



**Meldrum Primary Network**  
**Annual Report**  
**2015/2016**

# Meldrum Network

## Meldrum Primaries

### Introduction

Active Schools Aberdeenshire has recently been the subject of a service review with the previous six area model (based on the political areas in Aberdeenshire) being replaced by a new North, Central and South model. I was successful in securing the new Active Schools Lead Coordinator post for Central Aberdeenshire and as a result term four was my last in the Meldrum network as I moved to the Inverurie network to develop the secondary and primary programmes there along with supervising our team of Active Schools Coordinators in Westhill, Kemnay, Alford, Meldrum and Huntly.

Having been the Active Schools and Community Officer for the Meldrum network and the Formartine area since November 2013, I have had a great experience working with the Meldrum network working with teaching staff, parents and pupils along with numerous community volunteers. The past school year has been another success despite several volunteers moving from the area and some teacher volunteers being unavailable.

New volunteers have come on board and participation has been strong across all areas albeit there are always opportunities to progress. Our small schools have seen new activities being introduced to ensure equity across the network and this will only benefit the entire cluster of schools as pupils' progress through the primary stage and transition to Meldrum Academy.

### Impact on Curriculum for Excellence



Term three saw three senior pupils from Meldrum Academy, Danielle Simpson, Saskia Kerr and Samantha Cunningham deliver the Play Leaders programme over a five week period to P4-P6 pupils at Barthol Chapel. This was well received by pupils and staff and the girls have progressed in terms of their leadership skills, planning, time management and overall confidence. The primary pupils will now go on to run lunchtime or rainy day activities for their younger peers as part of a rota and ultimately these initial stepping stones of leadership will benefit the pupils as they move forwards to transition to secondary education.

Curricular inputs were delivered in relation to touch rugby by Garioch Rugby Football Club and Ellon Rugby Football Club whilst Udney Tennis Club ensured that local community links with Pitmedden Primary School remained strong with the provision of a block of tennis coaching.

## **Volunteers and Capacity Building**

The majority of parent volunteers have a timeline that runs alongside the length of time that their child or children are at primary school and the past year saw us lose the services of a talented volunteer at Tarves when Dylan George and his family relocated to England. Dylan had successfully run the school football sessions for P1–P7 with huge success during the time he was there. Scott Rennie came forward and took on the role as parent volunteer. With the support of Active Schools through SFA training courses and administrative support, Scott has been running weekly sessions for P5-P7 pupils.

Parents have also been involved in the creation of successful jogging clubs at Daviot and Pitmedden with school football receiving parental support across the network. Rona Main, parent from Daviot Primary School came forward at the start of the school year and in conjunction with Active Schools has run a sold out weekly session of yoga for P1-P7 pupils at Meldrum Academy.

Table tennis remains an important part of the long term plans within the Meldrum network and Doug Farquharson and Rob Tanner have both volunteered their own time to deliver after school sessions at cluster level. These sessions have included primary and secondary pupils and has created a positive group in relation to future transitions.

## **School to Club Links**

The Meldrum network continues to maintain strong links to a number of community sports clubs including Garioch Rugby Football Club, Garioch Basketball Club, Udney Tennis Club, Satori Karate Club and Oldmeldrum Golf Club. New links have been established with Formartine United Youth Academy which will improve the pathways from school to community football.

Curricular support has again been provided by Garioch Rugby Football Club and Ellon Rugby Club with the delivery of blocks of touch rugby. New links are also being made with the Huntly Nordic Ski Club with a view to Meldrum becoming an established satellite location for their main facility at Huntly Nordic Centre.

## Network Case Study Summary Overview

Since Easter 2014, the holiday programme in the Meldrum network has gone from strength to strength with new activities being introduced that provide sustainable links to community clubs in the Meldrum and Inverurie area.

### What Active Schools Did

Active Schools have adopted a focus sports approach to the term time programme in the Meldrum network and this has been replicated in the planning for holiday programmes.

During the past school year we have seen the introduction of cricket and table tennis to the existing and successful Kenny Gibb's Basketball Academy. Jamie Jones, a local coach with Methlick Cricket Club and Aberdeenshire Council coach has introduced some innovative and fun ways to pupils to play cricket.

Long standing volunteer Doug Farquharson brought his table tennis skills to the holiday programme and again had success with a group of pupils that will link to the new term programme starting in August 2016.



### Outcomes Achieved

The key aim is to provide activities that can be sustained within the community, are ideally linked to a local club and provide high quality coaching. The Meldrum network prides itself on supporting its coaches and volunteers and the holiday programmes are now being delivered by UKCC L2 coaches from their respective sports.

