

## PEER REVIEW HISTORY

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### ARTICLE DETAILS

<b>TITLE (PROVISIONAL)</b>	Developing a core outcome set for physical activity interventions in primary schools: a modified-Delphi study
<b>AUTHORS</b>	Ram, Bina; Foley, Kimberley; van Sluijs, Esther; Hargreaves, Dougal; Viner, Russell; Saxena, Sonia

### VERSION 1 – REVIEW

<b>REVIEWER</b>	Kennedy, Sarah University of Newcastle, School of Education
<b>REVIEW RETURNED</b>	15-Feb-2022

<b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b>	<p>Overall comment Thank you for the opportunity to review this manuscript. The authors present a valuable contribution to the literature on a COS for school-based physical activity interventions. Detail in this manuscript will provide useful information for future researchers to continue to improve outcome selection and assessment in schools – teamed with their suggested future work to identify these specific outcomes. I have noted points below that I believe require attention.</p> <p>Specific comments Introduction Page 5 Line 76: “potential to reach all children” suggest changing to “majority”, to consider the various reasons as to why some children and youth do not attend school. Lines 77-78: Suggest restructuring this section of the paragraph. It is not currently clear from the wording (until the references are checked) that you are referring to health disparities based on SES. A full stop after poverty, and then briefly introducing the relationship between SES and physical activity behaviour would be more appropriate. Second paragraph: Suggest significant rewording and combining with previous paragraph. This information could further elaborate the point made regarding the potential reach of school-based interventions, and how this helps reduce disparities in low SES children and youth.</p> <p>Page 6 Introduce BMI abbreviation at first instance.</p> <p>Page 12 Inclusion of appetite in the social and emotional health domain – did you consider other aspects of diet, such as binge eating, within this domain?</p>
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	<p>Table 1.  The definitions provided for diet and fitness imply a positively directed relationship, rather than an overarching 'definition' (i.e., diet can be unbalanced, fitness can be poor and not optimal).  Musculoskeletal definition: why are only skeletal elements included in the definition and nothing to do with the muscles?  Sleep: seems more like a suggestion than a definition?  Appetite: as with the point made re diet and fitness, this is positively directed. Considering the placement of this aspect of diet in the social and emotional health domain, I would encourage the authors to consider the flip side of appetite. However, for this table the requirement is for a definition and that also requires an edit to present a neutral description of the word.  Body awareness: this definition requires some additional clarification.</p> <p>Page 18  Line 271-272: "75% had English as a second language" – Out of interest, is this a representative proportion of the population for this age group? If so, would be good to comment on this. If not, perhaps comment on the reasoning and if/how this may have impacted the generalisability of the findings. Do you also have SES information for this group of students?</p> <p>Page 20  Second paragraph: A stronger link as to why the measurement of mental health outcomes is occurring in physical activity interventions, and why this is important, needs to be included here. Consider including the benefits of adequate physical activity and higher levels of fitness on mental health, and the increasing mental pressures on young people, for this reasoning.</p> <p>Page 21  First paragraph: also consider that the core business of schools is – learning. If an intervention can assist in enhancing the capacity of a student to learn (across various learning areas, not just one specific subject), whilst also improving their physical and mental health, it is going to increase the acceptability of the intervention. This would then likely lead to rise in interest from schools.  Suggest including reference to McKay, et al. (2019). Implementation and scale-up of physical activity and behavioural nutrition interventions: an evaluation roadmap. International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity, 16(1), 1-12. In your discussion surrounding data collection/evaluation frameworks.</p> <p>Page 22  Also consider how the needs of stakeholders/aim of the intervention/population group targeted/scale of intervention may influence the selection of outcomes.</p> <p>Page 23  Very well written and honest strengths and limitations sections – great work. Some of the points noted are slightly linked to the suggestion I have made to expand upon in the discussion (such as the mental health and choosing relevant outcomes) – which I think will tie back together nicely with a little more detail within the discussion.</p>
<b>REVIEWER</b>	<p>Małosz, Piotr  University of Rzeszów, Faculty of Physical Education</p>

<b>REVIEW RETURNED</b>	02-May-2022
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<b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b>	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to review this interesting, important and well-written manuscript.</p> <p>The authors developed a Core Outcome Set (COS) for physical activity interventions in primary schools. Considering significant heterogeneity of outcomes in recent literature in the above-mentioned topic, this work seems to be very important. The manuscript is clear and well organized, and the conclusions are adequately supported by references; however, I would like to share some of my suggestions which the authors could consider to improve the manuscript.</p> <p>Major</p> <p>Table 1 The definitions of outcomes classified in the first domain (physical activity and health) could be questioned. The authors state that the 'definitions were generated for each outcome based on those provided by authors of the relevant studies and discussions with our Steering Committee', but I have some major concerns regarding this procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bioimpedance – among the items detailed as the definition of this term in the reviewer's opinion, only 'body fat' could fit. Furthermore, the "bioimpedance" should rather be considered as one of the methods, among others, used to assess body fat. Since the authors state that the identification of best assessment tools (methods ?) to measure outcomes defined in COS should be the next step, this approach seems to be confusing. Therefore, the definition provided by the authors did not fit the outcome. If the definition provided for this item was the merged outcomes of the umbrella review then the proper merged outcome should be, for example, "anthropometry" or "body composition".</li> <li>- The terms 'weight' and 'body mass' seem to be synonyms; could the authors provide some rationale or differentiation for this?</li> <li>- Energy levels / expenditure - The provided definition fits mostly to Resting Energy Expenditure, but the outcome itself seems to be much more broad – including also the Total Energy Expenditure (related with the physical activity level)</li> <li>- Intensity of physical activity – the authors could consider adding the MET cut-offs next to a description of each intensity level.</li> <li>- Motor skills: 'swimming', are doubled.</li> <li>- Musculoskeletal – In the opinion of the reviewer, the definition does not match the outcome. The Bone strength and the bone mineral density usually measured with DXA are much more closely related to body composition outcomes, as the term "musculoskeletal" are rather used in context of the body system or muscle tissue type, moreover it is really hard to acknowledge this term as the outcome – what methods/tools could be used to assess the 'Musculoskeletal' as an outcome?</li> <li>- Since the authors did not publish the results of the umbrella review itself, I would suggest adding next to each outcome the numbers of studies (from the Supplemental File 3) from which each of the outcomes was taken.</li> </ul> <p>Taking into account the whole domain 1: physical activity and health could be questioned (which, in the opinion of the reviewer, seems to be the most important, since the study aims corresponds to physical activity interventions in the first place), which could explain why it</p>
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	<p>was so underrepresent after the Delphi surveys. If participants received that set of outcomes (some of which were hard to consider as outcome) with confusing definitions, they may focus more on other domains that seemed to be more reliable.</p> <p>Since this stage was crucial for all subsequent stages, in the opinion of reviewer it could undermine all further results and interpretations.</p> <p>Table 2 – I strongly suggest adding the % of participants who rated each outcome 'not important' next to 'critical', since both were included in the inclusion threshold (&gt;70% and &lt;15%)</p> <p>Page 18, line 277 – The fact that only 13 participants attended the stakeholder meeting (approximately 10% of the initial group – n=104) should be considered an important limitation of the present study, potentially even more important than widely described geographical underrepresentation.</p> <p>Minor          Figure 1 - In round 2 of stage 3 (prioritisation), the researchers' group seems to be doubled          Table 3 – The domain of physical activity and health includes an outcome 'energy' in the table that is not mentioned anywhere in the text.</p> <p>The discussion          Page 20, line 304 – when the authors state 'under these concepts', it could be confusing to the reader whether this sentence refers to the results 'physical activity intensity' and 'fitness' or the domain of physical activity.          Page 21, line 333 - please expand the abbreviation 'RE-AIM'</p>
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**VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE**

