

1. As a former PE leader, I've previously observed external coaches deliver awful sessions whilst, when given the chance, non-specialist teachers have delivered very good lessons. Now that the leadership team has this additional funding, they've resorted to farming out the subject in its entirety to so-called external 'specialist' coaches and have used the grant creatively as PPA cover. Last year's HMI inspection must've just referred to the bogus online report given that no PE lessons were observed nor was I called in for interview.
2. The growing problem within our region is that budget cuts have caused Head teachers to press the panic button in terms of both Pupil and PE Premiums with the funding being used instead to protect employment of TAs. Fraud it may appear to some but desperate times call for desperate measures.
3. If Government wants to be serious about kids leading healthier lives then why just stop at PE and Sport when diet and nutrition also carries so much value? Children can exercise all they like however if they are not taught how to cook and eat properly, then they soon start piling on the weight again. Why not split the doubled Premium funding in half so that both physical activity and healthy eating can be given the coverage that is needed for children today?
4. My Reception year group is desperate for improved playground markings and we also need new multi-skills equipment. I have asked both Head teacher and PE Subject Leaders for the last four years and have been told each time that there is no funding.
5. I know from talking to other PE subject leaders that there is a mounting issue taking place of classroom teachers being deskilled as a result of curricular PE & Games tuition either allotted to a specialist or an external coach. Government needs to be explicit in relation to goals connected to this funding: do they want all teaching staff to be upskilled and proficient in teaching the subject or do they ultimately want a specialist coach to deliver the PE & Games curriculum instead? If The Government wants to 'achieve sustainability' then it's crazy not to assume that it will have more impact if all teaching staff are out there being taught how to deliver the subject effectively.
6. So many teachers feel swamped by workload and under-skilled to teach high quality P.E. I have noticed Create Development pushing their schemes up and down the country with the help of School Games Organisers and County Sport Partnerships. Some PE specialists like them but I think they are overrated and really expensive. Schools need to be given more choice of

good quality schemes of work rather than having the same one piled on us through all of the repeated hard-selling. Is there a commission deal going on with these groups of people who keep on shoving REAL PE at so many of us?

7. We decided to concentrate less on competitions and more so on just getting our children more physically active. This change of direction has ensured that all pupils take part in regular daily physical activity with The Daily Mile; Skipping; Aerobics and Fitness Drills now part of how we start the school day for all pupils. It has made an incredible difference to how pupils then apply themselves to classroom learning and how they are able to retain new knowledge and skills. By contrast, we found that local inter competition opportunities focussed predominantly upon the few rather than the many.
8. I used to naively assume that specialists were the answer. When I was then made PE Co-ordinator, I had a careful look at the primary PE teaching and learning in detail as well as the objectives within the grant funding. It is so clear that the answer is regular training for staff just as you would expect with any other subject of the curriculum.
9. Ofsted's got way too much to inspect across two days. The PE Premium hardly ever gets a mention in the final report. If health and wellbeing is going to be really valued by education system then there needs to be a separate inspection set up to cover this massively important area of learning. My school continues to have membership with The Association for Physical Education who we have learnt much from. Why not put them in charge of inspecting health and wellbeing along with whoever is in charge of PSHE?
10. Enable teaching staff to get into enjoying sports and understanding the benefits of physical activity then the rest will fall into place with both enthusiasm and understanding rubbing off upon the pupils. No brainer!
11. Soft governance is the buzz term surrounding this mess-up of a tax payer funded strategy. Government clearly hasn't learnt from previous National School Sports Strategy that gave so much scope to inflate, or even just plain well make up, end of year real school performance. Ofsted barely gave any attention at best then and they are behaving the same with school sports nowadays. The gate is therefore left wide open for schools to exploit all over again.
12. Why have Reception aged classes been left out of the PE grant? I am a Reception teacher and I am incensed that we cannot bid for much needed play equipment that would transform the children's interest to get more physically active. Reception year does not receive additional cash through other DfE funding channels therefore it is obvious that this age group has been unfairly left out.

13. Can't believe how we drill into children (and even their parents) the importance of writing; reading and arithmetic but forget by comparison the benefits of learning how to walk and run properly; throw and catch a ball correctly as well as many other vital core physical skills. So much for promoting the much spoken 'whole child development'.
14. Can't praise Active Leeds enough. Fabulous advisory support from expert practitioners who have provided a range of outstanding ideas and resources that my school continues to use within the day-to-day curricular programme. 'Active schools and active children really do achieve more'. Hardly rocket science!
15. It has to be a national scandal as to how this strategy has been so appallingly governed and also inspected with poor standards bypassed for what is now a fifth year by Ofsted. For starters, how easy is it for anybody to study an Ofsted report and compare their findings to what the school has posted online? I've tried to follow the rules to the letter and have incurred much anger from parents for having to charge for swimming lessons when they and I know that other schools nearby have used their grant to cover this huge expense – remember that curricular swimming includes pool and swim instructor hire on top of the exorbitant coach transport costs.
16. We were forced to join a Multi-Academy Trust three years ago and we've already lost our playing field to property developers. We can however seem to afford an executive head teacher earning more than £140k per year as well as a glut of educational consultants for staff CPD. We've incidentally had no staff meeting linked to PE and Games within this period of time.
17. Terrific ideas from Twinkl and Five-A-Day TV that my reception children enjoy exercising to. We have also started differentiated version of 'Daily Mile' that they also really like. All are so simple to set up.
18. We never drop literacy or numeracy in any school day but Physical Education must surely come off worse than any other curricular subject for ACTUAL teaching time as opposed to how it is TIMETABLED. End of term Christmas and Summer concerts as well as class assemblies mean that hall-time is severely restricted for any PE. Yr 6 pupils barely get any access to PE or Games during Autumn and Spring terms due to preparing them for SATs tests. Tokenistic Summer term sport days and annual health weeks are used in a vain attempt to plug the gap. No wonder UK kids are getting fatter and fatter.
19. Our school has had no other choice but to spend PESS Premium grant on curricular swimming as there's no funding available from core school budget.

It must be alright to do - loads of other schools have also done the same thing and Ofsted hasn't picked up on any of the schools close to us as their reports show.

20. Our school joined a MAT nearly two years back. I'm ordered what to say to others by way of this PE funding. HT does the report that I'm told to back even though what has gone online is pie-in-the-sky. PE colleagues in other MAT schools have been forced to do the same.
21. Too many coaches focus upon sports rather than actual PE. They also 'coach' and don't 'teach'. I'd rather have the teaching staff run the lessons however the boss insists upon using coaches so that teachers can catch up on their marking in the staffroom with coffee and a cake.
22. 'Why should I be expected to teach PE when I am a Literacy/ Numeracy / Science etc Subject Leader,' was a regular comment sounded out to me at my last Primary school. I still don't recall having ever been asked at any job interview if there was a subject of the national curriculum that I didn't want to ever teach.
23. Government needs to stop deluging schools with so many directives and allow us time to really get to grips with new initiatives. If they want all teaching staff to get on board with anything then we need quality time to factor in quality training; planning; delivery and evaluation. It would also help that we didn't have to deliver a curriculum that is rammed tight with so many subjects. I'm all for breadth and balance, but current full Primary national curriculum expectations and workload is quantity over quality. As an example, my school can only find one hour per class per week to teach PE. If the kids want to get involved in football, netball etc, then they have to join an out-of-hours sports club.