

Liberton High School

The school have championed the vision of **Sand for Schools** and worked hard alongside Scottish Volleyball to make this build happen. The passion shown from the staff involved has driven the completion of this 'never been done before' build.

Head Teacher, Stephen Kelly, has played a key role in making this happen:

"We are all incredibly excited to have this fantastic beach volleyball facility here at Liberton. We all watched with pride the Scottish Commonwealth Team competing at the Gold Coast and the best part of this project for us will be the opportunity for our young people to see close-up what it takes to achieve excellence in performance and then aspire to do the same using this facility. I would like to thank Scottish Volleyball for their work and investment in the facility here at Liberton."

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Stuart Robertson, Curriculum Lead for Health and Wellbeing at the school, was key in driving this project from within the school, recognising the benefits of volleyball for his classes:

'The construction of a purpose-built beach volleyball facility at Liberton High School opens up huge opportunities and possibilities for the community. Indoor volleyball has long been a major part of the Physical Education curriculum at Liberton High School and allows many pupils the opportunity to excel and be successful. With the introduction of this facility this will bolster its position in the curriculum and allow us to develop a Volleyball Performance Pathway Programme that allows pupils who are engaged in this sport to harness their abilities and work hard to achieve excellence alongside expert players. We hope that this will lay the foundations and spark the enthusiasm for volleyball that eventually allows those with the desire to develop into elite performers.'

However, the real goal of this programme is to develop pupil's self-confidence, promote a hard-working attitude and allow pupils to experience success. This will allow them to transfer these skills so they can be successful learners and successful in achieving all their life goals. These opportunities and partnerships afford us opportunities that could change the direction of young people's lives.'



Robert Ure, Active Schools Coordinator for Liberton High School is excited about the opportunities that this will bring for the local children and young people:

'The benefits that the project brings to the local community is massive and so important, it is going to further highlight the extensive choice of sports available in the Liberton/Gilmerton area. For the Active Schools extra-curricular programme specifically, it is going to open so many doors and provide so many wonderful opportunities for all the children and young people involved.'