

What is PE and Sports Premium?

The Government is providing additional funding in order to improve the provision of physical education and sports in schools. The funding is being jointly provided by the Departments for Education, Health and Culture and Media and Sport. The money is going directly into schools to be spent on improving the quality of Sport and PE for their children. All state-maintained schools, middle schools, special schools and pupil referral units which have primary aged pupils will receive the funding.

Why has it been introduced?

Physical activity has numerous benefits for children and young people's physical health, as well as their mental wellbeing (increasing self-esteem and emotional wellbeing and lowering anxiety and depression), and children who are physically active are happier, more resilient and more trusting of their peers. Ensuring that pupils have access to sufficient daily activity can also have wider benefits for pupils and schools, improving behaviour as well as enhancing academic achievement.

The government has a commitment to ensuring that children and young people have access to at least 60 minutes of sport and physical activity per day. It recommends 30 minutes of this is delivered during the school day.

Who decides on how the money is spent?

This funding is ring-fenced and therefore can only be spent on provision for PE and sports in schools. Although schools must spend this additional funding on improving their provision of PE and sport, they will have the freedom to choose how they do this. Possible uses for the funding might include:

- hiring specialist PE teachers or qualified sports coaches
- supporting and engaging the least active children
- paying for professional development opportunities for teachers in PE and sports
- providing cover to release teachers for professional development in PE and sport
- running sport competitions or increasing pupils' participation in the School Games
- buying training materials or resources for PE and sport
- after school sports clubs and holiday clubs

How are school accountable for the spending of PE and Sports Premium?

Schools must report on how this money has been spent and must clearly show:

- the amount of PE and sport premium received
- a full breakdown of how it has been spent
- the impact the school has seen on pupils' PE, physical activity, and sport participation and attainment
- how the improvements will be sustainable in the future