

Primary PE and Sport Premium Update

22/05/26

I write to forward an important news update re: the axing of the Primary PE and Sport Premium grant following yesterday afternoon's confirmation by the DfE.

As previously mentioned within the Spring Term PE newsletter, the DfE has now confirmed its commitment to scrapping the Premium and replacing it with a new PE and School Sport "Partnerships Network" as part of plans to redirect £1 billion of spending that is reported to be broken down and targeted at the following areas across the next three years:

- More than half - £580 million - will be spent on the network.
- Another £200 million will go on capital funding, which the government said could be used to make facilities more accessible for children with SEND or to buy additional equipment.
- Another £100 million will be spent on transitional support for primary schools.
- This is in addition to £166 million in the 2026-27 financial year for the second payment of the PE premium for the 2025-26 academic year' and funding for the School Games Organisers (2026-27 only confirmed to date)

Link: <https://www.tes.com/magazine/news/general/pe-and-sport-premium-primary-schools-scrapped> (article attached)

'The new PE and School Sport Partnerships Network will be operational from January 2027, replacing the PE and Sport Premium. From then, all state-funded schools will be able to access specialist support through a combination of universal provision and more targeted local schemes. That means more training, coaching, link-ups with local clubs, or help to open new sports facilities. More information will be published when we have the delivery partner in place, but schools will be central to the design and delivery of the network.....During the next academic year (2026/27), primary schools will receive a term's allocation as a transitional payment to support moving to the new system. Further information, including allocations per school and conditions of grant, will be published in the Autumn and we will ensure that reporting arrangements are kept to a minimum.'

For further initial details, I refer you to the following links:

- **DfE : Open Letter from Education Secretary, Bridget Philipson**

https://news.service.education.gov.uk/E89B030D338BF73674BFF619AA27BE16C17E9D5241D238CC19D5ADD2F71F7045/Co3B4B994ACCC4769E7B3C6A81C2BE17/VIB?es_c=Co3B4B994ACCC4769E7B3C6A81C&fbclid=IwY2xjawR8gndleHRuA2FlbQIxMABicmlkETAoSHPicFIxTzFha2pzTlhJc3JoYwZhcHBfaWQQMjIyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHiXutAxefiPlmlq7V7mW1kYXpWnl3bnUgoz5JjoHSeLr9l8XIPTlXY12w5Xw_aem_YWdncwCWKBqOgLDwu_HdO2MN249J&brid=YWdncwF6nSR_RMEUCz-c9j9CuCptbGOV.UK

- **Gov.Uk Press Release:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1bn-boost-to-pe-and-school-sport-to-end-fitness-postcode-lottery>

Childrens' Wellbeing and Schools Act

I also need to alert you to last week's passing of the Childrens' Wellbeing and Schools Bill that is now an Act with the following policy changes required to be adopted by all Academies and Local Maintained Schools

<https://schoolsweek.co.uk/childrens-wellbeing-and-schools-act-the-policies-signed-into-law/>

Of note is the requirement from September 2027 for new staff employees responsible for leading any of the curricular subjects to have QTS status or 'working towards'. This confirmed change in direction means that Level 5 and 6 PE Qualifications are not deemed as an acceptable substitute for QTS.

I apologise for having to share this news update on the Friday before breaking for half term however as mentioned the DfE only confirmed the status of the Primary PE and Sport Premium yesterday.

Both Summer Term PE and PSHE newsletters will be emailed to all borough infant, junior and primary schools after half term when it should be possible to share further expected updates.