Northern Ireland Primary School leagues will operate on a county basis these will include Antrim, Down, Armagh, Fermanagh, Tyrone and Londonderry. Belfast will operate as a county as well due to the significant number of primary schools within Belfast. There will be 7 areas in total.

Within each county **local area leagues** will be set up based on geographical location, so schools are not travelling excessive distances. These are envisaged to run from January to June. The winner of each **local area league** will then participate in a play-off or county final day (depending on the number of schools affiliated). This will take place in May and the winner and runner up of each county will go through to represent their county at Northern Ireland final days in June.

***League Information***

* All schools will aim to play 6 matches against other schools from their local area league.
* A list of all the participating schools, along with the contact details will be provided to each school.
* Scores must be kept and entered on your results sheet and submitted
* Matches should be 20 minutes (2 x 10 minutes) long and all players should be involved in some capacity throughout each match.
* As much as possible schools should try to play half of their matches home and half away.
* Netball posts must be at 10ft (Full height)
* A size 5 netball must be used to play the matches (not size 4!)
* Only girls can play league matches but boys can play in friendly matches.
* Some schools might opt to arrange for a few matches to be played over one afternoon by booking a leisure facility hall or hosting a number of schools to play at their school. This can be a worthwhile exercise if you need a number of matches played before a deadline.

***Cost***

It is £60.00 per school to affiliate to Netball N.I. (please see attached document to see what is included within the affiliation package). **Affiliation deadline is the 30th June** for the 2023-2024 academic year. To allow adequate time to prepare local area league structures to ensure all primary schools have equal participation opportunities with minimal travel.

Each team entry will cost £15.00 per team and will be due by the 18th September 2023.

Schools can affiliate to Netball Northern Ireland to avail of the affiliation package but do not have to enter a league if they are not in a position to do so.

Netball N.I. reserves the right to makes amendments to the structure to fit the needs of the business.