

Pupil Premium Policy



Wistaston Academy
Primary and Nursery School
Together We Learn • Together We Achieve

Policy Author	Angie Dewsbury, Principal
Responsible Governor's Committee	Quality of Education
Date Reviewed	September 2021
Frequency of Review	Review annually and in the light of changes to legislation or operating experience

Purpose

- The Government believes that the Pupil Premium, which is additional to main school funding, is the best way to address the current underlying inequalities between children eligible for free school meals (FSM) and their wealthier more socially advantaged peers by ensuring that funding to tackle disadvantage reaches the pupils who need it most.
- In most cases the Pupil Premium is allocated to schools and is clearly identifiable. It is for schools to decide how the Pupil Premium, allocated to schools per FSM pupil and those who have been in receipt of FSM in the preceding six years, is spent since they are best placed to assess what additional provision should be made for the individual pupils within their responsibility.
- Schools are free to spend the Pupil Premium as they see fit. However, they will be held accountable for how they have used the additional funding to support pupils from low-income families. New measures will be included in the performance tables that will capture the achievement of those deprived pupils covered by the Pupil Premium. From September 2012, the DfE has required schools to publish online information about how they have used the Premium. This will ensure that parents and others are made fully aware of the attainment of pupils covered by the Premium.

Key facts

- The Pupil Premium is allocated to children from low-income families who are currently known to be eligible for FSM in both mainstream and non-mainstream settings and children who have been looked after continuously for more than six months.
- The level of the premium in 2021-22 is £1345 per pupil for pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM) and for pupils in care who have been continuously looked after for six months there is an allocation of £2345 per pupil (LAC and post-LAC).
- The Pupil Premium was introduced in April 2011. The pupil premium for 2021 to 2022 will include pupils recorded in the October 2020 school census who are known to have been eligible for free school meals (FSM) since January 2015, as well as those pupils first known to be eligible at October 2020.
- For looked after children the Pupil Premium was calculated using the Children looked after data returns. The pupil premium for 2021 to 2022 will include pupils recorded in the October 2020 school census and alternative provision census who were looked after by an English or Welsh local authority immediately before being adopted, or who left local authority care on a special guardianship order or child arrangements order (previously known as a residence order). These are collectively referred to as post-LAC.
- Local authorities are responsible for looked after children in care and will make payments to schools and academies where an eligible looked after child is on roll.

- Any pupils who have been eligible for free school meals (FSM) at any point in the last 6 years also qualify for the Pupil Premium.

Service Premium (Ever 6 service child)

- A premium has also been introduced for children whose parents are currently serving in the armed forces; this is £310 for 2021-22. An Ever 6 service child means a pupil who was eligible since January 2015 census and for the first time recorded in the October 2020 census. This service premium is designed to address the emotional and social well-being of these pupils.

School vision

The targeted and strategic use of pupil premium will address historical inequalities in achievement between children on FSMs, Looked after children (LAC) and children who have left care (post- LAC), Service Children and their more socially and economically advantaged peers.

Principles

- The school will ensure that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all of the pupils through quality first teaching.
- That appropriate provision is made for pupils who belong to vulnerable groups, this includes ensuring that the needs of socially disadvantaged pupils are adequately assessed.
- In making provision for socially disadvantaged pupils, the school recognises that not all pupils who receive free school meals will be socially disadvantaged and not all socially disadvantaged pupils will be in receipt of Free School Meals. We reserve the right to allocate the Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil or groups of pupils the school has legitimately identified as being socially disadvantaged. In our school, this may be as high as 41% in some year groups.
- The school also recognises that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for free school meals. The school will reserve the right to allocate the Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil or groups of pupils the school has legitimately identified as being in need of intervention and support.
- Achievement data will be analysed closely and regularly by all teachers and leaders to track Pupil Premium pupils, ensuring that whatever intervention is provided draws on the strongest evidence-based data (such as the Sutton Trust Education Endowment Foundation Teaching and Learning Toolkit).

Reporting

- It will be the responsibility of the Headteacher, or a delegated member of staff, to report to the Governors on:
 - the progress made towards narrowing the gap, by year group, for socially disadvantaged pupils
 - an outline of the provision that has been made since the last meeting

- an evaluation of the cost effectiveness, in terms of the progress made by the pupils receiving a particular provision
- Governors will ensure that there is an annual statement to parents on how the Pupil Premium funding has been used to address the issue of 'narrowing the gap' for socially disadvantaged pupils. This task will be carried out within the requirements published by the Department for Education and will appear on our school website.
- Parents/carers will receive information as to the progress of pupils through personal information sent home on SEN support plans and through reporting of assessment results at the end of the academic year and at regular parent/carer meetings.