



PUPIL PREMIUM POLICY

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Statement of intent

At Inspire Multi Academy Trust, we believe that by having the highest expectations of all learners, the highest possible outcomes will be achieved. The Pupil Premium is additional funding to help schools close the attainment gap between children from low-income and other disadvantaged families and their peers. If a child has been eligible for free school meals (FSM) at any point over the past 6 years (known as Ever 6) or has been looked after for one day or more (Child Looked After), the school receives an amount per head within their budget. A provision is also made for children who have a parent in the armed services.

All academies within the Trust are committed to ensuring maximum progress for all groups of children and strive to close any gaps in achievement.

Inspire Multi Academy Trust have a clear, strategic approach to the use of specific Pupil Premium funding and plans are integrated into wider school support and improvement systems. These are monitored regularly through a termly evaluation of the school's Pupil Premium Action Plan, which feeds into the School Improvement Plan (SIP). An in-depth analysis, reported through class teacher reports, subject leader reports and the school inclusion report, ensure that the correct support and strategies are identified to maximise progress. The overall impact of the Pupil Premium expenditure will be published on the website at the end of each academic year.

Strong leadership systems ensure that the Pupil Premium funding has the necessary impact. This includes an identified governor having responsibility for Pupil Premium, a designated Head Teacher leading across the Trust, all Head Teachers and designated pupil premium leads leading the development plan and analysis ensuring that the correct support and strategies are identified to maximise progress. Matters relating to the Pupil Premium are reported back to the Local Governing Bodies and the Trustees, ensuring that each academy is held to account for the impact of spending.

This policy outlines the amount of funding available, along with the procedures for ensuring the funding is allocated correctly.

Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the pupil premium guidance published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). It is also based on guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium/pupil-premium

Pupil premium grant

In the academic year 2025 to 2026 the grant is as follows:

Disadvantaged pupil	Grant amount per pupil
Pupils in year groups reception to Year 6 recorded as Ever 6 FSM.	£1,515
LAC defined in the Children Act 1989 as one who is in the care of, or provided with accommodation by, an English LA	£2,630
Children who have ceased to be looked after by a LA in England and Wales because of adoption, a special order, a child arrangement order or a residence order	£2,630
Service children.	£350

Principles

- We ensure that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all of our pupils
- We ensure that appropriate provision is made for pupils who belong to vulnerable groups, this includes ensuring that the needs of socially disadvantaged pupils are adequately assessed and addressed
- In making provision for socially disadvantaged pupils, we recognise that not all pupils who receive free school meals will be socially disadvantaged
- We also recognise that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for free school meals.
- Pupil premium funding will be allocated following a needs analysis which will identify priority classes, groups or individuals
- Limited funding and resources means that not all pupil premium children will be in receipt of pupil premium interventions at one time.

We 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. The greater proportion of any group, supported through Pupil Premium funding, will be made up of FSM children.

Provision

The Governors may consider the following range of provision for this group.

- Supporting the quality of teaching, such as staff professional development.
- Providing one-to-one and small group work with experienced teachers and teaching assistants to address specific knowledge gaps.
- Reducing class sizes to increase opportunities for targeted teaching.
- Creating additional teaching and learning opportunities provided through specialist staff e.g. music teachers, nurture or external agencies
- Targeting English and Maths in pupils who are below age expectations.
- Allocating funds to enable these pupils to participate in extra-curricular activities.
- Targeting pupils who require additional help to reach age related expectations.
- Targeting more-able children on FSM to achieve higher levels.
- Tackling non-academic barriers to academic success, such as attendance, behaviour, and social and emotional support.

Strategies

- We have assigned a Head Teacher who leads on pupil premium across the Trust and who works in partnership with pupil premium leads within each academy to champion the educational needs of PPG recipients and ensure the implementation of this policy.
- We ensure that PPG funds can be identified within the school's budget.
- The Head Teacher consults with the pupil premium lead and informs the local governing bodies and trustees when deciding how funds are spent.
- We assess the individual provisions required for each pupil in receipt of PPG.

Reporting

- The pupil premium leads report on progress and attainment to Head Teachers and to the Head Teacher lead termly.
- The Head Teachers and the pupil premium leads monitor, evaluate and review the success of the impact of PPG funding, in terms of improving educational outcomes and cost effectiveness.
- The Pupil premium lead reports termly to the local governing body on the actions and impact of the PPG spend within each term.
- The Head Teachers reports annually to the local governing body and parents/carers on how effective PPG spending has been and what impact has been made.
- The Head Teacher lead provides termly reports for trustees on the allocation and impact of pupil premium expenditure.
- A pupil premium strategy is published on the academy websites and evaluated annually.

- This evaluation will lead the development of additional or alternative strategies and interventions to further improve the attainment of these pupils.

Eligible pupils

The pupil premium is allocated to the school based on the number of eligible pupils in Reception to 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).
- This includes pupils first known to be eligible for free school meals in the most recent October census.
- 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.
- 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 (LA) 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
- In state care from outside England and Wales before being adopted

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

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 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

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

Trustees

The Trustees are responsible for:

- Holding the head teachers to account for the implementation of this policy.

- Monitoring the attainment and progress of pupils eligible for the pupil premium, in conjunction with the Lead Headteacher, to assess the impact and effectiveness of each school's use of the funding.
- Setting the Trust'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
- 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

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.

Monitoring and review

The Head Teacher lead will be responsible for reviewing this policy annually.