

Willow Bank Infant School

Pupil premium policy



Updated November 2021

Aims

- To provide background information about the pupil premium grant so that all members of the school community understand its purpose and which pupils are eligible
- To set out how the school will make decisions on pupil premium spending
- To summarise the roles and responsibilities of those involved in managing the pupil premium in school

Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the pupil premium conditions of grant guidance (2021-2022), published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency. It is also based on guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on virtual school heads' responsibilities concerning the pupil premium, and the service premium. In addition, this policy refers to the DfE's information on what maintained schools must publish online.

Purpose of the grant

The pupil premium grant is additional funding allocated to publicly funded schools to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and support pupils with parents in the armed forces.

The school will use the grant to support these groups, which comprise pupils with a range of different abilities, to narrow any achievement gaps between them and their peers.

We also recognise that not all pupils eligible for pupil premium funding will have lower attainment than their peers. In such cases, the grant will be used to help improve pupils' progress and attainment so that they can reach their full potential.

Provision

- Providing small group work with an experienced teacher or teaching assistant focussed on overcoming gaps in learning
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities provided by trained TAs or external agencies
- A curriculum, under constant review, which is designed to offer maximum flexibility to meet the needs of individuals.

- Constant staff development and training to ensure that all staff in school are able to provide for each individual child.
- A broad and varied extra-curricular programme to offer experience outside of the classroom to all children.
- Individual support programmes.
- Support with meeting costs of after school activities and educational visits
- Providing extra resources to support pupil premium children's academic progress eg IT

We will publish our strategy on the school's use of the pupil premium in each academic year on the school website, in line the DfE's requirements on what maintained schools must publish online and using the templates on GOV.UK.

Eligible pupils

The pupil premium is allocated to the school based on the number of eligible pupils in EYFS2, Year 1 and Year 2.

Eligible pupils fall into the categories explained below.

Ever 6 free school meals

Pupils recorded in the most recent October school census who are known to have been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years (as determined by the DfE's latest conditions of grant guidance).

This includes pupils first known to be eligible for free school meals in the most recent October census.

It does not include pupils who received universal infant free school meals but would not have otherwise received free lunches.

Looked after children

Pupils who are in the care of, or provided with accommodation by, a local authority in England or Wales for at least 1 day. Allocations will be provisionally based on the children looked-after data return in March of the previous year, and then confirmed in December of the current year based on the children looked-after data return in March of the current year.

Post-looked after children

Pupils recorded in the most recent October 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.

Ever 6 service children

Pupils recorded in the most recent October census:

- With a parent serving in the regular armed forces

- Who have been registered as a 'service child' in the school census at any point in the last 6 years (as determined by the DfE's latest conditions of grant guidance), including those first recorded as such in the most recent October census
- In receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence because one of their parents died while serving in the armed forces

Roles and responsibilities

Headteacher and senior leadership team

The headteacher and senior leadership team are responsible for:

- Keeping this policy up to date, and ensuring that it is implemented across the school
- Ensuring that all school staff are aware of their role in raising the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and supporting pupils with parents in the armed forces
- Planning pupil premium spending and keeping this under constant review, using an evidence-based approach and working with virtual school heads where appropriate
- Monitoring the attainment and progress of pupils eligible for the pupil premium to assess the impact of the school's use of the funding
- Reporting on the impact of pupil premium spending to the governing board on an ongoing basis
- Publishing the school's pupil premium strategy on the school website each academic year, as required by the DfE
- Providing relevant training for staff, as necessary, on supporting disadvantaged pupils and raising attainment

Governors

- The governing board is responsible for:
- Holding the headteacher to account for the implementation of this policy
- Ensuring the school is using pupil premium funding appropriately, in line with the rules set out in the conditions of grant
- Monitoring the attainment and progress of pupils eligible for the pupil premium, in conjunction with the headteacher, to assess the impact and effectiveness of the school's use of the funding
- Monitoring whether the school is ensuring value for money in its use of the pupil premium
- Challenging the headteacher to use the pupil premium in the most effective way
- Setting the school's ethos and values around supporting disadvantaged members of the school community

Other school staff

- All school staff are responsible for:
- Implementing this policy on a day-to-day basis
- Setting high expectations for all pupils, including those eligible for the pupil premium
- Identifying pupils whose attainment is not improving in response to interventions funded by the pupil premium, and highlighting these individuals to the senior leadership team
- Sharing insights into effective practice with other school staff

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed by the Headteacher and senior leadership team. At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing board.