



INCLUSION

SEND BOCCIA

Boccia is a Paralympic target ball sport which tests both muscle control and accuracy. From a seated position, players propel balls to land as close as possible to a white marker ball, known as the Jack. Our Boccia event was part of our Inclusion strand and was aimed at pupils who are on the SEND register. This event gives them a calm environment to join in a team sport whilst also maintaining a competitive nature.

During the session and after having chatted to some of the teachers who had chosen which students came, we met a year 5 boy. The teacher informed us that this was this pupil's first time at a sporting event and that when doing sport and physical activity at school he never shows emotion. He doesn't get happy when he scores or wins and doesn't get sad when he loses or his team mate plays badly. She couldn't believe the transformation of her pupil once he got to the Boccia Event.

As the session progressed he got more and more confident. He thought carefully about his next move and cheered his team mates on. He was so excited when he played well, this was the first time his teacher had seen him show emotion during any kind of sport or physical activity! He was so proud of himself when he got his colour ball close to the jack and for the first time you could see the enjoyment on his face. His positivity rubbed off on his team mates and for all his enthusiasm throughout the day he was awarded with the 'Star Performer' award! We hope this will encourage him to continue to enjoy and try new sports.

