



MARTINA NAVARRO

PhD



Dr Navarro is a Senior Lecturer in Skill Acquisition at the School of Psychology, Sports and Health at the University of Portsmouth. Her latest research focuses on evaluating contemporary models in skill development including the Athletic Skills Model alongside the impact of innovative design on built environments for physical activity and sports. She has worked as an academic and in the sports coaching industry over the last 13 years at universities and organisations in the Netherlands, Switzerland, Brazil and the UK.

During her talk, Dr Navarro will present her most recent environmental intervention project, PLAYCE Pompey. Adopting a movement-focused approach informed by the theory of affordances (Gibson, 1977) and the Athletic Skills Model, PLAYCE Pompey is a publicly accessible movement space that offers a neutral landscape of affordances and therefore a wider range of opportunities for action. Developed in an area of particular deprivation in Portsmouth, UK, the project also adopted a co-design approach in collaboration with residents to inform the final design. After introducing the processes and design principles adopted, Dr Navarro will present data evaluating the impact on overall usage, movement variety, wellbeing and other perceived benefits.