

## Material Deprivation

Students are less likely to want to discuss their household income in front of their peers for fear of ridicule. It is a sensitive topic and not one people like discussing.



Parents of children who are suffering from material deprivation may not want to consent to being involved in research due to concerns that the researcher may report them. Children may be caring for parents or being left to watch siblings while parents work. Parents may also feel ashamed their child is hungry or not able to sleep

Material deprivation is difficult to observe as the impacts are mostly felt at home and behind closed doors. However it could be seen in the classroom through old uniforms, hungry and tired students and misconstrued as poor behaviour.

Material Deprivation is usually measured by the student being in receipt of free school meals, however this judgement may be false as many students do not claim free school meals due to the stigma attached to them. This makes the statistics unreliable to measure material deprivation.

Material deprivation can be just one of many factors that influence a student's achievement: students may be labelled because of their appearance, may be unable to focus in class because they are tired, or not attend because of not being able to afford travel or period poverty. Furthermore, their diet may lack nutrients and have an adverse effect on their behaviour.