

## Pupil Premium Executive Summary

### What is the Pupil Premium?

The Pupil Premium is additional funding paid to schools for identified groups of pupils for two purposes:

- Raising the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and closing the gap with their peers; and
- Supporting children and young people with parents in the regular armed force

The aims of the funding are as follows:

- To reduce the attainment gap between the highest and lowest achieving pupils nationally
- To increase social mobility
- To enable more pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds to get to the top Universities
- To provide additional resources to schools to do this
- To support looked after children and post -LAC.

### Who is eligible for funding?

There are four groups of children eligible for the grant funding. They are:

- Children receiving Free School Meals (FSM) at any point in the past six years.
- Current children Looked After (CLA)
- Children who leave care on an order or 'Post LAC'
- Children whose parents are Armed Forces Service Personnel.

### How much is the funding?

| <b>Disadvantaged pupils</b>   | <b>Funding per pupil</b> |
|---|--------------------------|
| Pupils in Year Groups R to 6 recorded as Ever 6 FSM   | £1,300                   |
| Pupils in Year Groups 7 to 11 recorded as Ever 6 FSM  | £935                     |
| Looked After Children (LAC)   | £1,900                   |
| Children adopted from care under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 and children who have left care under a Special Guardianship or Residence Order | £1,900                   |
| <b>Service children</b>   |                          |
| Pupils in Year Groups R to 11 recorded as Ever 4 Service Child or in receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence.                       | £300                     |

## Support for implementing the Pupil Premium

Ofsted have published a very useful report for schools. *'The Pupil Premium – How schools are spending the funding successfully to maximise achievement'*, available from [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)  
This report highlights best practice supported by a range of case studies.



### The effective use of the Pupil Premium

- Targeting the funding well from the outset
- Taking a long-term view: getting it right
- Tailoring interventions to meet individual needs through systematic tracking of progress
- Intervention targeted to overcome specific barriers to learning

### Accountability for the Pupil Premium:

The pupil premium is paid to schools as they are best placed to assess what additional provision their pupils need. Ofsted inspections report on how schools' use of the funding affects the attainment of their disadvantaged pupils.

The following accountability measures have been introduced to ensure the effective use of the Pupil Premium Funding:

- Performance tables that clearly show the attainment of FSM and CLA compared to their peers. *E.g. Raise on Line, DfE performance tables*
- Increased focus on the use of Pupil Premium within Ofsted inspections.
- Schools are required to publish online specific information about their use of the Pupil Premium.
- The Personal Education Plan for CLA will have specific and clear learning targets with allocated funding. Impact will be evaluated.
- From September 2013, schools who enter 'Requires Improvement' and where disadvantaged pupils do poorly, will be required to work with an outstanding leader of education.

### Key questions for Governing bodies to consider:

Ofsted have published a useful toolkit to support the evaluation of Pupil Premium. This includes key questions for governors to consider.

1. Have leaders and governors considered research and reports about what works to inform their decisions about how to spend the Pupil Premium?
2. Do governors know how much money is allocated to the school for the Pupil Premium? Is this identified in the school's budget planning?
3. Is there a clearly understood and shared rationale for how this money is spent and what it should achieve? Is this communicated to all stakeholders including parents?
4. Do governors know how the school spends this money? What improvements has the allocation brought about? How is this measured and reported to governors and parents via the school's website (a new requirement)?
5. If this funding is combined with other resources, can governors isolate and check on the impact of the funding and ascertain the difference it is making?
6. Do governors know whether leaders and managers are checking that the actions are working and are of suitable quality?

*Extract from: 'The Pupil Premium – Analysis and challenge tools for schools.' Ofsted ref: 130045*  
[www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

### **Service Pupil Premium**

The [service premium](#) is designed to support children with parents serving in the regular British armed forces.

Pupils attract the premium if they meet the following criteria:

- one of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces
- one of their parents served in the regular armed forces in the last 3 years
- one of their parents died while serving in the armed forces and the pupil is in receipt of a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) and the War Pensions Scheme (WPS)

In the financial year 2014 to 2015, schools will receive £300 for each eligible pupil.

