



Pupil Premium strategy 2025 - 2026

Intent

The Pupil Premium (PP) is an allocation of additional funding given to schools *'to improve educational outcomes for disadvantaged pupils in state-funded schools in England.'* (Department for Education DfE Feb 2024)

'The grant also provides support for children and young people with parents in the regular armed forces, referred to as service pupil premium (SPP). These pupils...are not necessarily from financially disadvantaged backgrounds.'

Pupil premium funding is allocated to eligible schools based on the number of:

- pupils who are recorded as eligible for free school meals, or have been recorded as eligible in the past 6 years (referred to as Ever 6 FSM)*
- children previously looked after by a local authority or other state care, including children adopted from state care or equivalent from outside England and Wales*

(Department for Education DfE Feb 2024)

When making decisions about using Pupil Premium funding it is important to consider the context of the school and the subsequent challenges that are faced. Common barriers to learning for disadvantaged children may include: less support at home; weak language and communication skills; lack of confidence; behaviour difficulties; attendance and punctuality issues. There may also be complex family situations which prevent children from flourishing. The challenges are different for each and every child and therefore the support needed will vary.

We recognise that not all pupils who receive pupil premium funding will be socially disadvantaged. Similarly, not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered and/or qualify for free school meals. Because of this, 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. Pupil Premium funding will be allocated following a needs analysis which will identify priority classes, groups or individuals.

We ensure that all teaching staff are involved in the analysis of children's progress and attainment data and the identification of pupils' needs. This helps to raise awareness of

strengths and weaknesses across the school for all pupils, but with a particular focus on those children in receipt of PP funding.

Implementation

Pupil premium is not a personal budget for individual pupils, and schools do not have to spend pupil premium so that it solely benefits pupils who meet the funding criteria. It can be used:

- to support other pupils with identified needs, such as those who have or have had a social worker, or who act as a carer*
- for whole class interventions which will also benefit non-disadvantaged pupils*

(Department for Education DfE Feb 2024)

- We ensure that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of **all** pupils.
- We ensure that appropriate, child-centred provision is made for pupils in vulnerable groups (PP, EAL, SEND for example) ensuring that the needs of these pupils are adequately identified and addressed.
- In making provision for socially disadvantaged pupils, we recognise that not all pupils in receipt of PP funding will be socially disadvantaged, and that these pupils may also be in additional vulnerable groups e.g. SEND (special educational needs and disabilities).
- We also recognise that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered and/or qualify for 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.
- Pupil Premium funding will be allocated following a needs analysis which will identify priority classes, groups or individuals.

Impact

Pupil Premium funding at North Curry CofE Primary School and Nursery is used to support the provision of:

- High-quality teaching - TA support in classes in the mornings for small group and individual support with aspects of learning.
- Targeted academic support - a highly trained HLTA delivers evidence-based interventions to individuals or small groups of children.

- Emotional Literacy support (ELSA) - funding will be used to train a new ELSA, whose work with the children will then help to tackle non-academic barriers to learning such as difficulties with attendance, behaviour, and social and emotional wellbeing
- Funding supports families in receipt of PP funding by contributing towards the cost of school trips/residentials, swimming lessons, forest school, uniform for example

It will be the responsibility of the Headteacher, to produce regular reports for the Local Governing Body, which will include:

- The progress made towards narrowing the gap, by year group, for socially disadvantaged pupils.
- An outline of the provision that was made since the last meeting.
- An evaluation of the cost effectiveness, in terms of the progress made by the pupils receiving a particular provision, when compared with other forms of support.
- The Governors of the school will ensure that there is an annual statement to parents on how the Pupil Premium funding has been used. This task will be carried out within the requirements published by the Department for Education and will appear on our school website.