

Pupil Premium Policy

Date of Policy: Autumn 2021
Date of Review: Autumn 2022
Next Review: To be reviewed annually

Policy Review Dates

Review Date	Changes made	Shared with staff
Autumn 2021	Highlighted sections have been added	Autumn 2021

Background

The pupil premium is an initiative that was introduced by the Coalition Government in April 2011 to provide additional support for looked after children, service family children and those from low income families, children who have been registered for free school meals (FSM) and from 2012-13 at any point in the last six years, known as the Ever 6 FSM measure, or are looked after continuously by the local authority for more than six months. It also incorporates adopted children too.

The extra funding is made available to schools to help them narrow the attainment gap that still exists between children from disadvantaged and more affluent backgrounds. School Meals is the only pupil level measure of deprivation available.

The link between FSM eligibility and under achievement is very strong. Evidence is clear that schools have a direct impact on children's attainment as well as influencing the home environment. Life chances are not fixed at age five and schools are independently important for improving children's attainment and narrowing gaps. Evidence shows that the most effective schools achieve this through a combination of high-quality teaching, strong leadership, a relevant and coherent curriculum, a culture of high expectations and targeted catch-up and enrichment activities. Intensive support such as one-to-one tuition or as a group, can enable children from disadvantaged backgrounds to catch up with their peers.

At Vaughan Primary School, we will use the indicator of those eligible for FSM as well as identified vulnerable groups as our target children to address any underlying inequalities between children eligible by ensuring that funding reaches the pupils who need it most.

PPG allocation

The school adopts the following definitions for PPG eligibility, in line with government expectations:

- **Ever 6 FSM:** pupils recorded in the October 2020 census who have had a recorded period of FSM eligibility since January 2015, as well as those first recorded as eligible during October 2020.

- **NRPF:** pupils with no resource to public funds (NRPF) who are eligible for FSM under the temporary coronavirus (COVID-19) extension to FSM eligibility, even if not recorded on the school census as eligible for FSM
- **LAC and PLAC:** pupils recorded in the October 2020 census who are in the care of an English LA, or pupils recorded as having been looked after by an English or Welsh LA immediately prior to adoption, a special guardianship order or child arrangements order
- **Ever 6 service children:** pupils recorded in the October 2020 school census who have been eligible for the service child premium at any point since the January 2015 census, as well as those recorded as a service child for the first time in the October 2020 census

The school will receive its PPG funding from the LA and will be based on October 2020 census data instead of using the January census as was the case in previous years. The census change brings pupil premium allocations in line with how the rest of the core schools' budget is calculated. The change also provides earlier clarity for the school on their allocations. In this transitional year, pupil premium allocations have been confirmed within the usual timeline in June 2021.

From 2022, the annual pupil premium allocations for mainstream and special schools will be published in March. Alongside the pupil premium, pupils who are eligible for FSM, or have been at any point in the last six years, also attract funding through the schools national funding formula.

Parents and carers - How can you help your child?

We take very seriously the public monies entrusted to our school and the additional money the school receives from Pupil Premium is very important to us. The Government's intention is for this funding to continue to be the principal method of tackling underachievement.

Even if your child does not wish to take Free School Meals, it is beneficial to the school for the eligibility to be recorded.

Please use the website below to see if you are entitled to claim free school meals. If you are eligible, please do let us know.

If you are unsure if you are eligible, please come and speak to the school office or the Pupil Premium Champion for your child's year group for a chat in complete confidence. It is important to us that everyone receives their full entitlement.

How Does It Work? Do You Qualify?

First check if you qualify – it is not just if you are unemployed, so please look at the list below.

From 1 April 2018, the Department for Education made changes to the Universal Credit Thresholds. Any pupil eligible for Free School Meals before this date will be protected until 31 March 2022.

Registering is quick and easy – if you think you qualify, check online at:

<https://pps.lgfl.org.uk/>

A link is also available on the school website.

Free School Meals are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income - based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income - related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190.
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' – the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

In addition, the following pupils will be protected against losing their free school meals as follows:

- From 1 April 2018, all existing free school meals claimants will continue to receive free school meals whilst Universal Credit is rolled out. This will apply even if their earnings rise above the new threshold during that time.
- In addition, any child gaining eligibility for free school meals after 1 April 2018 will be protected against losing free school meals during the Universal Credit rollout period.
- Once Universal Credit is fully rolled out, any existing claimants that no longer meet the eligibility criteria at that point (because they are earning above the threshold or are no longer a recipient of Universal Credit) will continue to receive free school meals until the end of their current phase of education (i.e. primary or secondary). The Universal Credit rollout is currently expected to complete in March 2022.
- A pupil is only eligible to receive a free school meal when a claim for the meal has been made on their behalf, and their eligibility has been verified by the school where they are enrolled or by the local authority.

Even if you do not receive any of the benefits above, please still use the link to <https://pps.lgfl.org.uk/> to check your eligibility.

A successful application for Pupil Premium will not have a negative impact on payments of any other benefits you receive.

Vaughan Primary School – How we will help your child

Context:

When making decisions about using pupil premium funding, it is important to consider the context of the school and the subsequent challenges faced.

Common barriers may include less support at home, weak language and communication skills, lack of confidence, more frequent behaviour difficulties, and attendance and punctuality issues. There may also be complex family situations that prevent children from flourishing. The challenges are varied and there is no 'one size fits all'.