<b>REVIEWER 1</b>		
<p>Introduction</p> <p>1. Page 5</p> <p>(a) Line 76: “potential to reach all children” suggest changing to “majority”, to consider the various reasons as to why some children and youth do not attend school.</p> <p>(b) Lines 77-78: Suggest restructuring this section of the paragraph. It is not currently</p>	<p>(a) We have changed the wording from ‘all’ to ‘majority’</p> <p>(b) We have restructured this section of the paragraph.</p> <p>(c) We have re-worded the section and combined this with the first paragraph as requested.</p>	<p><b>Introduction, Page 4, lines 71-81</b></p> <p>“School settings are ideal as they have the potential to reach the majority of children across society[5, 6] including those living in poverty. Socio-economic inequalities have been associated with moderate, and vigorous physical activity and may contribute to widening health inequalities.[7] Targeting schools therefore could help towards reducing the gap in physical activity among children.[7, 8] As a result of governments and the WHO recommendations</p>

<p>clear from the wording (until the references are checked) that you are referring to health disparities based on SES. A full stop after poverty, and then briefly introducing the relationship between SES and physical activity behaviour would be more appropriate.</p> <p>(c) Second paragraph: Suggest significant rewording and combining with previous paragraph. This information could further elaborate the point made regarding the potential reach of school-based interventions, and how this helps reduce disparities in low SES children and youth.</p>		<p>of physical activity promotion and engagement in schools, there are many physical activity interventions that are implemented. However, the interventions vary in design. Some interventions integrate additional physical education classes alongside compulsory physical education lessons,[9] whilst some may incorporate 10 minutes of physical activity into every school day.[10] There are also others which implement classroom movement breaks[11] or active mile interventions.[12, 13]”</p>
<p>2. Page 6</p> <p>Introduce BMI abbreviation at first instance.</p>	<p>Thank you for spotting this - we had missed adding the abbreviation in the first mention of body mass index. This has now been added to the Introduction (Page 5, line 102).</p>	
<p>3. Page 12</p> <p>Inclusion of appetite in the social and emotional health domain – did you consider other aspects of diet, such as binge eating, within this domain?</p>	<p>‘Binge eating’ was not identified as an outcome in the published literature nor mentioned in the Steering Group Focus Group and therefore not included. Binge eating may be less relevant to primary school aged children.</p>	
<p>4. Table 1.</p> <p>The definitions provided for diet and</p>	<p>We agree with the reviewer that the ‘definitions’ of are in fact descriptions of the outcomes; some may include a definition</p>	<p><b>Table 1, Pages 10-12</b>  <u>Title:</u> “List of 50 outcomes and their descriptions by</p>

