



Because growing
up can be hard



Poverty Proofing the School Day

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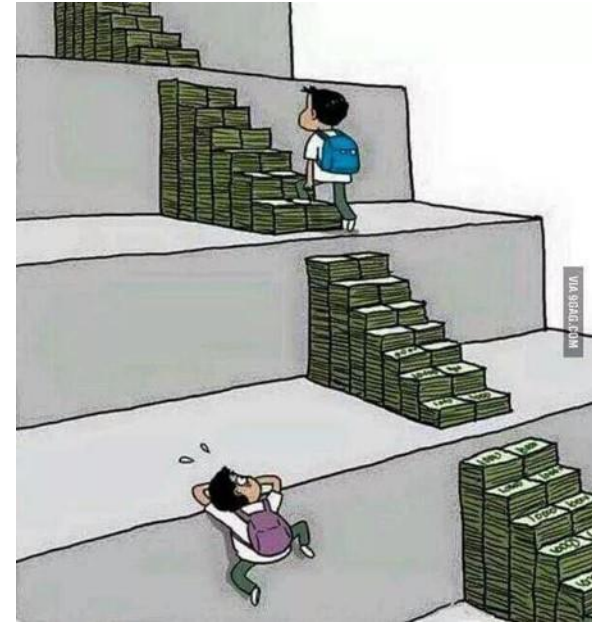
Child Poverty Statistics

- 4.1 million children living in poverty (30%)
- Slight increase on previous year
- 2022 prediction over 5.2 million children Institute for Fiscal Studies



Challenges associated with poverty

- Poor health outcomes
- Bad housing
- Food Insecurity
- Low social mobility
- In work poverty
- Poverty Trap
- Low educational attainment
- Poverty Trap

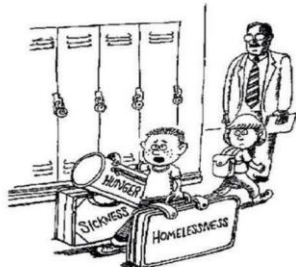


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The links between child poverty and educational outcomes

- Low income is a strong predictor of low educational performance
- By the time children start school, poor students can lag as much as 11 months behind their better off peers
- The gap between children from richer and poorer backgrounds widens especially quickly during primary school

"Could someone help me with these?
I'm late for math class."



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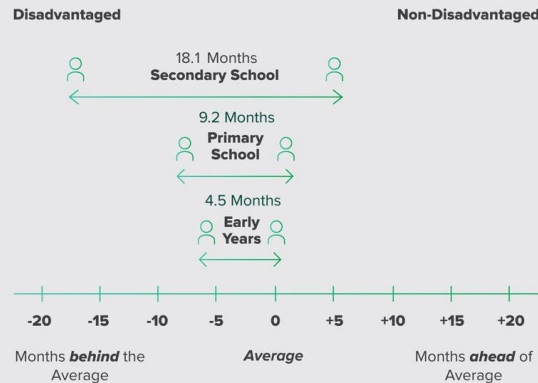


Education Policy Institute, 2019

The size of the disadvantage gap in 2018

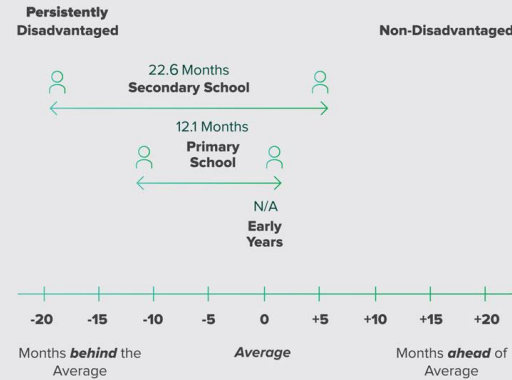
What do we mean by disadvantaged?

Pupils eligible for free school meals at any point in the previous six years



What do we mean by persistently disadvantaged?

Pupils eligible for free school meals at least 80 per cent of their time in school



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Poverty and Shame

‘Schools broadened horizons but the stark differences it exposed were a source of shaming: smartly dressed or not, more than one set of uniform or not, hungry or not, pocket money or not, calculator or not, the list was endless’

Walker et al (2013)



Poverty and Shame

*'In my research in English schools over a period of 25 years, working-class children have often said that they feel stupid, rubbish, 'no good' or even that they 'count for nothing' in the school context. **For working class children, classrooms are often places of routine everyday humiliation and slights.'***

Reay (2017)



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Poverty is not an accident.
Like slavery and apartheid,
it is man-made and
can be removed by
the actions of
human beings.

