

Mr Greg Dryer comments

Page: [Policy S3 Education and childcare facilities](#)

Section: [5.3.12](#)

Absolutely agree about the need for joined up thinking in planning/designing educational facilities that can serve the wider community especially when it comes to sport and leisure. However, our infrastructure in this field is managed by a plethora of providers from all sectors. Whilst, of course, there is plenty of room for everyone, we have too many cooks all with their own dishes to prepare! The problem with this is expertise is overlooked or by-passed. Planning for multiple users requires high level knowledge about the needs of those users. When it comes to sport and leisure, very few facilities (if any) are designed with children's/young people's needs in mind so kids experience sport and active leisure in facilities that are not user friendly and in the long run this can have a detrimental effect on retention. The other (more) significant factor is the quality of the coach/teacher/adult, in creating the right social and psychological environment. As Director of the Centre for Physical Education, Sport and Activity and Kingston University, we would be happy to work with the GLA on getting this right.