

School PE and Sport: funding for primary schools

Following the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Government provided funding for schools to secure a significant and lasting legacy for the children. The aim is to develop an enjoyment of sport /physical activity and to promote a healthy lifestyle.

In order to support this, the Government initially provided primary schools with an additional £150 million per annum for the academic years 2013/14 and 2014/15. At St Michael's we received £8000 in a lump sum and an additional £5 per pupil. The funding has continued into the 2015/16 and 2016/17 academic years.

This money is ring-fenced which means it has to be spent on PE and sport. It is up to each school to decide how they will spend this money. At St Michael's we have employed specialist sports coaches and a PE teacher for two afternoons per week to work with the children and teachers during curriculum time. After-school sports clubs are also funded through this money, so that children throughout the school can attend the clubs without having to pay. Of the six half-terms in the school year, each class from Year 1-6 receive tuition from the PE specialists for four of them and is also offered the opportunity to attend four after-school clubs. This is in addition to the after-school sporting opportunities already offered by our school.

Children are encouraged to attend additional sessions. Where these sessions have links with external clubs, children are encouraged to consider joining these. The school has a positive view of school sport, taking part in all local competitions and strongly supporting the benefits of PE and sport. In this way we believe our approach is both inclusive and sustainable.