



British Judo Association School 2 Dojo programme



In 2008, the Government launched the Physical Education, School Sport & Young People (PESSYP) strategy to encourage a more physically active Nation and achieve their 2012 target of one million more people participating in sport. The strategy has 10 key strands that are aimed at schools, National Governing Bodies of Sport and other key partners to drive forward.

The BJA has launched "School 2 Dojo", which will simplify its approach to PESSYP, whilst still achieving the same objectives set out by Sport England.

School 2 Dojo has repackaged PESSYP into a user-friendly brand that will be embraced by students, parents and schools alike, helping to attract more key audiences into judo clubs than ever before.

The ethos behind School 2 Dojo is to simplify the concept, assist BJA clubs, and involve the schools more in the process.

By 2010 all 5-19 year olds will be offered at least 5 hours of sport each week, which will comprise of at least 2 hours of high quality PE and sport at school. The 'Sport Unlimited' programme will encourage pupils to take part in at least a further 2-3 hours beyond the school day through community sport, for example judo in an after school activity through BJA clubs. It is believed that this will be achieved via active school-club links.

School 2 Dojo has been designed around three strands of the PESSYP strategy, mainly intra/inter school competition and junior volunteering all through a strong link with a local accredited BJA club.

Recent Government results have revealed that 13% of judo clubs are using the scheme fully. Although this percentage is promising there is still room for improvement when compared to Hockey where 25% of clubs have links and Gymnastics at 40%.

Previously the emphasis has been on the BJA club to develop and build a formal link with its local school/schools, in order to increase participation, recruit and retain more people in judo clubs. Although this will still be a key component there will now be recognition for the schools involved.

School 2 Dojo Recognition for Schools

A key element of this programme is the actual schools, which are being asked by every sport to build links with local clubs. The reality is that the school rarely gets any recognition for this involvement, and therefore they are not always motivated to activate the formal link agreement once it is in place.

This will be different with the School 2 Dojo programme, as they will have an opportunity to achieve a grade for the level of commitment to the local judo club. There are three levels - yellow, blue and black.

British Judo Association



At present judo clubs create a formal link agreement with a local school to satisfy the Clubmark Accreditation criteria. This process will continue, however, as part of School 2 Dojo, the school will have

Criteria	Yellow	Blue	Black	Achieved	BJA RDO comments
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This certificate acknowledges that this school has regular communications and demonstrations to promote the benefits of judo through an affiliated club.



is linked with

The BJA encourage Clubmark Accredited Judo Clubs to create active links with local schools. As an accredited club they have achieved a high standard of coaching, child welfare and club management to create a fun and safe club environment to enjoy judo.



more reasons to be pro-active in the link. This is because when the club is classified as working towards or has achieved Clubmark the school they have the formal club link with will also receive recognition, therefore, creating opportunities for more joint initiatives.

Education and activation

Once a link agreement is in place the relationship can involve the club having regular contact with the school and possibly doing judo demonstrations and taster sessions to improve awareness of the sport and the club, right through to the club being a major active presence within the school.

link for example time involved, knowing whom to contact within a school, the distance between a school and club, resources etc. This new programme is designed to remove some of these barriers giving clubs the tools required, and most importantly engaging the schools more effectively.

Information on how to start and build an active partnership with your local school can now be found on the British Judo website. The free School 2 Dojo online toolkit is available to all and includes downloadable letters and templates, a glossary of terms, as well as information on key partners in your area that will be able to assist the clubs.

School 2 Dojo Programme criteria

The programme is designed to make the transition from school sport into a club environment. The criteria outlined below is to encourage two-way communication between a judo club and a school. The award is to demonstrate that the school has achieved a Nationally recognised award for a quality link to a BJA Accredited Club.



School identifies key contact in club	✓	✓	✓		
Club identifies key contact in school	✓	✓	✓		
Establish best method of communication	✓	✓	✓		
Establish frequency of communication	✓	✓	✓		
Club provides regular, up to date information for school notice board	✓	✓	✓		
School provides space to display the information	✓	✓	✓		
Club provides a minimum of 1 demonstrations in school per year	✓				
Club provides a minimum of 2 demonstrations in school per year		✓	✓		
School provides time and space for extra-curricular club with adult supervision	✓	✓	✓		After school club can be based within local judo club if required
School has 1 pupil for BJA Junior Volunteer Award		✓			
School has a minimum of 1 pupil for BJA Volunteer Coaching Award			✓		
Pupils enter a Level 1 Judo competition run through CSP/SSP		✓	✓		
School has a minimum of 2 Junior BJA memberships		✓	✓		
School has a BJA Recreational membership to receive Matside magazine		✓	✓		
School provides 1 pupil for BJA Volunteer Events Award			✓		
School provides 1 pupil for BJA Officiating Award			✓		

Why should a judo club be interested in School 2 Dojo?



The majority of judo clubs are eager to increase the number of juniors coming on the mat. The best place to do this is in the local community, and primary or secondary schools are often the focal point. With a strong and interactive link with your local school, there are endless opportunities to raise awareness and build all areas of your club.

The Government has committed an additional £100 million to the National School Sport Strategy until 2010. The 'Sport Unlimited' programme will create additional resources, some financial to improve coaches, volunteers and community sports clubs. The beauty of linking with schools is that they offer so much more than potential judoka (players), they also have a large number of potential volunteers that have additional skills that can benefit your club.

If your club has a strong and interactive link, or is trying to build a partnership, with local schools and would like to be involved in the School 2 Dojo programme, please contact Daniel Griffin on danielgriffin@britishjudo.org.uk or call 07817 995093.