

Agenda Item 51 Appendix 6A

The advantages of two All Weather Pitches were immediately obvious.

- The students would have uninterrupted and enhanced access for PE and Sport via this outdoor space.
 - At the moment PE lessons, using the field, have to stop during winter as our field gets waterlogged
 - The indoor space then becomes cramped
 - When the indoor space is required for the examination season (throughout the year now), the students will be able to continue with their PE programme with two all-weather pitches.
- Re-introduce hockey into our curriculum; particularly timely considering that both the men's and women's hockey teams are contenders in next year's Olympics.
- The club link would provide us with specialist coaching and access for our gifted and talented sports students.
- We will have a 'true' surface for developing skills in cricket, football etc.
- Hockey development course for 6th form students at Blatch6
- No health and safety issues for footwear
- We will have greater continuity for our outdoor lessons
- Hockey as an extra-curricular activity – for single gender and mixed gender teams.
- Can host inter school tournaments for both secondary and junior school level in hockey, multi-sport, cricket, football.
- Leadership volunteering opportunities – coaching and umpiring qualifications.
- Mini festivals of sport for our school communities
- The front of the school could be available for breaks and lunchtimes despite the weather conditions.
- The all-weather pitches will be for multi sports for our students up until 5.30 and for hockey from 5.30 – 9.30
- Blatch could compete with other schools offering high quality pitches.
- We will link this new provision to the country's interest in the Olympics next year and will identify this new facility as a legacy through which we will remember the momentous occasion of the Olympics.

Our students are very excited at this additional resource to their learning. The PE department are looking forward to new sports being added to their offer and the school is looking forward to being a centre of excellence for sport.

Janet Felkin
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Blatchington Mill School

