



Getting Started Checklist

Unified Sports Day or Unified Sports Festival

Host a Unified Sports Day or Unified Sports Festival at the school with students organizing a day of inclusive sports activities for the student body. This is an example of a whole school engagement activity that also includes Unified Sports and inclusive youth leadership.

- 1. Schedule a meeting with the Unified Champion Schools Leadership Team** to discuss hosting a Unified Sports Day at your school. Develop a timeline for planning, organizing and preparing for the activity. Decide if you will include volunteers, families, sponsors, or community members.
- 2. Engage your Unified Club and other inclusive youth leadership groups** in planning the event. Elementary students may work with a lot of adult support while older students may take the lead with adult guidance.
- 3. Develop a plan:**
 - **Set the date and time** for the event's activities. Be sure to secure administrative approval.
 - **Decide on the activities** to be included, and whether the day will have a theme or focus on a specific sport.
 - **Ensure all activities are accessible** to all students and participation opportunities are equitable.
 - **Create a plan for each task** that needs to be completed including deadlines and a list of who is responsible for each step.
 - **Finalize the activities** and clear them with all the necessary personnel like the PE department and administration before sharing with others.
- 4. Share the goals, logistics and activities with school staff.** Be sure to stress the positive impact it can have on creating a socially inclusive school climate.
- 5. Publicize the Unified Sports Day to your school.** Build up enthusiasm with promotion during announcements. Consider demonstration activities during lunch periods in the week before the event.
- 6. Share the event** with your community and invite local leaders to attend.
- 7. After the event, be sure to thank all of those involved with making it successful.** Send a special thank you note to any sponsors or donors. Use your school's website and social media to post photos, videos and stories about the event.