<p>fitness imply a positively directed relationship, rather than an overarching 'definition' (i.e., diet can be unbalanced, fitness can be poor and not optimal). Musculoskeletal definition: why are only skeletal elements included in the definition and nothing to do with the muscles? Sleep: seems more like a suggestion than a definition? Appetite: as with the point made re diet and fitness, this is positively directed. Considering the placement of this aspect of diet in the social and emotional health domain, I would encourage the authors to consider the flip side of appetite. However, for this table the requirement is for a definition and that also requires an edit to present a neutral description of the word. Body awareness: this definition requires some additional clarification.</p>	<p>whilst others include a positively directed relationship or suggestion. The 'definitions' were extracted from the published literature and identified from our focus group with our Steering Group members. Across the studies, there were variations of how the outcomes were defined or described, if at all. We have considered the reviewer suggestions but methodologically we think it is important to include how the information was presented to the participants to interpret the results. For clarity we have: (a) amended the title of Table 1 by replacing 'definition' with 'description' (and changed this throughout the manuscript) and added a footnote to explain how the descriptions were created; (b) added 'muscle' to the description of 'musculoskeletal' and provided a footnote to state that participants were not presented with this term in the description; (c) added a sentence to the Methods and Results to clarify how the descriptions were created; and (d) addressed the wide variations across the studies when describing the outcomes as a limitation in the Discussion.</p>	<p>domain, and the number of studies from which the outcomes were extracted." <u>Footnote</u>: "Descriptions were guided by the published literature and our Steering Group members." <u>Description of 'musculoskeletal'</u>: "Bone strength, bone mineral density, muscle" <u>Footnote</u>: "'Muscle' was not included in the original description presented to the participants. This was added based on reviewer suggestions."  <b>Methods, Page 6, Lines 153-154</b> "Descriptions of each outcome were guided by the published literature and discussions with our Steering Group."  <b>Results, Page 8, Lines 222-225</b> "However, we identified variations across studies of how the outcomes were defined or described if at all." "We created the description for each outcome guided by the literature and from discussions with our Steering Group."  <b>Discussion, Page 18, lines 384-387</b> "The descriptions of each outcome were guided by the published literature. We had found variations in how the outcomes were described across studies. This resulted in our descriptions for each outcome either being a definition, suggestion, implying a positively directed relationship, or a combination of these. Further research is needed to identify neutral</p>
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		descriptions of outcomes.”
<p>5. Page 18</p> <p>Line 271-272: “75% had English as a second language” – Out of interest, is this a representative proportion of the population for this age group? If so, would be good to comment on this. If not, perhaps comment on the reasoning and if/how this may have impacted the generalisability of the findings. Do you also have SES information for this group of students?</p>	<p>According to the ‘<i>Percentage of Pupils by First Language, Borough</i>’ from the Department for Education in 2018, 48% of all primary school aged children in London do not have English as a first language (see: <a href="https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/percentage-pupils-first-language-borough">https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/percentage-pupils-first-language-borough</a>)</p> <p>We have added a sentence to the Discussion to describe the comparison of children in our study to that of the average for London primary school children.</p> <p>We did not collect SES information of the children.</p>	<p><b>Discussion, Page 19, Lines 407-409</b></p> <p>“In addition, our representation of children with English as a second language was much higher (75%) than the average number of children with English as a second language in London primary schools (48%).[47]”</p>
<p>6. Page 20</p> <p>Second paragraph: A stronger link as to why the measurement of mental health outcomes is occurring in physical activity interventions, and why this is important, needs to be included here. Consider including the benefits of adequate physical activity and higher levels of fitness on mental health, and the increasing mental pressures on young people, for this reasoning.</p>	<p>We have added detail to provide a stronger link of why mental health should be measured as part of physical activity interventions.</p>	<p><b>Discussion, Page 16, Lines 315-322</b></p> <p>“In the published literature, we found only 10 studies which measured outcomes that related to mental health, yet all our stakeholders placed critical importance on many of the outcomes under the domain of social and emotional health. These findings may be explained by the growing awareness of poor mental health in children and the growing evidence base of associations between increased physical and better mental health.”</p>
<p>7. Page 21</p> <p>(a) First paragraph: also consider that the core business of schools is – learning. If an intervention can</p>	<p>(a) We agree with the reviewer and have added text this to the paragraph.</p>	<p><b>Discussion, Page 17, Lines 342-346</b></p> <p>“Schools provide children with learning a range of subjects. However, if increased physical activity in schools enhance children’s</p>

<p>assist in enhancing the capacity of a student to learn (across various learning areas, not just one specific subject), whilst also improving their physical and mental health, it is going to increase the acceptability of the intervention. This would then likely lead to rise in interest from schools.</p> <p>(b) Suggest including reference to McKay, et al. (2019). Implementation and scale-up of physical activity and behavioural nutrition interventions: an evaluation roadmap. International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity, 16(1), 1-12. In your discussion surrounding data collection/evaluation frameworks.</p>	<p>(b) We have added this reference to the data collection / evaluation frameworks as suggested (Page 16).</p>	<p>learning by improving their physical and mental health, this will likely increase the acceptability of physical activity interventions in schools. This may therefore generate a greater interest from schools to implement these interventions.”</p> <p><b>Discussion, Page 17, Lines 360-362</b>  “A study by McKay and colleagues (2019), prioritised a list of frameworks to improve the quality and consistency of implementing interventions to ensure that interventions are effectively delivered to achieve population level benefits.” [40]</p>
<p>8. Page 22</p> <p>Also consider how the needs of stakeholders/aim of the intervention/population group targeted/scale of intervention may influence the selection of outcomes.</p>	<p>We have added additional text to explain what should be considered when developing COS's.</p>	<p><b>Discussion, Page 18, Lines 371-374</b>  “Developing COS's require the need to consider the aims and scale of the intervention, the population groups being targeted, and the needs of the stakeholders. Our COS, focussed on physical activity interventions in primary schools, developed in consultation</p>



		with those who would benefit the most to better understand intervention effects, should be considered as part of a set of tools for wider improvement of health in primary schools”
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<b>REVIEWER 2</b>		
<p>1. Table 1</p> <p>(a) The definitions of outcomes classified in the first domain (physical activity and health) could be questioned. The authors state that the 'definitions were generated for each outcome based on those provided by authors of the relevant studies and discussions with our Steering Committee', but I have some major concerns regarding this procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bioimpedance – among the items detailed as the definition of this term in the reviewer's opinion, only 'body fat' could fit. Furthermore, the "bioimpedance" should rather be considered as one of the methods, among others, used to assess body fat. Since the authors state that the identification of best assessment tools (methods</li> </ul>	<p>(a) Please see response to Reviewer 1 #4. We agree that the outcomes include descriptions of the outcomes rather than definitions. These were guided by the published literature (where we identified wide variations of how outcomes were described across studies), and from discussions with our Steering Group. We have replaced the word 'definitions' with 'descriptions' throughout the manuscript.</p> <p>We have considered all of the reviewer's suggestions but by making considerable changes to the descriptions would not be a true reflection of what the participants were presented with when they rated each outcome, and may have resulted in different ratings. However, as per the response to Reviewer 1 #4, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) changed the title of Table 1 to reflect a 'description' of outcomes.</li> <li>(b) changed 'bio-impedance' to 'anthropometry' and added 'muscle' to the description of 'musculoskeletal.' We have included a footnote to explain that these terms were not included in the original description presented to the participants</li> <li>(c) removed the duplication of 'swimming' under Motor Skills.</li> <li>(d) added text to our Discussion to include the 'descriptions' of the outcomes as a methodological limitation.</li> </ul>	

