

Montpelier School Financial Benchmarking

1st January 2021

<https://schools-financial-benchmarking.service.gov.uk/school/detail?urn=101912&tab=Expenditure&format=Charts#financialSummary>

Context

The information contained in the link above is based upon various data sets for Montpelier School, Ealing, W5 2QT but excludes context and this is provided below.

Montpelier School is an Outstanding school providing school to school support, access to teacher training and leadership development across several other schools.

It is both a National Support School and a National Teaching School. The headteacher is a National Leader of Education and several staff are accredited Specialist Leaders of Education. The school is highly over-subscribed and has one of the highest per pupil admission application rates in Ealing.

In line with many schools, Montpelier contracts out many of its services out. For example, teaching assistants linked to the support of pupils with special educational needs are often recruited from professional agencies because it is difficult to employ permanent staff to a role that may stop if a child leaves the school. Due to the international nature of the school, there is always a higher-than-average level of pupil mobility and therefore it is prudent not to commit funds which may not be available when pupils unexpectedly leave next year.

In the area of support staff, the benchmarking site indicates that the school employed the full time equivalent of **9.9 teaching assistants** and 10 auxiliary support staff.

In fact, for 2018 – 2019, the school employed **14.5 full time equivalent teaching assistants**.

Financial information

The link below provides information regarding the financial income and expenditure for 2018 – 2019.

During financial year 2018 – 2019 the school renewed its capital infrastructure through use of its surplus funds. Investment was also made in singular professional development projects to increase capacity. These costs were met from financial reserves which the school had accrued over time – and within permitted levels - through income generation by staff and the use of premises lettings. This had been part of a planned renewal and once the reserves had been applied, the school's end of year accounts balanced.

Whilst the benchmarking site suggests a level of expenditure that exceeds income during the relevant year, it does not take into account use of the reserves which the school held at the time.

These types of reserves can only be used for singular and time bound projects, not for regular or permanent salaries.

The school ended the financial year without going into deficit although the benchmarking information may suggest otherwise.

The school was also subject to an external financial audit in 2018-2019 and its processes and financial management were deemed to be exemplary.

The school's accounts are monitored by the local council's bursarial service and by the council's Schools Accountancy department.

For 2019 – 2020 the Department for Education was unable to complete its benchmarking activity as soon as it had planned due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

For 2019 - 2020 the school also ended the financial year with a balanced budget.

From January 2021, schools are required to publish the number of salaries that are higher than one hundred thousand pounds, in ten thousand pounds band ranges.

Each band can be represented by A, B, C, D etc. For example, Band A equals £100k - £109,999, Band B equals £110k - £119,999, Band C equals £120k - £129,999, Band D equals £130k - £139,99, Band E equals £140k - £149,999 etc. In England, school salaries reach at least Band K equalling £200k - 209,999. At Montpelier, 1 employee receives a salary in the Band D range.