

# Dodgeball Coach Education @ St Mary's University Secondary Physical Education (PE) PGCE

"To inspire generations and communities to experience the benefits of playing dodgeball"

## AT A GLANCE



- Dodgeball is the most in-demand sport in the country (Ofsted, 2018), with over half a million people playing dodgeball weekly (Sport England Active Lives Survey, 2019).
- British Dodgeball work annually with partner universities, colleges & schools to provide dodgeball-specific coach training to their students.
- You can see the full suite of online and face to face coaching courses and workshops here:

[British Dodgeball Coach Education](#)

## Course Feedback

Satisfaction levels taken from September 2023-  
June 2024 course feedback:



**96%**  
Quality of Resources



**92%**  
Value for Money



**96%**  
Quality of Tutor



**97%**  
Course Contents



Come Join In

Special thanks to:



**Kirsty Harding**, Secondary PGCE  
Physical Education Course Leader

## COMPREHENSIVE COACH EDUCATION: A CASE STUDY



St Mary's University has a highly successful [Secondary PE PGCE programme](#) which is judged **OUTSTANDING** by Ofsted (June, 2024). As the programme leader of a high-quality course which succeeds in preparing future PE teachers to teach a wide range of inclusive and engaging sports & physical activities, Kirsty Harding works with British Dodgeball to deliver the Level 1 & Level 2 Coach Education Package annually to each cohort of trainees. Expert tutors provide knowledge on adapting rulesets; skill acquisition; tactical understanding & application; inclusive approaches and engaging groups of individuals, delivering at the University in September (Level 1) and January (Level 2). This approach gives time for students to embed dodgeball teaching into their practice, so that rich discussions can be facilitated during the Level 2.

## IMPACT



### FORGING A PARTNERSHIP

Kirsty originally contacted British Dodgeball to forge a relationship as part of her course's focus on developing their trainees' alternative activities pathway, "So that they are able to enter their ECT years being in a position to offer something a little different to their new schools in terms of PE curriculum design."

### COURSE REVIEW

This year, we worked with 19 St Mary's PGCE students to upskill their dodgeball-based teaching practice. Kirsty notes that the package offered by British Dodgeball fit extremely well with their wider course, saying, "The timings were great - it complimented what we were covering in terms of subject knowledge and the different PE models & teaching styles. It was lovely to see the transferrable knowledge applied to a different and alternative activity. Great theory into practice!". One trainee stated that, "All students were engaged in different games used within my dodgeball lessons."

### ENHANCED EMPLOYABILITY

The training helped the St Mary's PGCE students to develop their practice, with one student saying, "The courses were fun & engaging, and expanded my knowledge on different aspects of the sport." This has ultimately assisted many of the PGCE students in securing teaching roles in the education sector next year, as Kirsty says, "Many spoke about the completion of the course during their interviews and their ability to bring something new and different to the school & PE department."

### CHANGING THE LANDSCAPE

When asked about future implementation, one PGCE student said they plan to incorporate dodgeball into extracurricular activity and into the PE curriculum as soon as they are able to do so. As we grow these types of relationships with universities, we look forward to more and more of the half a million pupils who play dodgeball weekly across the country (Sport England, 2019) receiving high quality teaching in the sport of dodgeball from professionals who have been through a British Dodgeball course. This increased quality in teaching & learning will lead to more opportunities to engage young people in sport & physical activity and encourage more young people to lead healthier, more active lifestyles. We look forward to continuing to work with [St Mary's University's outstanding Secondary PGCE programme](#) and helping to develop knowledge of an inclusive sport amongst future PE professional practitioners.