<p>?) to measure outcomes defined in COS should be the next step, this approach seems to be confusing. Therefore, the definition provided by the authors did not fit the outcome. If the definition provided for this item was the merged outcomes of the umbrella review then the proper merged outcome should be, for example, “anthropometry” or “body composition”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The terms 'weight' and 'body mass' seem to be synonyms; could the authors provide some rationale or differentiation for this?</li> <li>- Energy levels / expenditure - The provided definition fits mostly to Resting Energy Expenditure, but the outcome itself seems to be much more broad – including also the Total Energy Expenditure (related with the physical activity level)</li> <li>- Intensity of physical activity – the authors could consider adding the MET cut-offs next to a description of</li> </ul>	<p>(b) In Table 1, we have now added the number of studies from which each outcome was taken or whether the outcome was identified by our focus group (please see Appendix 1 of this document). In addition, we think that a list of the 74 studies from which the outcomes were identified would be more relevant as Supplemental File 3 instead of the list of the 53 reviews. We have therefore replaced the original Supplemental File 3 with a list of the 74 studies extracted from the reviews (please see Appendix 2 of this document)</p>	
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<p>each intensity level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Motor skills: 'swimming', are doubled.</li> <li>- Musculoskeletal             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– In the opinion of the reviewer, the definition does not match the outcome. The Bone strength and the bone mineral density usually measured with DXA are much more closely related to body composition outcomes, as the term “musculoskeletal” are rather used in context of the body system or muscle tissue type, moreover it is really hard to acknowledge this term as the outcome – what methods/tools could be used to assess the 'Musculoskeletal' as an outcome?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>(b) Since the authors did not publish the results of the umbrella review itself, I would suggest adding next to each outcome the numbers of studies (from the Supplemental File 3) from which each of the outcomes was taken.</p>		
<p>2. Taking into account the whole domain 1: physical</p>	<p>We appreciate the reviewers' opinion but highlight that the purpose of the Delphi process is to gain consensus on the most important outcomes. Our work shows that there appears to be a lack of consensus of</p>	<p><b>Discussion, Page 16, Lines 306-313</b>          “As discussed in our consensus meeting, the underrepresentation of</p>

<p>activity and health could be questioned (which, in the opinion of the reviewer, seems to be the most important, since the study aims corresponds to physical activity interventions in the first place), which could explain why it was so underrepresented after the Delphi surveys. If participants received that set of outcomes (some of which were hard to consider as outcome) with confusing definitions, they may focus more on other domains that seemed to be more reliable.</p> <p>Since this stage was crucial for all subsequent stages, in the opinion of reviewer it could undermine all further results and interpretations.</p>	<p>which outcome is the most important to measure in this domain, and is also reflected in that many outcomes had high ratings, but did not reach the pre-specified level for consensus (i.e., we believe that the specificity of the outcomes under this domain may have caused their underrepresentation rather than the definitions/descriptions). We have added text to the Discussion to clarify this.</p>	<p>outcomes rated critically important in the physical activity domain may have been due to the specificity of outcomes listed. For example researchers agree that physical activity should be measured but do not agree on which specific outcome to measure. This would explain the wide variation of physical activity outcomes that were identified from the published literature. Physical activity can have many benefits beyond measuring its impact on particular health or clinical outcomes. Therefore our participants agreed that measuring physical activity is important and should be included.”</p>
<p>3. Table 2 – I strongly suggest adding the % of participants</p>	<p>We have added the percentage of participants who rated each outcome not important to Table 2. Please see Appendix 3 with this document.</p>	

<p>who rated each outcome 'not important' next to 'critical', since both were included in the inclusion threshold (&gt;70% and &lt;15%)</p>		
<p>4. Page 18, line 277 – The fact that only 13 participants attended the stakeholder meeting (approximately 10% of the initial group – n=104) should be considered an important limitation of the present study, potentially even more important than widely described geographical underrepresentation.</p>	<p>We have acknowledged this as a limitation.</p>	<p><b>Discussion, Page 18, Lines 387-392</b>          “The low attendance of participants in our consensus meeting which did not include a representation for the educators stakeholder group, may have possibly limited further discussions of the outcomes that should be included in the COS. However, the final list of outcomes was circulated to all the participants who completed both rounds of the Delphi survey and an opportunity to comment further was provided before the final outcome set was agreed.”</p>
<p>5.</p> <p>(a) Figure 1 - In round 2 of stage 3 (prioritisation), the researchers' group seems to be doubled</p> <p>(b) Table 3 – The domain of physical activity and health includes an outcome 'energy' in the table that is</p>	<p>(a) Thank you for spotting this. The duplication has been removed in Figure 1.</p> <p>(b) 'Energy' was identified by the children as being important and is mentioned on Page 14, line 272. In our Methods section under the heading 'Stakeholder Meeting' we state that the results of the Delphi surveys along with children's views were considered for discussion.</p>	

not mentioned anywhere in the text.		
<p>6. Discussion</p> <p>(a) Page 20, line 304 – when the authors state ‘under these concepts’, it could be confusing to the reader whether this sentence refers to the results ‘physical activity intensity’ and ‘fitness’ or the domain of physical activity.</p> <p>(b) Page 21, line 333 - please expand the abbreviation ‘RE-AIM’</p>	<p>(a) We have replaced ‘concepts’ with ‘domain’ for clarification.</p> <p>(b) We have expanded the abbreviation of RE-AIM.</p>	<p><b>Discussion, Page 16, Lines 302-303</b>  “...that may fit under this domain include...”</p> <p><b>Discussion Page 17, Lines 351-352</b>  “...RE-AIM (Reach, Effectiveness, Adoption, Implementation, Maintenance).”</p>

## References

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6. Waters E, de Silva-Sanigorski A, Hall BJ, et al. Interventions for preventing obesity in children. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev.* 2011(12):CD001871.
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40. McKay H, Naylor PJ, Lau E, et al. Implementation and scale-up of physical activity and behavioural nutrition interventions: an evaluation roadmap. *Int J Behav Nutr Phy.* 2019;16(1).
47. Department for Education. Percentage of Pupils by First Language, Borough. UK; 2018. [Available from: <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/percentage-pupils-first-language-borough> (Accessed June 2022)].

