

PE and Sport Premium – Current Position

August 2026 Update

At The Howard Primary School, we recognise the important role that physical education, sport and physical activity play in supporting children's physical health, wellbeing, confidence, teamwork and enjoyment of school life.

The Government has recently announced changes to the way PE and school sport will be funded in primary schools. We would therefore like to provide an update on the current position regarding the **Primary PE and Sport Premium** and what this means for our school.

What is happening to the PE and Sport Premium?

The existing Primary PE and Sport Premium has been in place for a number of years and has provided schools with additional funding to improve the quality and breadth of PE, sport and physical activity.

The Government announced in May 2026 that the existing PE and Sport Premium model will be replaced by a new **PE and School Sport Partnerships Network**. The new approach is intended to provide schools with access to specialist sporting expertise, training, resources and opportunities for pupils.

The new national network is expected to be fully operational from **Spring 2027**.

The Government has committed more than **£1 billion to PE and school sport over three years**, including £580 million for the new Partnerships Network and almost £200 million to improve school sporting facilities. A further **£100 million one-off PE Premium payment** has also been announced to support primary schools during the transition to the new system.

What does this mean for 2025/26?

The academic year **2025/26 remains covered by the existing PE and Sport Premium arrangements**.

For eligible primary schools, the funding for 2025/26 was calculated according to the number of pupils in Years 1 to 6. Schools with 17 or more eligible pupils received £16,000 plus an additional £10 per eligible pupil.

Schools must spend their 2025/26 allocation within the academic year and cannot carry unused funding forward into the following year.

The Department for Education's digital expenditure reporting system opened on **26 June 2026**, and schools are required to complete their return by **5pm on 30 September 2026**. Schools must also publish information about how their funding has been used on their website.

Our PE and Sport Premium information and previous reports will continue to be available on this page so that parents and visitors can see how the funding has supported PE, sport and physical activity at The Howard.

What happens from September 2026?

The Government is currently moving from the existing school-level funding model towards the new national Partnerships Network.

There is therefore a period of transition during the **2026/27 academic year**. The Government has confirmed that additional funding will support primary schools during this transition, although detailed arrangements for individual schools are still developing.

The new national PE and School Sport Partnerships Network is expected to begin operating during 2026/27 and to be fully established from Spring 2027. The new approach will provide schools with access to a broader range of specialist support rather than relying on the previous direct-to-school premium model.

We will continue to monitor guidance from the Department for Education and our local education partners and will update this page when further information about the new arrangements becomes available.

Our commitment to PE and sport

Although the funding arrangements are changing, **our commitment to PE, sport and physical activity remains unchanged**.

We want all children at The Howard Primary School to have opportunities to:

- enjoy being physically active;
- develop their physical skills and confidence;
- take part in a wide range of sports and activities;
- participate in competitive sport;
- develop teamwork, resilience and leadership skills;
- experience the benefits of an active lifestyle;
- access opportunities regardless of ability, background or circumstance.

We will continue to use available funding and resources carefully to support these priorities and to ensure that PE and sport remain an important part of our wider curriculum and school experience.

Keeping parents informed

As further information is published about the new PE and School Sport Partnerships Network and the transition arrangements, we will update our website.

Our existing PE and Sport Premium reports will also remain available so that there is a clear record of how funding has been used and the impact it has had on our pupils.

We are proud of the opportunities that PE, sport and physical activity provide for the children at The Howard, and we look forward to continuing to develop these opportunities as the national approach to school sport evolves.

The Howard Primary School, Elford

August 2026