Potential barriers and possible strategies to overcome these for learners with SEND - PE

	Cognition & Learning	Communication & Interaction	Social, emotional & mental health	Physical, sensory & medical
Examples	Includes specific learning difficulties e.g. dyslexia, dyscalculia	Disordered language development Speech disorders	May struggle with emotional awareness/regulation, lack social skills	Visual/hearing impairments Physical disabilities
	This applies to pupils working 'significantly below year group expectations' e.g previous KS	Social interaction difficulties, including ASC	PE or body image anxiety which impacts resilience and self-esteem	
			Selective mutism	
Potential barriers to	Following instructions Following rules of a game	Cannot explain or tell adults of any discomfort.	The speed of some parts of lessons may produce anxiety	Cannot use all the equipment for PE.
learning in	Tollowing rules of a game	Possible sensory issues with	The use of timers or counting	Visual impairment would not be
PE	Following a beat or pattern in dance	equipment.	down for activities	able to see the games being played or skills being taught.
	Struggle to count the beat when dancing	May struggle working in a group. May find it difficult working	Anxiety related to completing a task in time with the rest of the class.	Hearing impairment, children would not hear a whistle in a game or be able to hear the
		and sharing in a team.	Dysregulation when not winning or when not hitting a target or scoring a goal/try/basket etc.	instructions.
			Children may not feel comfortable working in groups with higher achieving children.	

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			Anxiety around demonstrating/performing	
Suggested strategies and support	Give children smaller lists of instructions – use visuals wherever possible Count with the children and	Have methods to communicate discomforts they may be feeling, this may be a sign to tell an adult.	Rather than using a countdown timer tell children to do a certain number of passes and then stop.	Use images of skills and tasks for children with hearing impairments so they know what to do and when.
	adults to count instead of the children counting.	Lessons broken into manageable chunks learning one skill at a time.	Lessons broken into manageable chunks (children shown, children practice, children try again, children get	Visual impairments would need specialised equipment (balls with bells in)
	Retrieve rules at the start of lessons to help children to remember.	Work in smaller groups of children.	support if needed, skill gets put into a manageable game)	Physical impairment- other children could have restrictions on their
	Keep asking lots of questions about the rules to keep	Delivering instructions one by one	When playing a small game, allow children more opportunities to score to allow	movements e.g. volleyball played sat down.
	refreshing the children's memory.	Visual scaffolds of skills that children are learning.	them to achieve and see their achievement.	Show all children that there are sports specifically for people with physical
	Use images of different parts of the sequence in gymnastics so that children can see an	Use different equipment to help children feel some achievement e.g in cricket or	Flexible pairings and groupings to allow some peer support and independence	impairments e.g wheelchair rugby, boccia.
	image to follow.	tennis, children can use a tennis racket, when doing throwing and catching practise,	Delivering instructions one by one	Allow children to play disability sports and Paralympic activities.

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Give children small steps and actions to complete at once.	children to use a larger ball, larger, softer tennis balls so the ball is easier to catch and throw. Allow children to wear PE kit to suit their needs, e.g. pumps in gymnastics instead of bare foot.	Varied representations of tasks to complete (children to demonstrate, adults to demonstrate, help the child to understand the motion of throwing by doing it with them) Children could take on different roles to build confidence - e.g. observer/referee Children who may dysregulate when performing can have an option to perform to a smaller group if needed or could be offered the option to not perform to a lot of people.	Use different equipment to help children feel some achievement e.g in cricket or tennis, children can use a tennis racket, when doing throwing and catching practise, children to use a larger ball, larger, softer tennis balls so the ball is easier to catch and throw.
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