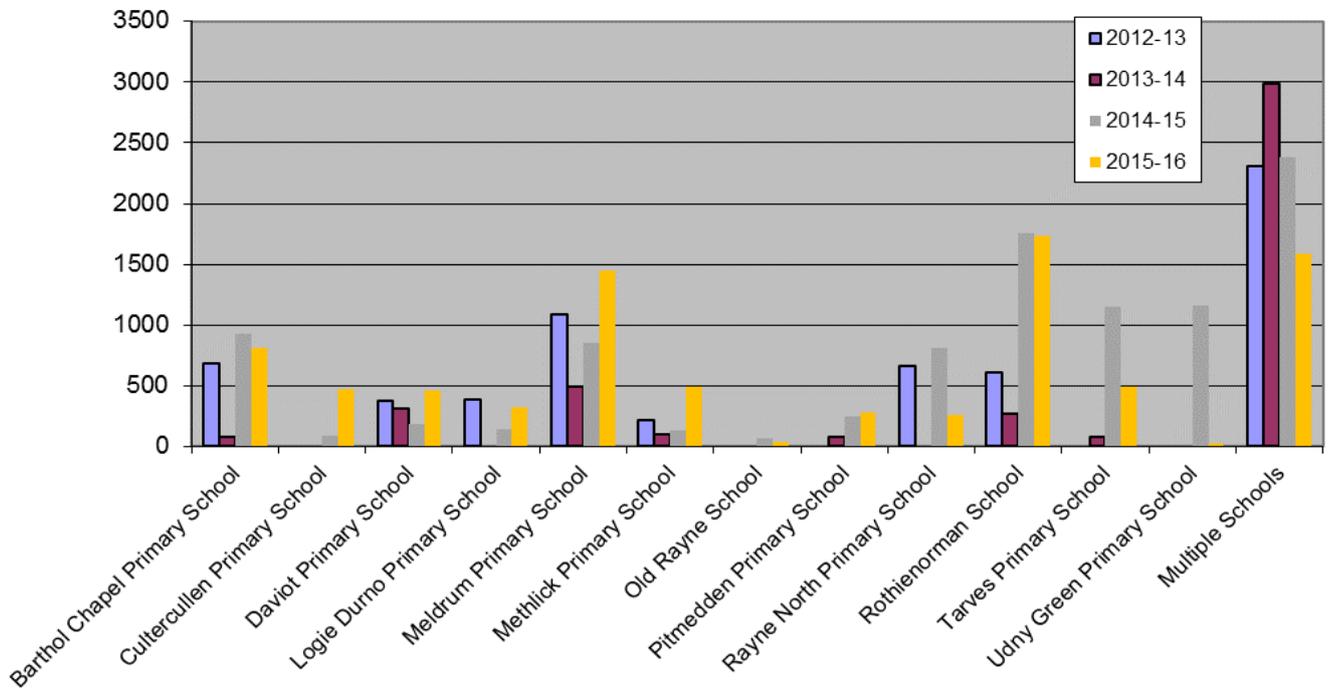
Attendance numbers have been excellent but it has actually been summer 2016 that has seen record numbers attending at basketball and cricket and this will provide a platform for further development and growth over the next school year.

### Future Developments

Future holiday programmes will focus on ensuring that there is a strategic link between the term and holiday programmes so that pupils can access their chosen activities throughout the year with the focus remaining on the provision of high quality coaching.

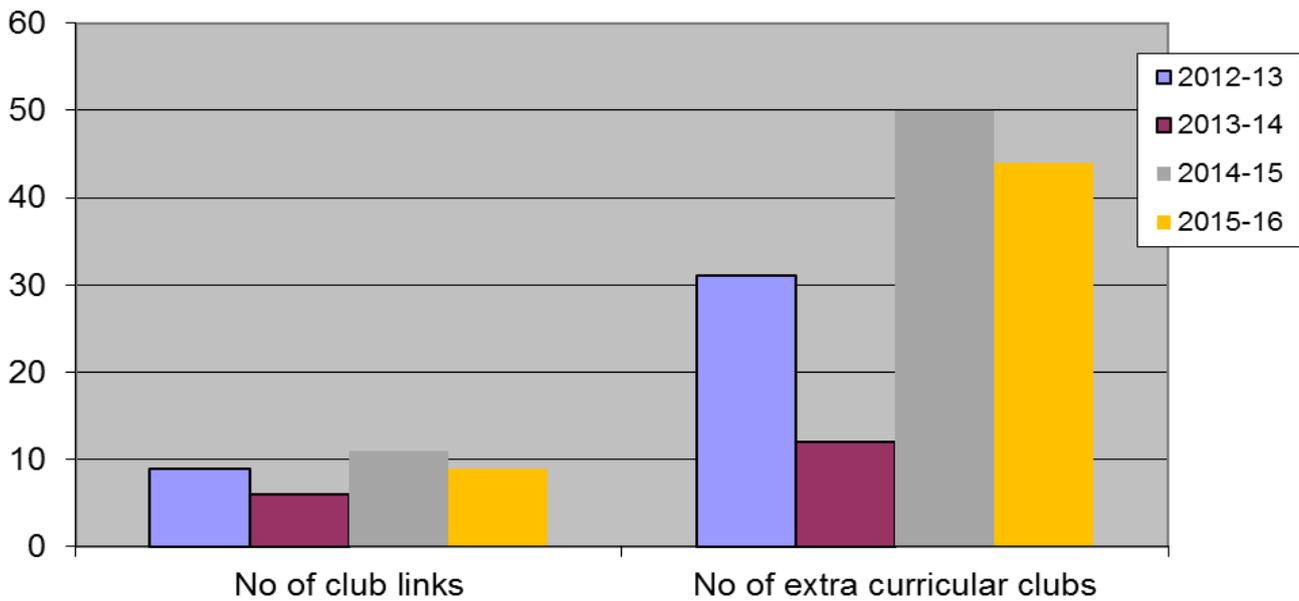
## Key Performance Indicators 2015–16

### Participation Sessions



\*Based on ASMO

### No of club links and Extra Curricular Clubs



\*Figures include primary and academy schools