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APPENDIX 1. Table 1. List of 50 outcomes and their descriptions by domain, and the number of studies from which the outcomes were extracted

Domain	Outcomes measured	Description <sup>1</sup>	Studies <sup>2</sup>
1: Physical activity and health	Active travel	To get to and from school, for example, walking, public transport i.e., train/tube/bus (do not include car, van, motorcycle), cycling, scooter	FG*
	Anthropometry <sup>a</sup>	Weight, height, body mass index (BMI) body fat, body mass, waist circumference	34
	Blood lipids	Fatty substances found in the blood (i.e., cholesterol, triglycerides) which increase the risk of heart attack	2
	Blood pressure	The force at which your heart pumps blood around your body and the resistance to the blood flow in the blood vessels	2
	Diet	Varied and balanced diet including fruit and vegetables	FG*
	Energy levels / expenditure	The amount of energy needed to carry out physical functions such as breathing, exercising or digesting food	5
	Fitness	Being fit and healthy for optimal health and overall wellbeing	16
	Heart rate	Number of beats per minutes (BPM) to establish normal resting heart rate, high or low heart rate	5
	Intensity of physical activity	Includes light activity (i.e., taking a stroll); moderate activity (i.e., cycling / swimming at regular pace, sweeping, washing windows); and vigorous activity (i.e., aerobics, running, fast cycling or swimming, climbing stairs)	42
	Leisure time activity	Time spent in activity for leisure during the day (i.e., walking in the park, playing sports with friends/family)	FG*
	Motor skills	Skills that require using large muscles of the arms/legs/torso, i.e., standing, walking, going up and down stairs, running, swimming, jumping, skipping, leaping, kicking	8
	Musculoskeletal	Bone strength, bone mineral density, muscle <sup>b</sup>	8
	Peak oxygen intake	The maximal rate at which oxygen can be used by the body during maximal work	1
	Sedentary time	Time spent sitting at desk, reading, sitting or lying down to watch television	7
	Sleep	Between approximately 10 to 12 hours per night	FG*
Step counts	Number of steps taken in a day	13	
2: Social and emotional	Anxiety	Persistent feeling of worry, fear or nervousness	FG*
	Appetite	Eating well and regularly	FG*
	Body	The ability to recognize one's body moves helping to	1

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health	awareness	understand how to relate to objects and people at home, at school and outdoors	
	Body image	The perception one has of their physical self	1
	Depression	Feeling persistently sad for more than a few days	FG*
	Empowerment	Feeling a sense of becoming stronger and more confident	FG*
	Enjoyment	Taking pleasure in doing something	3
	Happiness	Feeling a sense of joy and contentment	FG*
APPENDIX 1 continued			
	Mood	A state of mind or a feeling such as happy, sad, cheerful or angry	FG*
	Peer support	Using one's own experiences to help others	1
	Resilience	The ability to recover quickly from difficulties	FG*
	Satisfaction	A sense of fulfilling a need, desire or appetite	FG*
	Self-confidence	A feeling of trust in one's abilities, qualities, and judgment	FG*
	Self-efficacy	A person's belief of their capacity to perform behaviours necessary to produce specific performance attainments	2
	Self-esteem	A factor that influences people's choices and decisions which results in them either taking or not taking care of themselves and explore their full potential	1
	Self-expression	The communication of one's personality, feelings, or opinions	FG*
	Self-perception	Attitudes towards own preferences and behaviour	1
	Sickness	Feeling unwell, nauseous, dizzy	FG*
	Sleep patterns	Sleep patterns /achieving less than recommended (10-12 hours) / broken sleep	FG*
	Social interaction	An exchange between two or more people	FG*
	Stress	Feeling under pressure or threatened	FG*
	Wellbeing	Feeling well, happy, healthy and ability to manage stress	FG*
3: Educational performance	Academic performance	Measurement of a child's achievement over a range of academic subjects	20
	Attention	Taking notice of someone or something	6
	Classroom behaviour	How children are acting in the classroom in response to what is going on or present around them	15
	Cognitive development / function	How children think, explore and figure things out	6
	Concentration	Ability to focus on task	16
	Engagement	The degree of attention, curiosity, interest, optimism, and passion that children show when they are learning or being taught	5
	Executive functioning	A set of mental skills including working memory, flexible thinking, and self-control to apply to everyday learning, work, and daily life	4
	Focus	Ability to concentrate and not easily distracted	16
	Maths	The study of numbers, shapes and patterns	16
	Reading	A cognitive process that involves decoding symbols to arrive at meaning, the primary	8
			16



APPENDIX 1 continued

Working memory / inhibition	A cognitive system with a limited capacity that can hold information temporarily and is important for reasoning, decision-making and behaviour	6
Writing	A form of communication to express language using symbols; being able to understand grammar, punctuation, spelling, and vocabulary	5

<sup>1</sup>Descriptions were guided by the published literature and our Steering Group.

<sup>2</sup>From the 74 studies identified from the 53 relevant reviews

\*FG = outcome identified by our Focus Group (Steering Group)

<sup>a</sup>Anthropometry was presented as 'Bio-impedance' to participants. Changed to 'Anthropometry' based on reviewer suggestions.

<sup>b</sup>'Muscle' was not included in the original description presented to participants. This was added based on reviewer suggestions.

APPENDIX 2. Supplemental File 3. List of 74 studies extracted from the relevant reviews

	Author(s)	Year	Title	Journal
1	Ahamed Y., MacDonald H., Reed K., Naylor PJ., Liu-Ambrose T., and McKay H.	2007	School-based physical activity does not compromise children's academic performance	Psychology and Behavioural Strategies (39(2):371-6)
2	Bryant ES., Duncan MJ., Birch SL., and James RS.	2016	Can fundamental movement skill mastery be increased via a six-week physical activity intervention to have positive effects on physical activity and physical self-perception?	Sports (16(4))
3	Cradock AL., Barrett JL., Carter J., McHugh A., Sproul J., Russon ET., et al.	2014	Impact of the Boston active school day policy to promote physical activity among children	American Journal of Health Promotion (28(3))
4	Crova C., Struzzolino I., Marchetti R., Masci I., Vannozzi G., Forte R., et al.	2014	Cognitive challenging physical activity benefits executive function in overweight children	Journal of Sports Science (32(3), 201-211)
5	Dalziell A., Boyle J., and Mutrie N.	2015	Better movers and thinkers (BMT): an exploratory study of innovative approach to physical education	Europe's Journal of Psychology (11(4), 722-741)