It is not the funding itself that will improve attainment gaps, but how we use it. We will ensure that the additional funding reaches the pupils who need it most and that it makes a significant impact on their education and lives.

Some children require additional support to meet their potential, and the Pupil Premium will provide us with the resources they need to provide that support. The Pupil Premium is in addition to the school budget.

The school's vision is to provide a happy, safe and secure environment. The targeted and strategic use of Pupil Premium funding will support us in achieving this vision.

Key Principles and Aims:

- To provide all pupils with fair and equal opportunities to achieve and excel in all areas of the curriculum; using and applying the most effective pedagogy, (see Learning & Teaching policy), supported by use of additional, delegated funding.
- To work in partnership with families and pupils eligible for pupil premium, to plan, monitor and evaluate support and intervention in order to secure individual progress and achievement.
- To work with external partners and organisations to provide additional support for the social, emotional, health and wellbeing of all pupils with potential barriers to learning and achievement.
- To ensure governors fulfil statutory responsibilities to make effective use of pupil premium funds in order to impact positively on pupils' achievement and attainment.

By following these key principles, we believe we can maximise the impact of our pupil premium spending.

Building Belief:

We will provide a culture where:

- pupils' voices matter
- staff believe in ALL children
- there are 'no excuses' made for underperformance
- staff adopt a 'solution-focused' approach to overcoming barriers
- staff support children to develop metacognition and promote independent learning and thinking skills

Analysing Data:

We will ensure that:

- All staff are involved in the analysis of data so that they are fully aware of strengths and weaknesses across the school
- We use research evidence such as the Sutton Trust Toolkit, OFSTED annual reports, and information from DfE to allocate the funding to the activities that are most likely to have an impact on improving achievement

Identification of Pupils:

We will ensure that:

- ALL teaching staff and support staff are involved in the analysis of data and identification of pupils
- ALL staff are aware of who pupil premium and vulnerable children are
- ALL pupil premium children benefit from the funding, not just those who are underperforming
- Underachievement at all levels is targeted (not just lower attaining pupils)
- Children's individual needs are considered carefully so that we provide support for those children who could be doing 'even better if...'

Improving Day to Day Teaching:

We will continue to ensure that **all** children across the school receive good teaching, with increasing percentages of outstanding teaching achieved by:

- Setting high expectations
- Ensuring consistent implementation of the non-negotiables, e.g. marking
- Sharing good practice within the school and drawing on external expertise
- Providing high quality CPD
- Improving assessment through moderation within school and with other schools

Increasing learning time:

We will maximise the time children have to 'catch up' through:

- Improving attendance and punctuality
- Providing earlier intervention
- Extended learning out of school hours

Individualising support:

"There's no stigma attached to being in an intervention in this school. Everyone needs something, whatever that might be, and so they're all getting something somewhere."

We will ensure that the additional support we provide is effective by:

- Looking at the individual needs of each child and identifying their barriers to learning
- Ensuring additional support staff and class teachers communicate regularly
- Using Year Group Leaders to provide high quality interventions across their year groups/phases

- Using Pupil Premium Champions to provide carefully targeted support to pupil premium children in their phase.
- Matching the skills of the support staff to the interventions they provide and tailoring interventions to the needs of the child
- Working with other agencies to bring in additional expertise
- Providing extensive support for parents to develop their own skills, e.g. ESOL lessons and workshops for parents with EAL children and SEND children.

Going the Extra Mile:

In our determination to ensure that ALL children succeed, we recognise the need for, and are committed to, providing completely individualised interventions for set periods of time to support children in times of crisis. This support may include some financial contribution for school trips, activities or school uniform. Financial support is not automatic and such requests need to be addressed to the Headteacher who will make an assessment on a case by case basis. Any requests for financial support with school uniform can only be made once each academic year for each child.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

We will ensure that:

- A wide range of data is used – achievement data, pupils’ work, observations, learning walks, Lines of Enquiries, case studies, and staff, parent and pupil voice
- Assessment Data is collected half termly so that the impact of interventions can be monitored regularly
- Assessments are closely moderated to ensure they are accurate
- Teaching staff and support staff attend and contribute to pupil progress meetings each term and the identification of children is reviewed

Regular feedback about performance is given to children and parents:

- Interventions are adapted or changed if they are not working
- Case studies are used to evaluate the impact of pastoral interventions, such as on attendance and behaviour
- A designated member of the SLT maintains an overview of pupil premium spending. At Vaughan Primary School, this is the Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion.
- A Governor is given responsibility for pupil premium

Reporting:

When reporting about pupil premium funding we will include:

- information about the context of the school
- objectives for the year
- reasons for decision making
- analysis of data
- use of research
- nature of support and allocation
- learning in the curriculum
- social, emotional and behavioural issues
- enrichment beyond the curriculum
- overview of spending
- total PPG (pupil premium grant) received

- total PPG spent
- total PPG remaining
- a summary of the impact of PPG
- performance of disadvantaged pupils (compared to non-pupil premium children)
- other evidence of impact e.g. Ofsted, Accreditations
- case studies (pastoral support, individualised interventions)
- implications for pupil premium spending the following year
- use of the recovery premium

The Governing Body will consider the information provided and will ensure that there is an annual statement to the parents on the school website outlining how the Pupil Premium funding has been used to address the issue of closing the gap for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium. This task will be carried out in line with the requirements published by the Department for Education.

Through wise use of this additional funding, we are fully committed to ensuring that the individual needs of each entitled child are met.

This policy will be reviewed and updated annually.