



Why do we include striking and fielding in our curriculum?

Progression in Key Skills

Develop fundamental movement skills 🏏

Striking and fielding games help children improve:

- hand–eye coordination
- catching and throwing technique
- running and sprinting
- striking accuracy (batting)

These skills transfer to many other sports.

Teach tactical awareness 🎯

Children learn how to:

- choose where to hit the ball
- select the best type of throw
- position themselves in the field
- anticipate opponents' movements

This builds strategic thinking and decision-making.

Understand attacking and defending 🏏

Striking = attacking (scoring runs)

Fielding = defending (preventing runs)

This dual perspective helps children understand game structures and teamwork.

Promote teamwork and communication 🤝

Players must:

- communicate in the field
- work as a batting pair
- support teammates
- coordinate roles and positions

These are key life skills, not just sports skills.

Build confidence in competitive situations 🌱

Striking and fielding games provide a *low-risk, high-enjoyment* way for children to:

- take turns in spotlight roles
- experience healthy competition
- learn to win and lose respectfully

This supports emotional development.

In Year 3 we:

- Use overarm and underarm throwing, and catching skills.
- Begin to strike a bowled ball after a bounce.
- Bowl a ball towards a target.
- Develop an understanding of tactics and begin to use them in game situations.

In Year 4 we:

- Use overarm and underarm throwing, and catching skills with increasing accuracy.
- Strike a bowled ball after a bounce.
- Bowl a ball with some accuracy, and consistency.
- Choose and use simple tactics for different situations.

In Year 5 we:

- Strike a bowled ball after a bounce with increasing accuracy.
- Begin to develop a wider range of skills and use these under some pressure.
- Use tactics effectively in a competitive situation.

In Year 6 we:

- Strike a bowled ball with increasing consistency.
- Use some tactics in the game as a batter, bowler and fielder.
- Select the appropriate action for the game situation.

Non-Physical Skill Focus	Enjoying striking and fielding? What career could you take this enjoyment into?
<p>In our striking and fielding unit we raise the importance of developing non-physical skills. In particular, the focus is on cooperating and collaborating successfully with others.</p> <p>In Year 3 our targets we develop are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can take on simple roles and responsibilities I can discuss with others in a small group I can encourage and support others <p>In Year 4 our targets we develop are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can take on a variety of roles and responsibilities I can debate different thoughts and opinions in a group I can give and receive helpful feedback to others <p>In Year 5 our targets we develop are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can take on more demanding roles and responsibilities I can negotiate with others in a group I can give and receive sensitive feedback <p>In Year 6 our targets we develop are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can take on all roles and responsibilities confidently I can involve and motivate others in a group I can give and receive specific critical feedback. 	<p><u>Sports Coach</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coaching: cricket teams, softball/baseball clubs, school or community teams. Helps others develop technique and tactics. <p><u>Sports Physiotherapist</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping athletes recover from injuries and stay healthy. <p><u>Sports Analyst / Performance Analyst</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using technology and data to study: batting performance, fielding patterns, team strategies This role is now common in professional cricket. <p><u>Sports Broadcaster / Commentator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about matches, analysing plays, and sharing expertise on TV, radio or online. <p><u>Sports Equipment Designer / Technician</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designing or testing: bats, balls, protective gear, gloves, batting equipment. Great for those with an interest in STEM and sport. <p><u>Umpire or Referee</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officiating games and making sure rules are followed fairly. <p><u>Groundskeeper</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparing and maintaining pitches for cricket, baseball, and softball — especially important for gameplay quality and safety. <p><u>Sports Scientist</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working on: reaction times, speed and agility, strength conditioning, throwing and striking technique. This is key in high-performance sport.

Key Vocabulary

In Years 3 and 4 we develop understanding of: batting, fielding, bowler, base, rounder, backstop, score, runs, innings, umpire.

In Years 5 and 6 we develop understanding of: stance, wicket, boundary, innings, the crease or batting point, non-striker, leg-side, offside, home base, pitch, over.

Cricket Skills



BATTING

— Top tips —

Keep your eye on the ball
Swing with control



BOWLING

— Top tips —

Aim for accuracy
Use a smooth action



FIELDING

— Top tips —

Stay low



CATCHING

— Watch the ball —

Use two hands