



# Pupil Premium Policy

Adopted by Governors: *January 2013*

Union Meeting (if applicable) *NA*

Next Review due: *Autumn 2025*

**Committee Reviewed at:      Quality. Autumn 24**

**Signed by Chair of Committee:.....**

**Date:.....**

**Signed by Head Teacher:.....**

**Date:.....**

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## 1. Aims

This policy 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
- › Set out **how the school will make decisions** on pupil premium spending
- › **Summarise the roles and responsibilities of those involved** in managing the pupil premium in school

## 2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the [Pupil premium 2023-24: conditions of grant for local authorities - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/644442/pupil-premium-2023-24-conditions-of-grant-for-local-authorities.pdf) 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](#).

## 3. 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.

## 4. Use of the grant

The School uses the grant using the following principles:

- › the school's spending strategy is informed by research evidence, referring to a range of sources, such as the [guide published by the Education Endowment Foundation \(EEF\)](#);
- › the grant supports the quality of teaching, such as staff professional development;
- › the Grant provides targeted academic support, such as tutoring; and
- › the Grant tackles non-academic barriers to academic success, such as attendance, behaviour and social and emotional support.

Our use of the pupil premium and activities align with the DfE's 'menu of approaches' which includes:

- › Considering the context of the school and the main challenges or barriers your disadvantaged and vulnerable pupils face.
- › Using evidence, such as learning from what works in your school, to inform your decisions on pupil premium spending
- › Addressing a wide range of needs, and take group and individual needs into account
- › Engaging with parents to take their views on their child's needs into account
- › Making sure the school uses its pupil premium as effectively as possible (for example, taking into consideration which interventions will be the most beneficial for your pupils, based on evidence)
- › Integrate pupil premium interventions into the curriculum
- › Make sure all staff promote the principles and ethos of the pupil premium strategy

Some examples of how the school may use the grant include, but are not limited to:

- Providing extra 1-to-1 or small-group support
- Employing extra teaching assistants
- Funding educational trips and visits
- Employing a family and pastoral lead.

We will publish our strategy statement on the school's use of the pupil premium in each academic year on the school website, in line with the DfE's [guidance on using the pupil premium](#) and using the templates on GOV.UK.

Our pupil premium strategy statement is available here: [Pupil Premium | Birkett House School](#)

## 5. Eligible pupils

The pupil premium is allocated to the school based on the number of eligible pupils in between reception and year 11.

Eligible pupils fall into the categories explained below.

### 5.1 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.

### 5.2 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.

### 5.3 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.

### 5.4 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

## **6. Roles and responsibilities**

### **6.1 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 pupil premium strategy statement on the school's use of the pupil premium in each academic year on the school website, in line with the DfE's [guidance on using the pupil premium](#) and using the templates on GOV.UK.
- › Providing relevant training for staff, as necessary, on supporting disadvantaged pupils and raising attainment

### **6.2 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

### **6.3 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

### **6.4 Virtual school heads**

Virtual school heads are responsible for managing pupil premium funding for children looked after by a local authority, and allocating it to schools. Their responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Identifying the eligible looked-after children and informing the local authority
- Making sure methods for allocating and spending ensure that looked-after children benefit without delay
- Working with each looked-after child's educational setting to put together a personal education plan, agree how pupil premium funding will be spent to meet the need identified in this plan, and ensure the funding is spent in this way
- Demonstrating how pupil premium funding is raising the achievement of looked after children

Virtual school heads are in charge of promoting the educational achievement of all the children looked after by the local authority they work for.

## **7. Monitoring arrangements**

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