



Schools Development Report 2021



Since taking over the Schools Development role from Mike Hardy in April 2021, I and my trusty colleague Roy Bradley were kept very busy in the few months until the end of the 2020-21 academic year. I was consistently in schools at least once a week, but sometimes twice, delivering either student lessons or teacher lessons or creating or updating the map of the school.

By the end of the last academic year, I had completed all of the appointments that Mike had put into place and was ready to start booking schools for the 2021-22 academic year. Over the summer holidays, I worked with the CLOK Committee to draft plans for a Schools Orienteering League to start in March 2022. This league will consist of 5 events, roughly one a month, in places spread across the Cleveland area. We currently have plans to use Stewart Park, Cod Beck, Preston Park, Errington Woods and Flatts Lane Country Park, with Flatts Lane hosting the relay competition and medal ceremony. If anyone would like to volunteer to help with the planning, controlling, organising, or marshalling for any of the events, please contact either myself or Caroline Mackenzie.

After the summer break, it was straight back into action with more mapping jobs and student sessions. I expect the demand for student sessions to die down over the winter months, but a few schools have requested to have their maps updated during this time. This, together with some mapping jobs arranged by Caroline, will keep me plenty busy over the winter. I will also use the time to put more of the pieces into the Schools League puzzle, such as gaining permissions for areas and setting up a web page. We currently have 11 schools signed up for the league, with another 4-5 potentially interested and we will work to increase this number up till the start of the league.

The strategy in the New Year will be to send out an email to all our recorded contacts – particularly those who have signed up to the Schools League – letting them know about the services that I can offer. Hopefully, this will drum up more bookings.

In summary, there is a good steady flow of varied work out there and plenty of demand from schools for CLOK's Schools Development services. We have a very exciting prospect to look forward to in the new Schools League and hopefully it will be a huge success.

Connor Smith
Schools Development Officer