- Nelson Mandela



Poverty Proof the School Day: a history



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Poverty Proofing the School Day



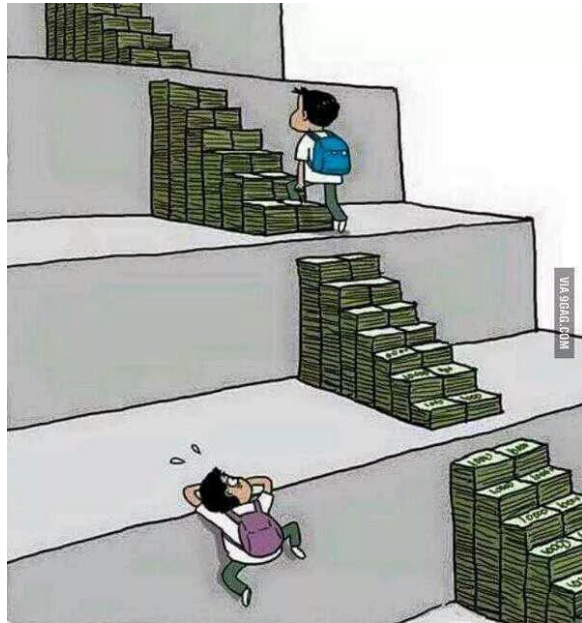
‘Look there’s Hope,
She’s got holes in her shoes,
Pays nothing for dinners,
And holds up the queue’s,
Going home with a face full of sorrow,
But don’t worry Hope,
We’ll get you tomorrow’



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What did we find?



- Food and FSM
- Resources
- Charity and Fundraising
- Uniform
- Additional Opportunities
- Celebrations
- Bullying
- Leadership and Governance



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‘Remove the barriers to learning’

‘No activity or planned activity in schools should identify, exclude, treat differently or make assumptions about those children whose household income or resources are lower than others.’



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What are we doing

School Audit

- Whole school day experience
- Consult with all students
- Consult with parents
- Report and action plan
- Support to implement an action plan
- Support to plan pupil premium spending and monitor impact
- Quality Assurance & Accreditation
- Social and Emotional Wellbeing

Staff and Governor Training

Delivery Partner



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Areas of Concern

- Additional Opportunities
- Food
- Uniform
- Homework
- Resources
- Rewards, Behaviour and Attendance
- Pupil Support
- Pupil Voice
- Bullying
- Leadership and Governance
- Celebration



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Fundraising:

How is money collected?
Are there any sponsored events?

Non-uniform days.

Costs associated with fun days.

Are the PTA poverty proofed?

Is it obvious who made donations to foodbank?

Poppys / red noses / Pudsey bears.

Where is the focus – on raising money or awareness?

Rewards:

Are roles in schools monitored?

Do children get rewards for activities that require resources?

Are attendance rewards reliant on 100% attendance?

Is the focus on rewards or sanctions?

How do you celebrate end of year?

Do reading rewards require parent signature?

Hidden Costs:

Teachers presents.

Trip kit lists.

Parents invited to support trips.

Birthday Cakes.

Secret Santa.

Does it cost to access the uniform.

Do you have to bring resources in for show and tell or toy day?

How much are the photographs and how are they distributed?



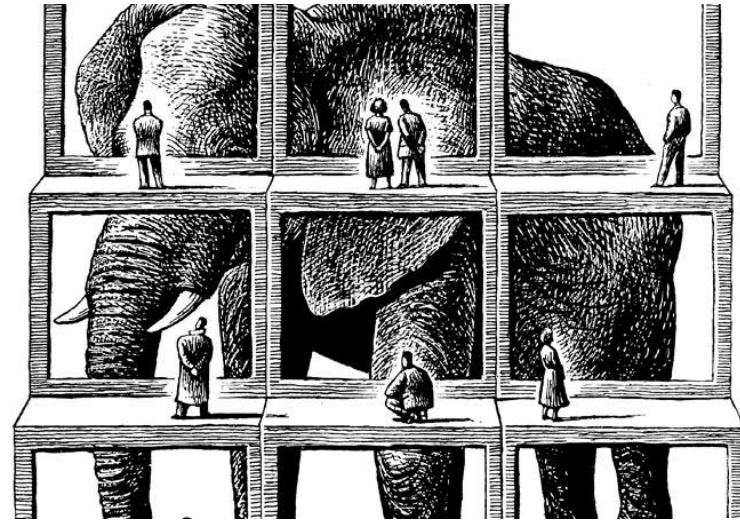
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Food: What happens to unspent FSM money? Are prices clear? Can all children access food before lunch? Can packed lunch and school meals sit together? What happens on trips? Do children have a say on meal choices? Do all students take part in Food Tech lessons?



Key Principles

- Voice of the child
- Structural / procedural change
- Perceptions
- Locality model



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Newcastle University Evaluation

- Evidence of improved attendance and attainment as a result of removing barriers to learning
- Greater take up of free school meals
- More effective use of pupil premium
- Less costly school day
- Increase in uptake of school trips and music tuition by the most disadvantaged pupils
- Shift in whole school ethos
- High impact programme
- Challenging but highly effective programme
- Dependant on third party nature of the audit
- Good value for money



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Newcastle University Evaluation

“This has been one of the most impactful programmes we have ever been involved in”

It’s not a package, it is a process leading to a shift of ethos”

“This is the best thing I’ve heard in 40 years!”

“They [pupils] speak the most amazing amount of common sense and that’s what we need to hear”



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67% OF CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY ARE FROM WORKING HOUSEHOLDS



Poverty Proofing the School Day

We support schools to identify and overcome the barriers to learning that children and young people from families with less financial resources face.

Register now and together we will help to develop an action plan individually tailored to your school. This involves carrying out audits on school policy and practice, and delivering training to your staff teams and governors.

[Find Out More](#)

A final thought.....

“The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt



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Questions?



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