Win Win Scenario: Community Sport & Arts on Education Sites*

Intended for schools, colleges, local authority officers and a range of extended schools advisors and groups working on the roll-out and legacy of programmes such as Building Schools for the Future (BSF).

It aims to highlight the benefits of community use and gives a comprehensive guide as to how to provide it successfully. The document is not meant to be read from cover to cover, rather than as a reference toolkit from which just the relevant sections can be used.

- *An introduction to Building Schools for the Future*

A useful general guide to BSF (pictured below), covering the process step-by-step.

Available to download from the PFS website: [www.partnershipsforschools.org.uk](http://www.partnershipsforschools.org.uk)



Several titles from the Department for Children Schools and Families' (DCSF) *Schools for the Future* series are relevant to PE and Sport design

- *Inspirational Design for PE & Sport Spaces*

- *Designing schools for extended services*



Copies are available from DCSF Publications: 0845 60 222 60 or can be downloaded from [www.teachernet.gov.uk/publications](http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/publications) and [www.partnershipsforschools.org.uk](http://www.partnershipsforschools.org.uk)

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# Other design and technical guidance

Unless stated, all documents are available to download from Sport England.

## Planning

- *Better Places for Sport*  
a joint Sport England / CABE publication
- *Planning Bulletin 16: School Sites and Community Sports Provision*
- *Car Parking and Landscaping*

## Accessibility

- *Access for Disabled People*  
(Use with *Facility Audit sheets*)

## Sports Halls / Pitches / Courts

Schools will need to consider which sports will be played in their hall and at what level of competition.

- *Optimum Sports Halls*
- *Sports Halls: Design*
- *Sports Halls: Sizes and layouts*
- *Floors for Indoor Sports*

Please be aware that the flooring standards have recently changed:

The standard sports hall dimensions set out in BB98 of 18m x 33m x 7.6m high may not be suitable for the requirements of all sports depending on the level at which competition will be played.

- *Comparative Sizes – Pitches & Courts*  
This document provides court and pitch sizes for each sport and will help schools specify the right dimensions for the level of intended use. For further advice contact the relevant sport National Governing Body (NGB) - a database of NGBs is available from Sport England.

- *Natural Turf for Sport*

- *A Guide to the Design, Specification and Construction of Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs) including Multi-Sport Synthetic Turf Pitches (STPs)*

- *Synthetic turf pitch example pitch layouts including run off/safety margins*

## Sport-specific guidance

- *Athletics*
- *Badminton*
- *Cycling*
- *Indoor bowls*
- *National Water Safety*

## Changing Rooms

- *Changing Rooms and Lockers*

## Activity / Dance / Drama Studios

The National Dance Teachers Association have developed some very useful guidance: [www.ndta.org.uk](http://www.ndta.org.uk)

Again the Sport England guidance *Floors for Indoor Sports* may also be helpful

A useful checklist for performance spaces: [www.bsfculture.co.uk/checklist\\_performance\\_spaces.php](http://www.bsfculture.co.uk/checklist_performance_spaces.php)

The Arts Council are currently working with DCSF and The Specialist Schools and Academies Trust (SSAT) to produce some design guidance.

## Visual Art Spaces

The Big Sink is the result of an investigation into the ideal spaces for visual arts in schools, galleries and museums commissioned by the Clore Duffield Foundation: [www.art-works.org.uk/research/bigsink0.shtml](http://www.art-works.org.uk/research/bigsink0.shtml)

The Arts Council have produced a useful publication, *Artists working in partnership with schools*, available from [www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk)

## Community Areas

- *Village and community halls*
- *Pavilions and clubhouses*

## Useful websites

UK Sport [www.uksport.gov.uk](http://www.uksport.gov.uk)  
Institute for Sport, Parks & Leisure (ISPAL) [www.ispal.org.uk](http://www.ispal.org.uk)  
BSF Culture [www.bsf-culture.co.uk](http://www.bsf-culture.co.uk)  
Association for Physical Education (afPE) [www.afpe.org.uk](http://www.afpe.org.uk)



## Contact information

Where can I find out more?

For more information about Building Schools for the Future and PFS, visit the PFS website:

Partnerships for Schools  
[www.partnershipsforschools.org.uk](http://www.partnershipsforschools.org.uk)

How to contact us

If you would like more information please call 020 7273 0001 or email [info@partnershipsforschools.org.uk](mailto:info@partnershipsforschools.org.uk)

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Partner organisations:

Sport England  
[www.sportengland.org](http://www.sportengland.org)

Youth Sport Trust  
[www.youthsporttrust.org](http://www.youthsporttrust.org)