

WHAT MAKES A GREAT PHYSICAL EDUCATOR?

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How's your hat storage?

There is no shying away from the many curriculum hats a Primary or Intermediate teacher has to wear. You are the English Educator, the Maths Educator, the Science Educator, The Histories Educator, the Arts Educator, the Languages Educator, the Technologies Educator, the Social Studies Educator and The Physical Educator.



Image: Joshua Coleman, Unsplash.com

Challenges for educators

- We know there are learning areas we are drawn to and that we feel confident with and passionate about. We also know there are others that we may feel less confident with or knowledgeable about. Better understanding of our role as a physical educator, builds confidence and our ability to offer the best learning opportunities for our students.
- There are often many pressures on and expectations of physical educators in primary and intermediates schools in New Zealand. You may be expected to be a coach, an instructor, a referee, a co-ordinator, a strategist or a 'biomechanic'. These pressures and expectations can come from school leaders and staff, school systems, the parent and whanau community, historic experiences of those in education, or personal expectations teachers have of themselves.

Newsflash

As a physical educator it is NOT your role to:

- Be a coach of high performance sports skills
- Know all the rules and how to play every sport or game there is
- Be a personal trainer of strength and/or fitness
- Observe 'experts' teaching your students

It is your role to **educate**, to **teach**. And while there may be specific PE content (just as there is science content, or maths content) to know and understand, what teaching looks like in Physical Education, is no different to any other curriculum area.



- You are the expert!
- You are the teacher!
- You hold the curriculum knowledge.!
- You are the physical educator!! Yes you!

What do Physical Educators do?

- *Have relationships with the students they teach*
- *Understand and teach according to the NZC*
- *Use pedagogical teaching practices*
- *Create fun and engaging opportunities for learning*

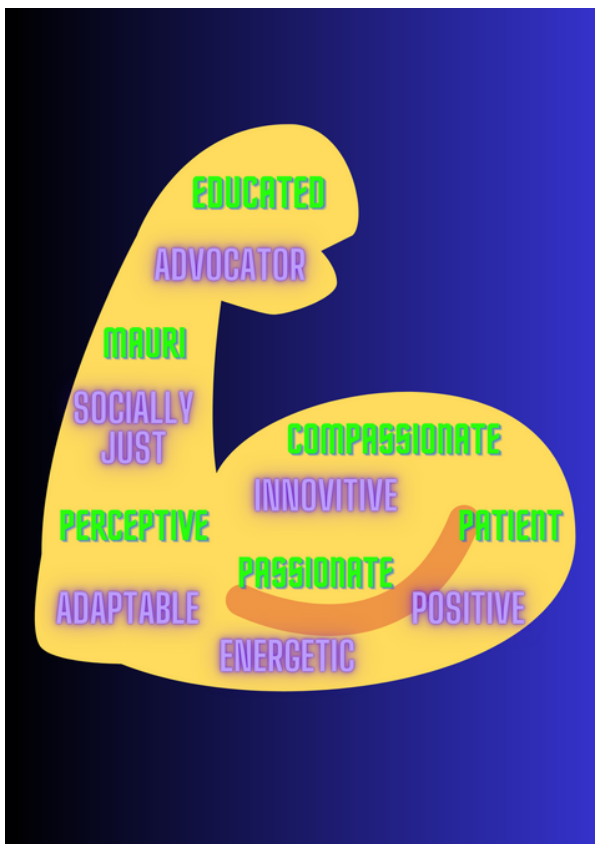


Image: penz.org.nz

What is your expectation of yourself as a physical educator?

Not sure if you are a physical educator (you are by the way), or you just need a pat on the back for being the awesome physical educator you are?

Here is a spotlight on some of the attributes we think make a great physical educator. Which of these do you relate to? How many do you connect with? Lots? of course you do. Because you are a great physical educator!

For more options on growing your knowledge see our website:

PLD: <https://penz.org.nz/pe-resources-for-primary-school-teachers/>

More Explore posts: <https://penz.org.nz/physical-education-in-new-zealand/physical-education-years-1-8/latest-articles/>

Games to play <https://penz.org.nz/movewell/>

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