



CASE STUDY | GREATER MANCHESTER SCHOOL GAMES FINALS

In March of 2016, Total Gymnastics Academies made history, delivering its first regional level schools gymnastics competition - The Greater Manchester School Games Finals. Since the launch of Beth Tweddle's School Gymnastics, over 65 schools across the North West have benefitted from high quality gymnastics provision. Combining structured lessons with a unique method of delivery, our team of experienced coaches make gymnastics enjoyable, safe and productive for both pupils and teachers alike.

The logical next step after establishing the schools programme was to support local level competitions, which started with the Knowsley School Sports Partnership cluster festival. Total Gymnastics Academies has gymnastics specialists from almost every discipline, including former judges and international gymnasts, making hosting and supporting events possible. After delivering on level 2 schools competitions, Greater Sport then asked us to deliver the gymnastics School Games Finals this summer, drawing in the winners from each of the 10 boroughs of Greater Manchester.

COMPETITION OUTLINE

There were 140 gymnasts competing from 20 schools in 10 boroughs performing vault, floor and body management routines. Total Gymnastics Academies set up 3 floors, 3 body management and 3 vaults to ensure as quick a running of the competition as possible. They were split into year groups to create 4 competitions: Year 1&2, Year 3&4 and Year 5&6 as well as a disabilities competition. Gymnasts had a 5-10 minute general warm up led by their teachers, before moving to apparatus where they had a 10-15 minute apparatus warm up, then begun their competition.

FEEDBACK

“ Thank you so much for delivering the gymnastics at the School Games event yesterday! The children seemed to all really enjoy the event. All of the feedback from teachers, parents and children has been that is the best run gymnastics event to date. ”

Emma Forrest | Development Officer – Greater Sport

CONCLUSION

Gymnastics isn't just about learning specific skills and mastering techniques – it's about performing them too, just ask Beth! Performing in competitions teaching youngsters valuable inter-personal skills including teamwork, resilience, independence and confidence. By offering our services at minimal or no cost for local and regional school games competitions, we want to utilise our unique organisation's structure and workforce, for the benefit of young children across the UK. If there are more competitions, of a better standard, more schools are likely to participate, and the closer we can get to every child having the opportunity to try gymnastics!

