

## OPERATIONAL MODELS

There are a variety of models for operating a community use on a school site

It is important that you choose an approach which can deliver your vision and business plan and is not detrimental to your core business of teaching and learning.

Check out the pair of [infographic examples](#) from Birmingham City Council under Useful links in the sidebar.

Here is a summary of the various operational models available and their key features:

MANAGEMENT MODEL		
WHO MANAGES?	HOW ?	KEY FEATURES and CONSIDERATIONS
School	Using existing school staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good for starting small then scaling up</li> <li>• Works well if you just have block bookings from regular clubs</li> <li>• Can be a drain on your staffs time</li> <li>• Need to have a robust lettings policy and procedures in place</li> <li>• This model makes it more difficult to offer 'pay and play' which takes more staff time to oversee bookings.</li> </ul>
School	Employing designated staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good for developing and extending your programme</li> <li>• Good for offering a range of programmes and being responsive to community needs</li> <li>• Need to cover the costs of staff salaries therefore a higher risk model</li> </ul>
School	Via an arms-length company such as a charitable trust or social enterprise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More proactive model as have more freedom to shape the management</li> <li>• Good for bidding for external funding</li> <li>• Can be higher risk</li> <li>• Takes time to establish</li> <li>• May require advice from external expert</li> </ul>
Third Party	Using a commercial leisure provider or community use provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School will need to have an attractive proposition for third party provider</li> <li>• Opportunity to utilise commercial expertise to maximise your community offer</li> <li>• Lower financial risk for school (if contract right)</li> <li>• Will require a procurement process and legal advice</li> <li>• School may have less control and be tied into contract</li> </ul>
Third Party	Via a club or NGB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sport specialists without a commercial slant</li> <li>• May develop from an existing club relationship</li> <li>• Will be single sport specific (unless you involve more than one club)</li> <li>• Will require a liaison within the school</li> </ul>
Third Party	Through your LA ('dual use')	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most likely if you have good quality facilities</li> <li>• Strategic approach and part of a local network</li> </ul>

## Operational models - Sport England

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Less secure arrangement as linked to local government funding</li></ul>
Third Party	Through a leisure trust (or equivalent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Will require good facilities in the right strategic location</li><li>• Often trusts will take on the financial risk</li><li>• Interest in forming a long term partnership</li><li>• Will require contract negotiations</li></ul>
School or Third Party	Through a consortium or network of schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Likely if you have good relationships with local schools, work within a federation or Academy chain/Multi Academy trust etc</li><li>• Procure services collectively (such as marketing) so more cost effective</li><li>• Poses opportunities for shared staffing, centralised booking systems etc.</li><li>• You will have less individual control</li></ul>