

PE · Y3-Y6

# Invasion Games

Knowledge Organiser — KS2 PE

## Key vocabulary

1

**Invasion game**

A game where two teams try to score in the other team's area. Examples: football, netball, hockey, rugby, basketball.

2

**Attack**

When your team has the ball and is trying to score.

3

**Defence**

When the other team has the ball and you're trying to stop them.

4

**Possession**

When your team has the ball.

5

**Pass**

Sending the ball to a teammate.

6

**Receiver**

The player getting the pass.

7

**Mark**

Stand close to an opponent to stop them getting the ball.

8

**Intercept**

Stealing a pass meant for an opponent.



9

**Tactics**

A plan for how a team plays — when to attack, when to defend.

10

**Space**

Open areas with no opponents. Good attackers FIND space; good defenders DENY it.

## Attacking principles

When your team has the ball

- MOVE INTO SPACE — don't stand still waiting for the ball.
- PASS QUICKLY — the ball moves faster than a player can run.
- KEEP HEAD UP — see your teammates and opponents.
- CALL FOR THE BALL — clear, confident communication.
- PASS AND MOVE — don't stand still after passing.
- USE WIDTH — spread out across the pitch.
- TAKE CHANCES — try shots when you can.
- Attacks usually fail because passes are sloppy or players don't move after passing.

## Defending principles

When the other team has the ball

- MARK YOUR PLAYER — stay close, between them and your goal.
- GOAL-SIDE — be on the side closer to your own goal.
- WATCH BOTH the ball AND your player.
- STAY ON YOUR FEET — don't dive in or commit too early.
- INTERCEPT passes if you can read the play.
- WORK AS A TEAM — pressure the ball-carrier, cover behind.
- DEFEND TOGETHER — gaps between defenders are how attackers get through.



- After winning the ball, switch immediately to attack.

## Types of passes

Different passes for different situations

- **SHORT PASS:** quick, accurate, to a nearby teammate.
- **LONG PASS:** across the pitch, finds a player in space.
- **BOUNCE PASS** (basketball, netball): bounces once before reaching teammate.
- **CHEST PASS** (basketball, netball): two hands from chest.
- **OVERHEAD PASS:** over a defender's head.
- **THROUGH BALL:** into space behind defenders for a teammate to run onto.
- Choose the pass based on: distance, defender position, teammate's movement.

## Positions and teamwork

Beyond individual skills

- **POSITIONS:** each player has a role. Stick to it most of the time.
- **FORMATION:** how players are arranged (e.g., 4-3-3 in football, 1-4-2 in netball).
- **TRANSITION:** switching from attack to defence and back. Quick transition wins games.
- **SET PIECES:** planned moves from corners, free kicks, etc.
- **PRESSING:** defending high up the pitch to win the ball back quickly.
- Talk to teammates: 'man on!' (defender close), 'time' (you have time), 'turn' (it's clear).
- Best teams aren't always the most skilful — they communicate and play for each other.

