

Sports Premium Funding 2015–16

Since autumn 2013 all primary schools have received an annual Sports Premium from the Government intended to improve the standard of sport and PE in schools. Oakthorpe receives £8,000 plus £5 per pupil. Here is a review of the impact of that spending last year:

The funding has had a huge impact on sport at Oakthorpe. The bulk of this money was spent on delivering our school swimming programme to both year 4 and 5 last year. We believe that by starting swimming lessons earlier we will see a larger percentage of non-swimmers being able to swim at the end of their time at school. We found the year 4 non-swimmers were far more willing and receptive to the coaching they received. This year we will only be offering swimming lessons to year 4 pupils as we seek to use the funding elsewhere.

The profile of school sport has been raised, participation has increased significantly and standards of teaching and attainment have markedly risen. The release of our P.E specialist helped to improve class teachers' subject knowledge and confidence. This had the effect of vastly improved attainment in gymnastics in all year groups. Feedback from teachers was positive and many now feel confident in delivering gymnastic lessons themselves. In KS2, tennis coaches from the Mayfield Academy (£2,000) led sessions through the summer term from March to October and the uptake was huge. Almost all children were coached at some point and large numbers regularly played competitive matches. Our first annual tennis day was well received and resulted in many children continuing to play outside of school. Our inclusion in the Enfield P.E team Gold package (approx £2,500) of support gave our children the opportunity to compete in a wide-range of inter-school competitive sport. Our achievements listed above are testament to the impact this had on our school. Our hugely successful sports teams help to inspire younger children to take sport seriously and aspire to compete themselves. The staff training offered as part of the package also had a significant impact on teacher's subject knowledge and ability to deliver high-quality gym and dance. A particular focus was in Reception where staff took part in a number of training courses designed to increase participation in sport among children. As a result there was a huge increase in the number of P.E lessons taught during the school year. EY data has however shown that the physical performance of children in their end of year assessments still requires some improvement, therefore this year we have allocated a large portion of our Sports Premium Funding to help raise standards in EY P.E.