

The Use, Impact and Outcomes of Pupil Premium at Woodfield School



Background:

Introduced in April 2011, the Pupil Premium is allocated by the Government to children who are deemed to be in particular vulnerable groups. It is allocated to children either looked after by the Local Authority continuously for more than 6 months, have been eligible for free school meals (FSM) at any point in the last six years (also known as Ever 6 FSM) or for children whose parents are currently serving in the armed forces. The Government provides additional funding to schools in the form of the Pupil Premium in order that these specific groups of pupils aged between 4 and 16, who may be disadvantaged by virtue of the family circumstances, can be supported in their progress and attainment.

Allocation:

Each financial year we receive funds based upon the number of pupils who are eligible in any of the above categories. We will continue to seek ways to encourage parents and carers to apply for free school meals where pride, stigma or changing circumstances act as barriers to its take-up.

In 2017/18 the Government has allocated:

- £1,320 per eligible primary aged pupil and £935 for eligible secondary aged pupils (based on FSM)
- £1,900 for each eligible pupil - CLA (Pupil Premium Plus).
- £300 per eligible pupil (Service family)
- £300 per eligible pupil (Early Years PP)

Based on our Pupil Premium numbers (21 pupils) we have an indicative Pupil Premium income of £15,620 for the financial year 2017/18, but this is subject to variation. Our total expected by the end of the academic year is therefore £24,835.

The Pupil Premium funding is not necessarily intended to be specifically allocated to individual pupils; schools have the freedom to decide how it can best be spent to ensure that the maximum numbers of pupils are supported. There may well be limited impact that the individual sums for the different eligible groups can achieve and for this reason the majority of funds allocated to us have been pooled, in order to maximise impact.

Deployment

All schools can decide how best to spend this money but must report on and publicise annually how the money has been spent and what the impact has been on the achievement of the pupils. Pupil premium is used to support initiatives to raise achievement and improve attendance. Due to the success of the work carried out over the previous years the Governing Body consider it appropriate to continue to use pupil premium funding to support our key aim of developing communication provision and physical development for our identified Pupil Premium pupils, whilst also seeking to identify other interventions as appropriate to individual pupils. We will continue to work closely with social workers of Children Looked After to agree on spending priorities.

The curriculum we offer pupils is individualised to meet their specific needs. The additional funding we receive through the Pupil Premium helps us to:

- Employ additional staffing (over and above classroom staff) to meet the needs of pupils and enhance our staff ratio, such as communication support, sensory room support and moving and handling support.
- Provide identified pupils with additional support in developing their communication skills, including equipment if necessary, in order to better access the curriculum.
- Provide specific interventions eg rebound therapy and functional reflexology, for individual pupils as appropriate.
- Provide enrichment activities such as residential experience and special creative events provided by external providers such as sensory experience days, drumming workshops and participation in sports events.

- Ensure all staff receive appropriate training in key areas of their work including; moving and handling, behaviour support and communication to ensure they are best prepared to support individual pupil needs.

Impact:

We evaluate the impact of the Pupil Premium as part of our normal self-evaluation and assessment arrangements. Measuring the impact of the activities provided with Pupil Premium funding can be achieved in different ways. We look at progress in core subject areas as well as other areas of development such as independence, self-esteem and confidence. Assessments are made both formally and informally using our school assessment systems as well as feedback from staff and visitors to the school. Pupil achievement and progression is reported to parents on an individual basis. Attendance is monitored by the Assistant Head/Headteacher and any concerns are raised with our allocated Attendance Improvement Officer as necessary.

Our school Pupil Premium strategy 17/18 identifies more specific details on the rationale for the use of Pupil Premium funding at Woodfield and the targeted impact for our pupils.