

PARTNER SEARCH

Funding Call	ERASMUS+ SPORT
Proposal	<p>Suffolk County Council, England, is looking to work with European partners to explore innovative interventions that promote and embed the importance of physical activity in the Early Years sector - from birth to 5 years. As a result we want to develop a framework for local actors to work strategically for more effective delivery of opportunities for physical activity amongst this age group</p> <p>Objectives To identify, test and pilot models of intervention that demonstrate and inform how joined up approaches can lead to better policy making, investment decisions and local sustainable provision of physical activity within the early years.</p> <p>Activities/Outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop a strategic and operational best practice model that can be replicated by local authorities across the European area. This could include academic research. • To evaluate whether targeted interventions improve health behavior amongst children and/or their parents/guardians. • To find effective ways to educate main actors and provide them with the necessary expertise to give clear and precise messages to the children as well as to their parents, to raise awareness that PA is an essential requirement for health • To make physical activity meaningful and successful for all children by implementing and evaluating innovative learning theories and changing perceptions of physical activity. • To find effective ways to engage the main influencers of early years provision and those who influence behavior for physical activity amongst this age group. • Test and identify the most effective ways to engage stakeholders (e.g. parents, leaders, nursery schools) in creating a culture change in attitudes to and knowledge of physical activity • To provide parents with the knowledge and tools that empowers confidence in the home so that physical activity is embedded in all aspects of the parent and child's life. <p>Why is this important?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical inactivity has been identified as the fourth leading risk factor for global mortality according to World Health Organisation. • There is a growing awareness that early life experiences impact on future life outcomes • Physical activity not only impacts on an individual's health outcomes, but also benefits learning, educational achievement and academic behaviour. • For the first time the physical activity guidelines (Start Active, Stay Active), published in July 2011, include recommendations for the amount of physical activity the under-fives should be doing. This reflects a growing awareness of the importance of

	<p>physical activity for this age group and follows the lead of other major countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historically, little research has been conducted to examine the role of physical activity in promoting well-being in the early years. However, there is now increasing interest in this age group, driven in part by a growing awareness of the rising prevalence obesity in this population. <p>The value of Collaboration</p> <p>Collaboration is key to raising engagement and quality of this work. Key focus for working with our overseas partners is to share, develop and transfer innovative practices between participating countries. The partnerships will develop new approaches to Early Years physical activity and promote the development throughout the EU.</p> <p>This is an area where very little research has been done with UK guidelines only published in July 2011. It is of significant value to future provision in this area to compile evidence of what works in increasing physical activity levels amongst 0-5year olds.</p>
<p>Aims, Objectives, and expected results</p>	<p><u>Timescales</u> Target submission of application: 14th May 2015 (if not possible then we will aim for the 2016 call.</p> <p>Earliest project start date: January 2016</p> <p>Project implementation: Autumn 2015</p>
<p>Lead Partner</p>	<p>Suffolk County Council</p>
<p>Deadline for expression of interest</p>	<p>Initial Deadline: 15th April 2015</p> <p>We are interested in the opportunity to apply for the 14th May 2015 deadline which we appreciate is a very short timescale. If people are interested and in a position to partner us we have set as 15th April as an initial deadline so there is some time to get everything in order for the application</p> <p>Please note we are interested in developing a project even if we are unable to submit by 14th May deadline. As such we are happy to receive expressions of interest at any time.</p>
<p>Who to contact for further information</p>	<p>Beccy Coombs Programmes and Project Manager +44 1473 260722 Beccy.coombs@suffolk.gov.uk</p>