

Questionnaire feedback: April/May 2025

(Survey open online from Tuesday 22nd April 2025 – Friday 2nd May 2025)

Surveys competed	
Number of surveys completed	7

*Roles responded	
Role	Number of responses
School ATSA rep (named in Directory)	4
School staff member (attended an ATSA event)	2
Event leader/organiser	2
Headteacher	0
School Governor	1
Community sports group member	0

*some people selected more than one role

Stars (the things you really like about ATSA)

Stars
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Offers pupils the opportunity to take part in sports that they couldn't normally access. *I believe that ATSA is fully inclusive and gives pupils the opportunity to engage in something new and different. *Opportunities that are given/on offer to the children. *Vast range of sporting opportunities for our community. *The range of sports and activities on offer throughout the school year. *Provides a huge range of activities and opportunities that some children would otherwise not engage with. *It continues to develop its offer of a range of wider opportunities within the local community, linking sport with the arts. *Gives all children the ability to access some kind of sport, irrelevant of sporting ability. *The organisation and involvement in different organisation who actually host the events on behalf of ATSA. *Leadership is pro-active and quickly investigates and resolves any issues raised. *Numerous events designed to support our SEND children. *The directory and ease of use. I like the fact all the information and game rules are in one place, as a small school it helps when different staff accompany children to events so they have an idea of what to expect. *The addition of the ATSA 'Access to Success' – a fantastic opportunity for children with SEND to engage with a range of sports and activities. *The events make good use of ATSA school facilities and local community clubs, so funds are not needed for hiring venues. *Enables children to participate in sports competitions. *The communication – from the ATSA event booklet to the end of year videos. *Sense of community with the schools in both children and staff. *ATSA is extremely well organised. Thank you to Mr Grogan for all the work that goes into ensuring ATSA provides all of the opportunities that it does! *Encourages a mix of abilities to represent school. We like to have as many different children as possible representing school and this really helps. *Incredible organisation of events. Schools are well informed ahead of time of expectations, dates and rules and regulations. *Communication is exemplary. *Large field events such as the Cross Country are well organised and attract the majority of ATSA schools. The Cross Country gives children the opportunity to enjoy an outdoor event in Autumn Term and follow it with the Spring one at Leigh Harriers.

Wishes (ways that you think we could improve ATSA)

Wish	ATSA response
In the case of any changes to events from the information listed in the directory, for all staff who run events to send out an email to those attending, highlighting changes. Sometimes PE leads can miss messages sent on the ATSA thread. This would act as a safety check to ensure mistakes are not made.	<p><i>As this has been mentioned before, over the last few years, there has been less interactive use of the ATSA WhatsApp group. Its main purpose now is for me to provide reminders about ATSA numbers, survey closing dates etc. For a long time now:</i></p> <p><i>-if there is an amendment or change to an ATSA event, a message is sent by me to the ATSA WhatsApp group AND an email is sent to the ATSA email group;</i></p> <p><i>-if an event is to be cancelled, a message is sent by me to the ATSA WhatsApp group AND an email is sent to the ATSA email group;</i></p> <p><i>-if there is a new ATSA event, organised within the school year, then an email is sent by me to the ATSA email group.</i></p> <p><i>I apologise if the above has not been followed for a particular event.</i></p> <p><i>Although I have not made it explicit, an opportunity has been provided for event organisers to communicate via email, with the specific schools taking part in their event. This started during 2023-2024 when I made a change to how I communicated the finer details of each event to schools. As well as the collated 'survey email' I send out to everyone, I started to send individual event emails to the schools taking part. The event organiser was copied into each email and so a 'mini-group' was established just for that event. This then provided an opportunity for the schools and organiser to communicate with each other over the event if needed.</i></p> <p><i>This approach also helped with our Taster Session events. For these events, the final number of children that can participate depends on the number of schools who have entered. Therefore, the number of children to attend from each school can only be confirmed once a survey has closed. Sending these individual event emails was useful as within them, I was able to confirm the number of children who could attend from each school.</i></p> <p><i>The actual number of children from each school that eventually takes part in a Taster Session event usually ends up being different from the number published in the ATSA Directory. I will therefore be making a change with the 2025-2026 Directory to say that the number of participants from each school will be confirmed in the 'event email'.</i></p> <p><i>Therefore, event organisers could now start to make use of these emails to communicate any additional information or amended information with the schools in their event.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
I think ATSA is great but as a school on the outskirts of Wigan we are sometimes limited by staffing/transport costs to how many events we can attend. We have taken part in some national virtual whole school races in the last few years and wondered if something like this could be added if other schools were interested in an event where whole schools could take part.	<p><i>Some ATSA Virtual Events! This is a great idea!</i></p> <p><i>Please contact me to discuss how we could make some positive progress with this idea.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
An ATSA 'Sports Day'.	<i>The closest we have had to a 'Sports Day' style event was the ATSA Town Sports Athletics Event. This last took place at Leigh Harriers in 2017. The ATSA 'Tri-Kidz' Event has now replaced this event. I would be interested to hear more about your vision for this event. Please contact me to discuss this further.</i>

Wish	ATSA response
I think I would like ATSA to continue its flexible approach to always considering new opportunities as they become available during the year, whilst maintaining its calendar of well-established events.	<p><i>Thank you for your positive feedback. Each year, we evaluate the opportunities offered within ATSA as we look to maintain well-established events whilst embedding any new opportunities within our offer.</i></p> <p><i>We will continue to do this to ensure that ATSA evolves and remains 'relevant' in supporting children for the future.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
This is to continue to engage pupils in creative arts via arts competitions, dance competitions, poetry and to engage schools in this area. To seek the same sort of engagement that ATSA gets from sports competitions to mirror that in the creative arena.	<p><i>Thank you for your positive feedback. We have started to offer more creative 'Arts events' and more schools are engaging with these.</i></p> <p><i>We do have some staff within the ATSA schools who are keen to offer these events and it is good to see how these events are now becoming embedded within the ATSA offer.</i></p> <p><i>Thanks to Mrs C Roberts at Holy Family, we established a link with an 'expert' who could support the ATSA 'E-Sports' strand. However, we are still looking for a school based staff member to develop this strand.</i></p> <p><i>Should you know of anyone in your school who could help with this, for example, a Computing Leader, then please ask them to contact me so that we can develop things further.</i></p>
Wish	ATSA response
I think over the years ATSA has evolved to consider all groups of children, irrelevant of sporting ability. There have been many great non-sporting events over the years to accommodate all.	<i>Many thanks for your feedback.</i>



Mr M Grogan, Friday 16th May 2025