6	de Greef JW., Hartman E., Mullender-Wijnsma MJ., Bosker RJ., Doolard S., and Visscher C.	2016	Long-term effects of physically active academic lessons on physical fitness and executive functions in primary school children	Health Education Research (31:2), 185-194)
7	Donnelly JE., Greene JL., Gibson CA., Smith BK., Washburn RA., Sullivan DK., et al.	2009	Physical activity across the curriculum (PAAC): a randomised controlled trial to promote physical activity and diminish overweight and obesity in elementary school children	Preventative Medicine (49, 336-341)
8	Donnelly JE., Hillman CH., Greene JL., Hansen DM., Gibsone CA., Sullivan DK., et al.	2017	Physical activity and academic achievement across the curriculum: Results from a 3 year cluster randomised trial	Preventative Medicine (99, 140-145)
9	Drummy C., Murtagh EM., McKee DP., Breslin G., Davision GW., and Murphy MH.	2016	The effect of a classroom activity break on physical activity levels and adiposity in primary school children	Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health (52, 745–749)
10	Duncan MJ., Al-Nakeeb Y., and Nevill AM.	2009	Effects of a six-week circuit training intervention on body esteem and body mass index in British Primary school children	Body Image (6, 216-220)
11	Erwin H., Fedewa A, and Ahn S.	2013	Student Academic Performance Outcomes of a Classroom Physical Activity Intervention: A Pilot Study	International Electronic Journal of Elementary Education (5(2), 109-124)

## APPENDIX 2 continued

12	Erwin HE., Beighle A., Morgan, CF., and Noland M.	2011	Effect of a low-cost, teacher-directed classroom intervention on elementary students physical activity	Journal of School Health (81(8), 455-461)
13	Erwin HE., Abel MG., Beighle A., and Beets MW.	2011	Promoting children's health through physically active math classes: a pilot study	Health Promotion Practice (12(2), 244-251)
14	Faigenbaum AD., Bush JA., McLoone RP., Kreckel MC., Farrell A., Ratamess NA., et al.	2015	Benefits of strength and skill based training during primary school and physical education	Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research (29(5), 1255-1262)
15	Fairclough SJ., McGrane B., Sanders G., Taylor S., Owen M., and Curry W.	2016	A non-equivalent group pilot trial of a school-based physical activity and fitness intervention for 10-11 year old English children: born to move	BMC Public Health (16:861)
16	Fedewa AI, Ahn S, and Erwin H.	2015	A randomised control design investigating the effects of classroom based physical activity on children's fluid intelligence and achievement	School Psychology International (36(2) 135-153)
17	Gallotta MC., Emerenziani GP.,	2015	Impacts of coordinative training on normal weight and overweight/obese	Frontiers in Human Neuroscience

	Iazzoni S., Meucci M., Baldari C., and Guidetti L.		children's attentional performance	(9:577)
18	Goh, TL.	2017	Children's physical activity and on task behaviour following active academic lessons	Quest (69:2, 177-186)
19	Grieco LA., Jowers EM., Errisuriz VL., and Bartholomew JB.	2016	Physically active vs sedentary academic lessons: two exploratory studies	Preventative Medicine (89, 98-103)
20	Grieco LA., Jowers EM., Errisuriz VL., and Bartholomew JB.	2009	Physically active lessons and time on task: the moderating effect of body mass index	Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise (41(10):1921-6)
21	Have M., Nielson JH., Ernst MT., Geji AK., Fredens K., Grontved A., et al.	2018	Classroom based physical activity improves children's math achievement - a randomised controlled trial	PLoS ONE (13:12)
22	Hill L., Williams JHG., Aucott L., Milne J., Thomson J., Greig J., et al.	2010	Exercising attention within the classroom	Developmental Medicine & Child Neurology (52(10):929-34)
23	Howie EK., Beets MW., and Pate RP.	2014	Acute classroom exercise breaks improve on task behaviour in 4th and 5th grade students: a dose-response	Mental Health and Physical Activity (7, 65-71)
24	Howie EK., Schatz J., and Pate RP.	2015	Acute effects of classroom exercise breaks on executive function and math performance: a dose response study	Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport (86:3, 217-224)
APPENDIX 2 continued				
25	Hraste M., Giorgio AD., Jelaska PM., Padulo J., and Granic I.	2018	When mathematics meets physical activity in the school aged child: The effects of an integrated motor and cognitive approach to learning geometry	PLoS ONE (13(8))
26	Klakk H., Chinapaw M., Heidemann M., Anderson LB., and Wedderkopp N.	2013	Effect of four additional physical education lessons on body composition in children aged 8 - 13 years - a prospective study during two school years	BMC Pediatrics (13:170)
27	Lazaar N., Aucouturier J., Ratel S., Rance M., Meyer M., and Duche P.	2007	Effect of physical activity intervention on body composition in young children: influence of body mass index status and gender	Acta Pædiatrica (96, 1315–1320)
28	Li YP., Hu XQ., Schouten EG., Liu AL., Du SM., Li LZ., et al.	2010	Report on childhood obesity in China: effects and sustainability of physical activity intervention on body composition of Chinese youth	Biomedical and Environmental Sciences (23, 180-187)
29	Liu A., Hu X., Ma G, Cui Z., Pan Y., Chang S., et al.	2008	Evaluation of a classroom based physical activity promoting programme	Obesity Reviews (9 (Suppl. 1), 130–134)
30	Lucertini F., Spazzafumo L., De Lillo F., Centonze D., Valentini M., and Federici A.	2012	Effectiveness of professionally-guided physical education on fitness outcomes of primary school children	European Journal of Sports Science (13:5, 582-590)
31	Lucht M., and Heidig S.	2013	Applying HOPSCOTCH as an exers-learning game in English Lessons: two exploratory studies	Education Tech Research Dev (61: 762-792)

