

Primary PE and Sport Premium Questions and Responses

Digital reporting form

Question	Response
What will the consequences be if the July 31st deadline is missed?	Any school that fails to submit a digital reporting form will be contacted by the department. As it is a requirement of the Conditions of Grant to complete the form, failure to do may result in the department taking appropriate and proportionate action against the school.
What are the monitoring procedures with this? Every School? A selection? Who will it be the DfE, YST, APs?	The department will be monitoring all information and data submitted from all schools through the digital reporting form.
If schools continue to spend not according to the grant conditions what are the consequences?	If it is discovered that a local authority, school, or proprietor of an academy fails to comply with the terms and conditions set out in the Conditions of Grant document, the department has discretion on what course of action to take. This can include seeking the recovery of some, or all the PE and sport premium grant that has been allocated.
So, what happens if we are 'accidentally' not being compliant?	The guidance and Conditions of Grant document identify what the PE and sport premium funding cannot be used for so please consult this carefully ahead of submission. If it is discovered that a local authority, school, or proprietor of an academy fails to comply with the terms and conditions set out in the Conditions of Grant document, the department has discretion on what course of action to take. This can include seeking the recovery of some, or all the PE and sport premium grant that has been allocated.
The guidance states you can't buy services that will be delivered or used in following years. Is this true for curriculums? Lots of schools buy in their PE curriculum, can they not buy for more than one year?	The Conditions of Grant stipulate that all funding needs to be accounted for within the year it is allocated and should be used for the benefit of the pupils that attend the school during that academic year. Schools cannot purchase subscriptions/memberships for future years as this is not benefitting the pupils the funding has been allocated for. Schools cannot use the Premium to purchase goods/equipment that will be delivered in the following, or future academic years.

Will schools still be required to upload their report onto their website?	It is still a requirement of the Conditions of Grant that a school publishes a report on its website detailing how it has spent its PE and sport premium funding allocation.
Will there be a downloadable version of the digital reporting tool that we can use to get all our data/answers prepared before we input and submit it online on the 'official' form?	No, schools will be unable to download a copy of the digital reporting form until the reporting window. A copy of the AY 23/24 reporting form is available for comparison to support preparation for completion; the PE Funding Evaluation Form can also support preparation prior to final submission.
Are Active Partnerships able to access the digital report so we know how to support our schools?	The digital reporting form is to record how the school has used its PE and sport allocation and will be completed towards the end of the academic year. It may be helpful for Active Partnerships to assist schools with the completion of the Evaluation Form as this will detail how the school plans to use the funding throughout the academic year.
Will there be an option to add specific details and figures on the spend against each key indicator?	The digital reporting form asks specific questions on each of the five key priorities. Schools will have the opportunity to include details of any spending they have made against the priorities and the impact the spending has had.
Is there a reason why this digital template (or the PDF document) won't be available until May/June time?	Essentially the digital reporting form is for data collection – it is not designed to be used to provide updates all year round. The form will be open for an eight-week window to give sufficient time for completion; a longer period increases the risk of data corruption and loss of information stored.
It needs to be updated throughout the year, not all at one go at the end	Schools should use the Evaluation Form to plan and monitor the impact of Premium spending throughout the year in readiness of transferring the information onto the digital reporting form at the end of the year.

Reporting

<p>This level of reporting is a lot more than for other subjects. Can the PE Subject Lead use the Premium to "buy time" to help them complete this?</p>	<p>The reporting requirement is specific to how a school has used the PE and sport premium grant funding and is not a reporting requirement on PE as a subject. The Premium cannot be used to 'buy time' for a member of staff to complete the digital report.</p>
<p>How will reporting be monitored? Previous research on school websites indicated many didn't comply or completed it late</p>	<p>The department will be monitoring all information and data submitted from all schools through the digital reporting form. If it is discovered that a local authority, school, or proprietor of an academy fails to comply with the terms and conditions set out in the Conditions of Grant document, the department has discretion on what course of action to take. This can include seeking the recovery of some, or all the PE and sport premium grant that has been allocated.</p>
<p>Why can't the department answer individual enquiries? We are trying our best here...!!! Wouldn't it be better to help us when the question arises rather than an INVESTIGATION!</p>	<p>We have tried to be clear in guidance as to what is compliant and non-compliant spending of the Premium to assist schools. The department is unable to provide specific advice on whether an item would be deemed as 'capital expenditure' but can advise on other elements of the PE and sport premium.</p>
<p>I've seen a reporting document for 24/25 on the AfPE website which looks like previous reporting documents - do we have to fill this in as well as the digital form?</p>	<p>It is recommended that schools use the PE funding evaluation form as a working document. The intention is then for schools to use the information from this when completing the digital tool in the summer term.</p>
<p>Why does the new planning tool not have a column for a breakdown funding used. I must report to Governors on how much I have spent and how, by not having this on the planning tool will create more work.</p>	<p>The PE Evaluation Form is to plan and monitor the impact of how the school has used the Premium. If schools find it helpful to include costs within the document, then there is the option to do so.</p>
<p>Two Head Teachers have told PE Leads that DfE will never check, so they will use the funding as they choose. Should we whistle blow?</p>	<p>The department will be monitoring all returns of the digital reporting form. If schools are not complying to the terms within the Conditions of Grant document, we would be grateful if</p>

