

Appendix D. Calculation methodology for child material deprivation status

Material deprivation status is based on ability to afford 21 items (listed below). The classification is based on the following calculation, which follows the methodology in DWP's Households Below Average Income statistics:

- 1 Each item is given a weight equal to the proportion of people living in families that have the item. In calculating the weights, missing answers are excluded from both the numerator and the denominator. Different weights are calculated for each year. Between 2010–11 and 2019–20, weights on individual items ranged from 0.5 to 1.0. For 'child items' which are aimed at measuring material deprivation among children (marked with a * in the list below), only members of families with children are included in the denominator.
- 2 Each family is then given a material deprivation score equal to the sum of the weights of all the items that they do not have because they cannot afford them. In calculating material deprivation scores, where a response to an item question is missing the family is counted as *not* being deprived of it. Note that this is different from the calculation of weights, where missing observations are excluded.
- 3 A family with at least one-quarter of the maximum possible score is classified as being in material deprivation.
- 4 We then calculate the proportion of children living in a materially deprived family.

List of items, in decreasing order of weighting in 2019–20

- 1 Have a warm winter coat *
- 2 Celebrations on special occasions *
- 3 Keep accommodation warm enough
- 4 Outdoor space or facilities nearby *
- 5 Eat fresh fruit or vegetables every day *
- 6 Keep up with bills and debt repayments
- 7 School trip at least once a term *
- 8 Leisure equipment *
- 9 Enough bedrooms for every child over 10 *
- 10 Keep home in a decent state of décor

- 11** A hobby or leisure activity *
- 12** Money to spend each week on yourself
- 13** Replace or repair broken electrical goods
- 14** Playgroup once a week *
- 15** Organised activity outside school each week *
- 16** Week-long holiday once a year with relatives *
- 17** Friends round for tea/snack once a fortnight *
- 18** Make savings of £10 a month or more
- 19** Household contents insurance
- 20** Replace any worn out furniture
- 21** Holiday once a year not staying with relatives