32	Ma JK., Le Mare L., and Gurd BJ.	2014	Classroom-based high intensity interval activity improves off-task behaviour in primary school students	Applied Physiology, Nutrition, and Metabolism (39: 1332-1337)
33	Ma JK., Le Mare L., and Gurd BJ.	2015	Four minutes of in-class high-intensity interval activity improves selective attention in 9 to 11 year olds	Applied Physiology, Nutrition, and Metabolism (40: 238-244)
34	Macdonald HM., Kontulainen SA., Khan KM., and McKay HA.	2007	Is a School-Based Physical Activity Intervention Effective for Increasing Tibial Bone Strength in Boys and Girls?	Journal of Bone and Mineral Research (22:3, 434-446)
35	Maeda JK., and Randall LM.	2003	Can academic success come from five minutes of physical activity?	Brock Education Journal (13:1)
36	Magnusson KT., Sigurgeirsson I., Sveinsson T., and Johannsson E.	2011	Assessment of a 2 year school based physical activity intervention among 7-9 year old children	International Journal of Behavioural Nutrition and Physical Activity (8:138)

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37	Mahar MT., Murphy SK., Rowe DA., Golden J., Shields TA., and Raedeke TD.	2006	Effects of a classroom based program on physical activity and on-task behaviour	Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise (38:12, 2086-2094)
38	Mavilidi MF., Lubans DR., Eather N., Morgan PJ and Riley N.	2018	Preliminary efficacy and feasibility of "Thinking While Moving in English": A program with physical activity integrated into primary school English lessons	Children (5:109)
39	McKay HA., MacLean L., Petit M., Mackelvie-O'Brien K., Janssen P., Beck T., et al.	2005	"Bounce at the Bell": a novel program of short bouts of exercise improves proximal femur bone mass in early prepubertal children	Br J Sports Med (39: 521-526)
40	McKenzie T., Nader PR., Strikmiller PK., Yang M., Stone EJ., Perry CL., et al.	1996	School physical education: Effect of the child and adolescent trial for cardiovascular health	Preventative Medicine (25, 423-431)
41	Mead T., Scibora L., Gardner J., and Dunn S.	2016	The impact of stability balls, activity breaks, and a sedentary classroom on standardised math scores	The Physical Educator (73, 433-449)
42	Miller A., Christensen E., Eather N., Gray S., Sproule J., Keay J., et al.	2016	Can physical education and physical activity outcomes be developed simultaneously using a game-centred approach?	European Physical Education Review (22(1), 113-133)
43	Moller NC., Tarp J., Kamerlarczyk EF., Brønd JC., Klakk H., and Wedderkopp N.	2008	Do extra compulsory physical education lessons mean more physically active children - findings from the childhood health, activity, and motor performance school study Denmark (the CHAMPS- study DK)	International Journal of Behavioural Nutrition and Physical Activity (11:121)
44	Mullender-Wijnsma MJ., Hartman E., de Greeff JW., Bosker RJ.,	2014	Improving academic performance of school-age children by physical activity in the classroom: 1 year program	Journal School of Health (85: 365-371)

Doolaard S., and  
Visscher C. evaluation

45	Mullender-Wijnsma MJ., Hartman E., de Greeff JW., Bosker RJ., Doolaard S., and Visscher C.	2015	Moderate to vigorous physically active academic lessons and academic engagement in children with and without social disadvantage: a within subject experimental design	BMC Public Health (15:404)
46	Mullender-Wijnsma MJ., Hartman E., de Greeff JW., Bosker RJ., Doolaard S., and Visscher C.	2016	Physically active math and language lessons improve academic achievement: a cluster randomised control trial	Pediatrics (137:3)

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47	Nathan N., Sutherland R., Beauchamp MR., Cohen K., Hulteen RM., Babic M., et al.	2017	Feasibility and efficacy of the Great Leaders Active StudentS (GLASS) program on children's physical activity and object control skill competency: a non-randomised trial	Journal of Science and Medicine in Sport (20, 1081-1086)
48	Naylor PJ., Macdonald HM., Warburton DER., Reed KE., and McKay HA.	2008	An active school model to promote physical activity in elementary schools	Br J Sports Med (42: 338-343)
49	Niederer I., Kriemler S., Gut J., Hartmann T., Schindler C., Barral J., et al.	2011	Relationship of aerobic fitness and motor skills with memory and attention in preschoolers (Ballbeina): A cross-sectional and longitudinal study	BMC Pediatrics (11:34)
50	Norris E., Dunsmuir S., Duke-Williams O., Stamatakis E., And Shelton N.	2018	Physically active lessons improve lesson activity and on task behaviour: A cluster-randomised controlled trial of the "Virtual Traveller" intervention	Health, Education & Behavior (45(6), 945-956)
51	Oliver M., Schofield G., and McEvoy E.	2006	An integrated curriculum approach to increasing habitual physical activity in children	Journal of School Health (76(2), 74-79)
52	Pangrazi RP., Beighle A., Vehige T., and Vack C.	2003	Impact of Promoting Lifestyle Activity for Youth (PLAY) on children's physical activity	Journal of School Health (73(8), 317-321)
53	Pesce C., Faigenbaum A., Crova C., Marchetti R., and Bellucci M.	2012	Benefits of multi-sports physical education in the elementary school context	Health Education Journal (72:3, 326-336)
54	Raney M., Henriksen A., and Minton J.	2017	Impact of short duration health and science energisers in the elementary school classroom	Cogent Education (4:1399969)
55	Reed KE., Warburton DER., Macdonald HM., Naylor PJ., McKay HA.	2008	Action Schools! BC: a school based physical activity intervention designed to decrease cardiovascular disease risk factors in children	Preventative Medicine (46, 525-531)
56	Reed JA., Einstein G., Hahn E., Hooker SP., Gross VP., and Kravitz J.	2010	Examining the impact of integrating physical activity on fluid intelligence and academic performance	Journal of Physical Activity and Health (7, 343-351)
57	Reed JA., Maslow AL., Long S., and Hughey M.	2013	Examining the impact of 45 minutes of daily physical education on cognitive ability, fitness performance and body composition of African American youth	Journal of Physical Activity and Health (10 185-197)