	these are brought to our attention directly for further investigation.
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Primary PE and Sport Premium spend

Question	Response
We are an infant school and using some of the funding to put in place opal which will support funding resources that are encouraging physical activity throughout playtimes and lunchtimes is this suitable or would you say this is capital spend project.	This would not be classed as capital expenditure, but as a subscription cost to an organisation that was providing access to physical activities. This would be a permissible use of the Premium.
Are you able to use the funding to pay for a curriculum through complete PE etc?	This would be a permissible use of the Premium.
Are we allowed to use funding for transport to Year 6 top-up swimming lessons?	Yes, if this is the sole use of the transport being provided. You could not use the Premium to cover the cost of transport if the transport was also being used to transport other children to core-swimming lessons.
Can we spend the PE funding on cover for PE events / competitions?	The Premium can be used to cover supply teaching costs for members of staff that were required to accompany children providing this was to PE events and competitions.
Some PE leads do not even get to see the funding as it is directed and used by HTs. How can this be managed?	This is an internal matter for the school and one which the department can provide a direction on. Despite this, we recognise the benefits of PE teachers being involved in the planning and spending of the Premium and advise this would be good practice.

Staffing / CPD

<p>Does it have to be a qualification, or can it be informal CPD?</p> <p>Most PE courses are not qualifications - they are to upskill teachers. Does this count?</p> <p>Does the CPD have to be accredited/qualification based for it to be used or can broader CPD offers be included?</p> <p>Does CPD and training cover sports apprenticeship courses such as L2 community activator coach or level 4 sports coach if they are adding to the 5 key areas?</p>	<p>Continuing professional development is essential to ensuring the quality of the teaching of high-quality PE, sport and physical activity in a school is sustainable.</p> <p>The premium can be used to meet the cost of continual professional development if it makes improvements in increasing confidence, knowledge and skills of staff in teaching PE and sporting activities. We are aware of many courses which increase knowledge and confidence within the teaching of the subject but do not result in a tangible qualification and these would be permissible use of the Premium.</p> <p>The Premium cannot be used to pay the cost of supply teachers to cover lessons whilst the member of staff undertakes continuing professional development of any form.</p> <p>Funding towards apprenticeships is not a permissible use of the PE and sport premium. Specific apprenticeship funding including grants and bursaries for adult learners can be found here.</p>
<p>Are we allowed to use funding to pay for a sports coach to train low confidence girls for a few weeks? Also, can funding pay for a sports coach to train 8 SEND pupils for a few weeks to help them to improve gross motor skills?</p>	<p>In both circumstances it would be a legitimate use of the Premium to fund these initiatives, as the aim is to help increase the engagement of all pupils in regular physical activity and sporting activities.</p>
<p>Is there now greater clarity around use of funding for paying coaches and companies for delivery of lessons - how is this managed as it still goes on.</p>	<p>The guidance highlights that we acknowledge that schools may want to engage the expertise of coaches and external organisations to offer a wider variety of sports and activities for their pupils, but this should not be on a continued basis. We would expect schools to use this as an opportunity to upskill teaching staff. By doing so, it could then remove the need for regular coach-led incentives, as staff would have the</p>

	knowledge and skills to be able to deliver or support specific sport or activity provision.
The new guidance says that the funding can't be used for: Staff salaries – for example, using your premium funding allocation to employ someone whose role is to specifically administer the PE and sport premium, or to use your entire funding allocation to employ someone that is responsible for arranging and running PE, sport or activity sessions. How does this work for schools that have already planned their funding for this already for this academic year?	The Premium has never been allowed to pay staff salaries; the new guidance has tried to make this clearer to schools. If a school has committed the Premium to be used for this purpose, then it is a non-compliant use of the funding.

Miscellaneous

What is the time frame for this evaluation? When will it be completed? This will allow schools to plan proactively.	Through the 24/25 academic year the department will be completing a programme of research designed to fill several strategic evidence gaps around how schools deliver PE and sport, including how schools spend and make decisions around use of the PE and sport premium. Following data analysis findings will be published; the outcome of the review will be communicated in due course.
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