*If you would like to add your voice to the #LetGirlsPlay campaign, here is an example letter template below to send to the head teacher or a PE teacher at your child’s school. Feel free to put this letter into your own words if you would prefer, and add any additional information you feel is relevant – especially if it ties into your child’s school or own experiences. The statistics within this letter have all come from recent research conducted by The FA* (FA Quarterly Girls Tracker 2021, N=1,200 nationally representative girls aged 5-13 in England)*.*

Dear [name]

The Football Association (The FA) has recently launched a campaign to ensure girls have the same access to football in schools and in clubs by 2024 as boys do. #LetGirlsPlay is a call for change and as a parent/carer I hope this is something we can get behind at [name of school].

Research shared as part of the campaign shows that football is very popular amongst girls and that the numbers of girls engaged in football is continuing to grow. Whilst football is the most popular team sport for young people in England, only a third of girls aged 5-18 years participate each week. The research findings show that that 90% of girls that play, enjoy it, 60% of these girls that play football in schools want to play more and 91% of girls that don’t play, want the opportunity to do so.

As part of the same research girls were asked what they thought the benefits to playing football were and how football made the girls feel. Their responses identified physical and holistic benefits:

* 88% play to keep fit and healthy.
* 73% plan to learn/develop social skills.
* 73% paly because it increases their self-confidence.
* 52% play to relieve stress and worry and 92% play because it is fun.

My daughter and her friends are wanting to get involved in the campaign and are keen to discuss with you and your staff the football opportunities that are currently available to girls at [name of school]. They would like to access football both in the curriculum and in extra-curricular.

As a parent/carer I feel my daughter would benefit if the school was to offer increased access to football for girls in both the curriculum and out of hours. If the school could support the campaigns ambition of equal access, then football can truly become a sport for all.

Thank you for taking the time to consider supporting the campaign and empowering the girls at [school] to help create the change.

Kind regards

xx

For more information on giving girls better access to football within your school, please go to: Englandfootball.com/letgirlsplay or you can go directly to the website for schools [www.girlsfootballinschools.org](http://www.girlsfootballinschools.org).