58	Resaland GK., Andersen LB., Mamen A., and Andersen SA.	2011	Effects of a 2 year school based daily physical activity intervention on cardiorespiratory fitness: the Sogndal school intervention study	Scand J Sci Sports (21: 302-309)
APPENDIX 2 continued				
59	Riley N., Lubans DR., Holmes K., and Morgan PJ.	2016	Findings from the EASY minds cluster randomised controlled trial: evaluation of a physical activity integration program for mathematics in primary schools	Journal of Physical Activity and Health (13:2, 198-206)
60	Riley N., Lubans DR., Morgan PJ., and Young M.	2015	Outcomes and process evaluation of a programme integrating physical activity into the primary school mathematics curriculum: the EASY Minds pilot randomised controlled trial	Journal of Science and Medicine in Sport (18, 656-661)
61	Sacchetti R., Ceciliani A., Garulli A., Dakkolio L., Beltrami P., and Leoni E.	2013	Effects of a 2 year school based intervention on enhanced physical education in the primary school	Journal of School Health (83: 639, 646)
62	Sollerhed AC., and Ejlertsson GE.	2008	Physical benefits of expanded physical education in primary school: findings from a 3 year intervention study in Sweden	Scand J Sci Sports (18: 102-107)
63	Stephens MB., and Wentz SW.	1998	Supplemental fitness activities and fitness in urban elementary school classrooms	Family Medicine (30(3), 220-223)
64	Stewart JA., Dennison DA., Kohl HW., and Doyle A.	2004	Exercise level and energy expenditure in the TAKE 10 ! In-class physical activity program	Journal of School Health (74(10), 397-400)
65	Sun H., and Gao Y.	2016	Impact of an active educational game on children's motivation, science knowledge and physical activity	Journal of Sport and Health Science (5, 239-245)
66	Telford RD., Cunningham RB., Fitzgerald R., Olive LS., Prosser L., Jiang X., et al.	2012	Physical education, obesity, and academic achievement: a 2 year longitudinal investigation of Australian elementary school children	American Journal of Public Health (102 (2), 368-374)
67	Telford RD., and Cunningham RB.	2012	Schools with fitter children achieve better literacy and numeracy results: evidence of a school cultural effect	Pediatric Exercise Science (24, 45-57)
68	Thivel D., Isacco L., Lazaar N., Aucouturier J., Ratel S., Dore E., et al.	2011	Effect of a 6-month school based physical activity program on body composition and physical fitness in lean and obese school children	Eur J Pediatr (170:1, 1435-1443)
69	van Beurden E., Bennett LM., Zask A., Dietrich UC., Brooks LO., and Beard J.	2003	Can we skill and activate children through primary school physical education lessons? "move it groove it"—a collaborative health promotion intervention	Preventative Medicine (36, 493-501)
70	Vazou S., and Skrade MAB.	2016	Intervention integrating physical activity with math: math performance, perceived competence, and need satisfaction	International Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology (15:5, 508-522)
APPENDIX 2 continued				
71	Walther C., Gaede L., Adams V., Gelbrich G.,	2009	Effect of increased exercise in school children on physical fitness and	Pediatric Cardiology

	Leichtle A., Erbs S., et al.		endothelial progenitor cells: a prospective randomised trial	(120(22), 2251-2259)
72	Weaver RG., Webster CA., Egan C., Campos CMC., Michael RD., and Vazou S.	2018	Partnerships for active children in elementary schools: outcomes of a 2 year pilot study to increase physical activity during the school day	American Journal of Health Promotion (32(3), 621-630)
73	Whitt-Glover MC., Ham SA., and Yancey AK.	2011	Instant Recess a practical tool for increasing physical activity during the school day	Prog Community Health Partnersh. (5(3):289-297)
74	Wittberg RA., Northrup KL., and Cottrell A.	2012	Children's aerobic fitness and academic achievement: a longitudinal examination of students during their fifth and seventh grade years	American Journal of Public Health (102 (12), 2303-2307)

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APPENDIX 3. Table 2. Outcomes rated 'not important' and 'critical' to measure after Delphi survey Round 2 (n=60)

Domain	Outcome	% of participants rating outcomes 'not important'	% of participants rating outcomes 'critical'
1. Physical activity and health	Active travel	3%	51%
	Anthropometry <sup>1</sup>	15%	26%
	Blood lipids	32%	14%
	Blood pressure	28%	14%
	Diet (varied and balanced)*	3%*	71%*
	Energy	8%	26%
	Fitness	0%	60%
	Heart rate	20%	17%
	Intensity of physical activity	3%	63%
	Leisure time activity	3%	62%
	Motor skills	8%	46%
	Musculoskeletal	12%	20%
	Oxygen peak intake	29%	9%
	Sedentary time	3%	63%
	Sleep (number of hours)*	3%*	85%*
Step counts	12%	23%	
2. Social and emotional health	Anxiety*	0%*	78%*
	Appetite	8%	42%
	Body awareness	2%	46%
	Body image	2%	66%
	Depression	3%	74%

Empowerment	2%	42%
Enjoyment*	0%*	74%*
Happiness*	0%*	85%*
Mood	0%	51%
Peer support	0%	46%
Resilience	3%	55%
Satisfaction	2%	46%
Self-confidence*	0%*	74%*
Self-efficacy	2%	68%
Self-esteem*	0%*	75%*
Self-expression	8%	34%
Self-perception	2%	51%
Sickness	12%	40%
Sleep patterns	3%	69%
Social interaction	0%	65%
Stress*	0%*	72%*
Wellbeing*	0%*	85%*

APPENDIX 3 continued

	Academic performance	2%	57%
	Attention*	0%*	74%*
3. Educational performance	Classroom behaviour	2%	68%
	Cognition	2%	54%
	Concentration*	0%*	75%*
	Engagement	0%	69%
	Executive functioning	2%	46%
	Focus*	3%*	72%*
	Maths	8%	55%
	Memory	2%	48%
	Reading	8%	51%
	Writing	8%	48%

\*Ratings that met the threshold ( $\leq 15\%$  participant agreement of 'not important' to measure and  $\geq 70\%$  participant agreement of 'critical' to measure).

<sup>1</sup>Anthropometry was presented as 'Bio-impedance' to the participants. This was changed based on reviewer comments.

**VERSION 2 – REVIEW**

<b>REVIEWER</b>	Kennedy, Sarah University of Newcastle, School of Education
<b>REVIEW RETURNED</b>	19-Aug-2022

<b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b>	Well done on the revised manuscript.
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<b>REVIEWER</b>	Matłosz, Piotr University of Rzeszów, Faculty of Physical Education
<b>REVIEW RETURNED</b>	13-Aug-2022
<b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b>	The authors have satisfactorily addressed most of my suggestions.