



Pupil Premium Policy

Bentley CEVC & Copdock Primary Schools



Approved by: Personnel Committee

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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 [allocations and conditions of grant guidance 2024 to 2025](#) published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). It is also based on guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on [using the pupil premium](#), [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

Our spending strategy is determined by research evidence from a variety of sources, in particular [Using pupil premium | EEF \(educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk\)](#). Our use of pupil premium aligns with the 3-tiered 'menu of approaches' described in this report and focuses on supporting the quality of teaching through high quality professional development for staff, providing academic support and tackling non-academic barriers to academic success, such as difficulties in attendance, behaviour and social and emotional wellbeing.

We ensure our pupil premium is spent as effectively as possible by reviewing evidence of impact across all areas of the curriculum. This is done through termly monitoring of achievement; identifying the main barriers / challenges our pupils face; promoting strategies (directing funding) that have proven to deliver positive results; engaging with parents / carers to gain insight into their views of their child's needs.

A range of interventions are used to deliver tailored support, addressing specific areas of learning identified for improvement. Our staffing structure enables this support to be implemented flexibly at the point of need. Termly monitoring of attainment enables a carefully planned provision map to be drafted for pupils requiring additional intervention. Support is available to any child who needs access to it, however the target group will be those where a barrier to learning is identified. Barriers to learning will be reviewed year on year in the summer term to ensure focused spending is appropriate to need.

Examples of interventions may include, but are not limited to:

- Maintaining the current class/staffing structure.
- Providing teaching assistant support within the classroom
- Providing catch-up sessions or additional tuition
- Support to attend annual residential visit or activity week (it should be noted that eligibility to free school meals does not mean all school trips/events will be funded for that pupil).
- Bought in services to support key areas, e.g. behaviour and mental health challenges.

Our pupil premium strategy and information on how the school uses the pupil premium in each academic year is available on the school [website](#). This is in line with the DfE's requirements on what maintained schools must publish online and using the templates on Gov.UK.

5. Eligible pupils

The pupil premium is allocated to the school based on the number of eligible pupils between Reception and year 6.

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). The Pupil Premium will be received for that pupil for a period of six years regardless of whether they remain eligible for free school meals. Pupil Premium pupils are therefore often referred to as 'Ever6'.

This includes pupils first known to be eligible for free school meals in the most recent October census. Pupils currently eligible for free school meals are also eligible for packed meals when on specified school visits or events that mean the pupil is unable to have a meal normally provided in school. To receive a packed meal the school will need to be notified **at least 48 hours prior** to the visit or event. This is to provide sufficient notice to the school meal provider.

This also includes pupils with no recourse to public funds (NRPF). The government has permanently extended FSM eligibility to include children in all households with NRPF.

Pupil premium funding 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 Previously looked-after children

Pupils recorded in the most recent October census who were looked after by a local authority immediately before being adopted, or who left local authority care on a special guardianship order or child arrangements order. From 1 April 2023 this will apply in addition to children outside of England & Wales.

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 schools.
- 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 schools' use of the funding.
- Reporting on the impact of pupil premium spending to the Governing Board on an ongoing basis.
- Publishing the schools' pupil premium strategy statement on the school's use of the pupil premium in each academic year on the schools' 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 and Senior Leadership Team to account for the implementation of this policy.
- Ensuring the schools are 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 each school's use of the funding.
- Monitoring whether the schools are ensuring value for money in their use of the pupil premium.
- Challenging the Headteacher to use the pupil premium in the most effective way.
- Setting the schools' 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 yearly by the P&C Committee. Following every review, the policy will be shared with the Governing Board.

8. Links with other policies

This policy is linked to the following policies, which are also available on the school website:

Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy

Educational Visits Policy

Charges and Remissions Policy

Attendance Policy

Equalities Policy