

Pupil Premium Policy

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Reviewer: Emma Stoddart (Deputy Headteacher)

Next Review: June 2025

Aims

This policy aims to:

- provide background information about the pupil premium grant so 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 and how it
 ensures that provision is focussed on 'diminishing the difference' for those pupils in
 receipt of the funding who require additional support;
- Summarise the roles and responsibilities of those involved in managing the pupil premium funding in school.

Legislation and Guidance

This policy is based on the pupil premium <u>allocations and conditions of grant guidance</u> 2023 to 2024, published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). It is also based on guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on <u>virtual school</u> heads' responsibilities concerning the pupil premium, and the service premium.

Introduction / Purpose of the Grant

Nevill Road Infant School recognises that all children regardless of background should have equal access to a curriculum which will enable them to reach their potential. The pupil premium grant is a Government initiative that targets extra money at pupils from deprived backgrounds, which research shows underachieve compared to their non-deprived peers. The Government have used pupils' Free School Meals status as an indicator for deprivation, and have deployed a fixed amount of money to schools per pupil, based on the number of pupils registered for Free School meals.

The Government are not dictating how schools should spend this money, but are clear that schools will need to employ the strategies that they know will support their pupils to increase their attainment, and 'diminish the difference'. As a school we are accountable for doing this, and are required to show how the attainment of pupils who receive the pupil premium grant compare with that of their peers.

At Nevill Road Infant School we will be using the indicator of those eligible for Free School Meals (not universal infant free school meals - UIFSM), those in Local Authority Care or adopted from Care, and Service Children as our target children to 'diminish the difference' regarding attainment and also wellbeing. It is imperative to note that these groups of pupils contain a wide range of abilities, and the allocation of the pupil premium grant to a pupil does not mean that they are achieving below that of their peers.

Provision/ Use of the Grant

In order to meet the above requirements, the Governing Body and Senior Leaders at Nevill Road Infant School will ensure that high quality provision is provided to pupils at the school which will help secure effective teaching and learning. In line with the provision for all pupils, we will ensure that the learning opportunities meet the wide range of individual needs of all pupils through carefully planned adaptive teaching strategies and where necessary, interventions.

It must be noted that the Governors and Senior Leaders of the school recognise that not all pupils who are entitled to receive Free School Meals will be socially disadvantaged. The Governors also recognise that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for Free School Meals. The Governors reserve the right to allocate the Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil or groups of pupils the school has legitimately identified as being socially disadvantaged.

As part of the additional provision made for pupils who belong to vulnerable groups, the Governors and the Senior Leaders of the school will ensure that the needs of socially disadvantaged pupils are adequately assessed and addressed through termly pupil progress meetings.

Each child in receipt of Pupil Premium grant will have a Pupil Premium Profile that details their context, attainment, progress and targets. The profiles will be updated termly to ensure these pupils receive specific, timely and targeted support. The school will work with parents and carers to take their views on their child's needs into account.

The Range of Provision

- Facilitating pupils' access to education
- Enabling pupils to access the curriculum
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities
- Employing extra teaching assistants, learning mentors or extending the hours of existing teaching assistants
- Alternative support and / or intervention
- Discounted wrap around care for siblings
- Free educational trips and visits including free school lunch uplift and lunch box
- Free uniform from the PTA, book bag, and water bottle
- Free extra-curricular clubs
- Additional teacher feedback and greater awareness of intersectionality
- Classroom responsibilities and roles around the school
- Greater celebration of outcomes through classroom and whole school displays

The Headteacher and the Senior Leaders, will maintain an ongoing programme of support for socially disadvantaged pupils, which will be subject to the oversight of the Governors. This will also mean tracking barriers to academic success such as attendance, behaviour and SEMH.

Reporting

The Governors Nevill Road Infant School will ensure that there is an annual statement available to the parents on how the Pupil Premium grant has been used to address the issue of 'diminishing the difference' for socially disadvantaged pupils. This task will be carried out within the requirements published by the Department for Education, and will be published on the school website by the annual deadline determined by te DfE every year. Our Pupil Premium Strategy Statement is available here: https://www.nevillroad-inf.stockport.sch.uk/page/pupil-premium/42836

Eligible Pupils

The Pupil Premium grant is allocated to the school based on the number of eligible pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. There is also an allocation of Early Years Pupil Premium funding. 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 also includes pupils with no recourse to public funds (NRPF). The government has permanently extended Free School Meals eligibility to include children in all households with NRPF. It does not include pupils who received universal infant free school meals but would not have otherwise received free lunches.

Children We Care For

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

Post Children We Care For

Pupils recorded in the most recent October census who were:

- Cared for 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
- In state care from outside England and Wales before being adopted.

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 it is implemented across the school
- Ensuring all school staff are aware of their role in raising the attainment and wellbeing 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 grant to assess the impact of the school's use of the funding
- Reporting on the impact of pupil premium spending to the Governing Body on an ongoing basis
- Publishing the Pupil Premium Strategy Statement on the school's use of the pupil
 premium grant 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

Governors

The Governing Body 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 grant, 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 grant
- Challenging the Headteacher to use the Pupil Premium grant 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 grant
- Identifying pupils whose attainment is not improving in response to interventions funded by the Pupil Premium grant, and highlighting these individuals to the Senior Leadership team
- Sharing insights into effective practice with other school staff

Virtual School heads

Virtual School Heads are responsible for managing Pupil Premium funding for children who are cared for by the local authority, and allocating it to schools. Their responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

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

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

Success Criteria

The evaluation of this policy is based on how quickly the school can 'diminish the difference' between socially disadvantaged pupils and their peers. Targets will be identified and evaluated annually on the Pupil Premium Strategy Statement and these will be included in the School Improvement Plan.

The success criteria for the Pupil Premium Policy are:

- Early intervention and support for socially disadvantaged children
- The vast majority of socially disadvantaged children will meet their individual targets
- Effective parental / pupil / school support
- Having an effective system for identifying, assessing and monitoring pupils
- Having a whole-school approach
- Creating a positive school atmosphere in which pupils' differences are recognised and valued as full members of the school community; developing confident and independent learners.

Appeals

Any appeal in connection with the use of the Pupil Premium funding will be dealt with through the Governors' appeals panel.