



Pupil Premium Grant

Information for Parents

What is the Pupil Premium?

The Pupil Premium was introduced in April 2011 and is additional funding that the government gives to schools for each pupil on roll where they are deemed to be disadvantaged. The money must be spent on that pupil to support their education, but it is for the school to determine how it is spent.

The Department of Education website is a good source of additional information:
<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/premium>

Why is the Government providing the Pupil Premium?

Poverty or low income is the single most important factor in predicting a child's future life chances, with many pupils having low attainment by the time they leave school at age 16. The Government believes that the Pupil Premium is the best way to address these underlying inequalities between children eligible for free school meals (FSM) and their peers by ensuring that funding to tackle disadvantage reaches the pupils who need it most.

Who receives the Pupil Premium?

Pupil Premium is allocated to pupils in school year groups from Reception to Year 11 from low income families who are registered for FSM, or who have been registered for FSM at any point in the last six years (known as 'Ever 6'), together with children that have been in care continuously for 6 months or more.

How do parents register their child's entitlement for Pupil Premium?

Parents must apply for free school meals via the County Council or their child's school, this is a quick and simple process. Telephone, with your National Insurance Number, date of birth, name and child's details and an eligibility check can be carried out using the Department for Education's Eligibility Checking System, this will confirm if details have been matched or not. It will not tell us what benefits you are in receipt of, dates when a benefit was awarded or say how much you receive.

Confirmation will be sent to you and the school within 5-10 working days.

Pupils do not have to take up their entitlement to a free meal but Local Authorities and schools recommend that they do. The government is made aware of each pupil claiming FSMs each term via the school census so they have up-to-date information on those eligible.

How much are the Pupil Premium Grants worth?

The Pupil Premium for the financial year 2012-13 was £623, it increased to £900 for the 2013-14 financial year, and will increase to £1,300 for 2014/15. This is significant additional money for schools to spend on supporting disadvantaged pupils and schools are very keen to ensure that all eligible pupils are 'signed up'. Grants are based on those pupils included in the January schools' census.