



## Boating Across the Curriculum

The Scottish View!

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## Presentation Intentions..

- To share some background on why RYA Scotland looked at engaging with schools
- The process undertaken
- The mistakes and successes....



## Why would you take this on?!

- What are the benefits of getting involved with schools – for your organisation, for the school?
- What are the potholes and problems?
- How sustainable will this activity be?



**Lots of centres and sports have picked up on this opportunity but didn't fully engage with the schools..... You need to create a full package of information**



## Some background information

- RYA Scotland has a successful OnBoard programme
- Part time Development Officer
- We needed to find ways of linking sailing into schools across Scotland (Shetland to Stranraer and the Western Isles) but that worked within financial and time constraints



## Some background information cont'd

- Curriculum for Excellence has 4 areas of targeted learning that lend themselves well to sailing activity
- Angie 'locked up' teachers, active schools coordinators and instructors for a day to look at how sailing could be integrated into the curriculum
- Produced a pack that teachers needed and wanted



## The Package...

- Called 'Sail to Learn'
- Target audience identified as Primary 6 (Year 6)
- Full day of activity for the WHOLE class
- 4 different days of activity to provide different opportunities for development
- Learning outcomes for the day given and examples of learning from the day are then taken back into the classroom



**SHOULD NEVER SUBSTITUTE  
FOR A TASTER SESSION!**





## Learning Teaching Scotland

- Became involved as sailing was the first sport to undertake this work
- The 4 days are cross curriculum, so needed input from LTS
- The curriculum areas involved: numeracy, literacy, science, technologies, health & wellbeing and social sciences (such as geography)



## LTS cont'd

- LTS changed some of the outcomes to ensure curriculum compliance
- Confirmed the need for Sail to Learn to be a whole package:
  - Consent forms
  - Letters for parents
  - Information for teachers
  - Feedback forms for pupils
  - Pupil diary



## LTS cont'd

- Identified the need for measurement of the emotional and social experience – this feeds into the learning log in class
- Then we were ready to pilot....



<http://www.ryascotland.org.uk/programmes/sailtolearn/Pages/default.asp>

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## Sail to Learn Instructor training

- Looks at each of the 4 days
- Discusses different ways of achieving the learning outcomes and encourages session planning
- What needs to be done prior to the arrival of each class – boat set up, centre/ club set up
- Contingency plans should the environment cease to play ball



## Lessons from the pilot

- Changed the look of the pupil diary
- Better communication was needed between the teachers and the centre/ club
- Management of expectations right from the start
- Get the teachers out on the water – this is not a baby sitting service
- Organisation and forward planning – get the boats rigged, have the kit to hand
- Have the kids ready to go when you promised they would be – and never argue with the bus driver!



## Current situation

- 15 centres offer this opportunity (some are freelance instructors)
- 40 instructors trained from all over Scotland
- 2011 – sessions delivered 12 times
- 2010 – sessions delivered 18 times – the difference relates to a reduction in funding available from RYAS
- Costs range from £15 ph to £37.50 ph



## Long term relationships created

- Clyde Cruising Club – 2 schools
- Royal Forth YC – 3 schools and developed links with their local Active School Co-ordinators
- Galloway Activity Centre – 4 schools
- Lochore Meadows – increased numbers attend their OnBoard clubs
- East Lothian YC – raised the profile of the club with their local primary school
- SailLaser Scotland – generally increased participation
- Cumbrae – Active School Co-ordinators and Teacher Day much more popular due to links with Sail to Learn





## Good practice – clubs

- While the activity is underway, having club members making the effort to talk to teachers/helpers in a one to one way is very helpful
- Give an enthusiastic welcome!
- Leaflets should be given on the day with follow up information and an activity arranged that would be open and suitable for these participants.
- Make access to the club as easy as possible



## Good practice - Centres

- Show clear pathway into continued involvement in sailing i.e. courses, race training, club membership and club activities
- Use the same instructors for the follow up sessions – so the kids can rely on seeing the same faces
- Continue communication with teachers and with local clubs, to ensure both sides and prepared and expectations are managed
- Be welcoming!



## Future steps

- Scottish Qualifications Authority have sailing qualifications for use in secondary schools and FE
- Secondary schools and FE Colleges can access – Intermediate 1 & 2 (SQA) and Higher Level
- Logbooks and related material available
- Individual Learning Accounts (ILA)
- Zone Squads activity
- James Watt College links



## Benefits to RYA Scotland

- Bringing us into contact with new faces
- Introducing more people to sailing and keeping them in the sport
- Increased communications between clubs and centres
- Higher profile of sailing in schools



Hope this presentation has been helpful

**ANY LAST QUESTIONS?**

