

‘Pupil Premium Funding’ – What does it mean?

The ‘Pupil Premium’ was introduced by the Department for Education (DfE) in April 2011 and is paid based on January school census figures for children eligible for Free School Meals in Reception to Year Eleven.

In the 2015-16 financial year, schools will receive the following funding for each child registered as eligible for free school meals at any point in the last six years.

- £1320 for primary aged children
- £1900 for each looked after child who has been looked after for one day or more.

A premium has also been introduced for children whose parents are currently serving in the armed forces to address possible social and emotional needs.

The ‘Pupil Premium’ is additional to the main school budget and it will be used by schools to address any underlying inequalities between children eligible, by ensuring that funding reaches those who need it most.

Headteachers and school Governing Bodies are held accountable for the impact of Pupil Premium funding in the following ways:

- performance tables, which show the performance of disadvantaged children compared with their peers.
- schools are to publish details online each year to show how they are using the pupil premium and the impact it is having on children’s achievement.
- the Ofsted inspection framework, where inspectors focus on the attainment of pupil groups, and in particular those who attract the pupil premium