### **Pupil Premium Plus for Children Looked After**

In 2014-15 there are several changes to the Pupil Premium grant which is now called the **Pupil Premium Plus** Grant for children looked after. There are also changes to how it is distributed to schools.

#### **Looked After Children**

For the 2014-15 financial year, there is a notional allocation for looked after children of £1900 an increase of £1000 per pupil. This funding is available for all children looked after who have been in care of at least one day in year groups R-11.

The Local Authority that looks after the child will continue to be responsible for distributing the Pupil Premium Plus payments to schools and academies. This will mean that the schools who

have children on roll looked after by other local authorities will receive the funding from the 'corporate parent' authority for the child.

The biggest change in the allocation of the funding is that the Virtual School Head Teacher has responsibility and accountability for making sure that there are effective arrangements in place for allocating Pupil Premium Plus funding to benefit children looked after by their Authority. Each Virtual Head must develop a policy for allocation of the funding for the local authority

The grant must be managed by the Virtual School and used to improve outcomes and "narrow the gap" as identified in the Personal Education Plan (PEP) in consultation with the Designated Teacher for the school. How the funding is to be spent will be discussed during the child's Personal Education Planning meeting but must be used efficiently and effectively.

As a result, the Personal Education Plan (PEP) will need to be monitored even more closely by the Designated Teacher, the Virtual School team, the Social Worker, Team Leaders and Independent Reviewing Officers. The PEP will now be required to be reviewed on a termly basis.

In Hertfordshire, the policy is to allocate a fixed amount to schools to support financial planning and also offer a means to bid for additional funds according to the differing need of the child. Schools will receive £1500 of the premium in termly instalments of £500 per looked after child on roll, starting in the summer term 2014. The funding will continue to be paid each term as previously.

The remaining £400 for each child will be retained centrally. Schools are encouraged to make a bid for extra funding when required to meet the differing needs of children. How additional funding could be used will be agreed during the Personal Education Planning process for the child. Schools and Virtual Heads must be mindful that any centrally held grant can't be carried forward into a new financial year, and unspent grant will be recovered by the DfE after the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2015.

The Pupil Premium will provide funding for schools to help target barriers to learning and close the attainment gap between students. The four Head Teachers who sit on the Virtual School Governing body will both scrutinise the impact of the use of the funding and will receive a termly audit of the centrally held funding so that the spend is transparent. An annual report will be made to the Corporate Parenting and Children's Services Panel as part of the process of accountability. To support this process, there will be a streamlining of the PEP format that will enable schools to effectively report on the impact of the use of the funding in school.

The DfE have also introduced a new category of Pupil Premium Plus that will be paid separately to schools for children who are 'Post-LAC'. These are children who have left care under a Special Guardianship Order, a Residence Order or as a result of Adoption from care. Schools attract £1900 for every child identified as being adopted from care/post-LAC on the January School Census. This is additional funding given to schools to improve the educational and personal outcomes for pupils who have been adopted from care, including (but not limited to) their attainment.

From April 2014, maintained schools, non-maintained special schools and general hospital schools will attract the Pupil Premium for children:

- that left care under a Residential Order on or after 14 October 1991 (under the Children Act 1989);
- that left care under a Special Guardianship Order on or after 30 December 2005 (under the Children Act 1989);
- that were adopted from care on or after 30 December 2005 (under the Adoption and Children Act 2002);
- are in Reception to Year 11;
- where the parent self-declares their child's status to the school, providing supporting evidence (e.g. an adoption order); and
- where the school records on the January School Census that it has a child on roll who meets the above criteria.

The Schools Census 2014 guidance explains exactly what schools need to record on the census return and highlights the sensitivities that may exist around asking parents to self-disclose

Children adopted from care and post-LAC are no longer looked after and Virtual School Heads do not have a role in promoting their achievement. Individual schools are responsible for the educational outcomes of children adopted from care/post-LAC on roll and therefore are best placed to decide how to use the Pupil Premium to support these pupils. Schools may wish to discuss the measures they are putting in place with the parents and guardians of the pupils concerned.

Further information on the Pupil Premium and Pupil Premium Plus can be found on the following website:

Department for Education [www.gov.uk/dfes](http://www.gov.uk/dfes)  
Ofsted [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)