Special Issue

The Role of Physical Education in Promoting Student Mental Health

Message from the Guest Editor

The mental health of students has emerged as a critical area of concern within contemporary educational discourse, as increasing numbers of young people experience stress, anxiety, depression, and related psychological challenges. While schools have traditionally addressed mental health through counseling and psychological services, there is a growing recognition of the need for more holistic, preventive approaches. Physical education (PE), often perceived primarily as a means of promoting physical fitness, holds significant potential in this regard. An expanding body of research suggests that regular engagement in physical activity can yield substantial mental health benefits, including the alleviation of symptoms related to anxiety and depression, enhancement of mood, and improvement of selfesteem and cognitive function. This special issue will examine the multifaceted role of physical education in supporting student mental health, arguing that PE should be viewed not only as a vehicle for physical development but also as an integral component of comprehensive mental health strategies within schools.

Guest Editor

Dr. Asterios I. Patsiaouras Department of Physical Education and Sport Science, University of Thessaly, 42100 Trikala, Greece

Deadline for manuscript submissions

15 February 2026



Education Sciences

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.6 CiteScore 5.5



mdpi.com/si/243698

Education Sciences Editorial Office MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5 4052 Basel, Switzerland Tel: +4161 683 77 34 education@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/ education





Education Sciences

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.6 CiteScore 5.5



education



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

From its first issue in 2011, *Education Sciences* (ISSN 2227-7102) has grown as a scholarly international open access journal. Its aim remains to publish extended full-length research papers that have the scope to substantively address current issues in education. As a member of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), our goal has been to disseminate high quality research. Our publisher, MDPI, takes the responsibility to enforce a rigorous double-blind peer-review together with strict ethical policies and standards to ensure to add high quality scientific works to the field of scholarly publication.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Daniel Muijs School of Social Sciences, Education and Social Work, Queen's University Belfast, Belfast BT7 1NN, UK

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, ESCI (Web of Science), Educational Research Abstracts, PsycInfo, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Education and Educational Research) / CiteScore - Q1 (Physical Therapy, Sports Therapy and Rehabilitation)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 29.2 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 3.9 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).