

Pupil Premium strategy 2024/2025

Intent

The Pupil Premium is an allocation of additional funding given to schools in order to support specific groups of children who are vulnerable to possible underachievement. The intended effect of this funding is to accelerate progress and raise attainment.

The Pupil Premium is a government initiative that targets extra money at pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds. Research shows that pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds underachieve compared to their non-deprived peers. The Pupil Premium funding is provided to enable these pupils to be supported to reach their potential.

When making decisions about using Pupil Premium funding it is important to consider the context of the school and the subsequent challenges faced. Common barriers to learning for disadvantaged children, can be less support at home, weak language and communication skills, lack of confidence, more frequent behaviour difficulties and attendance and punctuality issues. There may also be complex family situations that prevent children from flourishing. The challenges are varied and there is no “one size fits all”.

We will ensure that all teaching staff are involved in the analysis of data and identification of pupils, so that they are fully aware of strengths and weaknesses across the school.

Implementation

- We ensure that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all the 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. 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.
- Pupil Premium funding will be allocated following a needs analysis which will identify priority classes, groups or individuals.

Impact

Pupil Premium children at West Buckland Primary School and Nursery receive the following agreed support:

Support high-quality teaching, such as staff professional development:

- A highly skilled team of Teaching Assistants who lead interventions across the school each afternoon.

Provide targeted academic support:

- Additional in class input.
- Targeted intervention(s).
- Group work and sessions.

Tackle non-academic barriers to academic success, such as difficulties with attendance, behaviour, and social and emotional wellbeing:

- Fully funded and qualified ELSA available to all children.
- Access to a mental health trained first aider.
- 100% off trips
- 100% off swimming (KS2)
- 50% donation towards residential

It will be the responsibility of the Headteacher, to produce regular reports for the Local Governing Body, which will include:

- The progress made towards narrowing the gap, by year group, for socially disadvantaged pupils.
- An outline of the provision that was made since the last meeting.
- An evaluation of the cost effectiveness, in terms of the progress made by the pupils receiving a particular provision, when compared with other forms of support.
- The Governors of the school will ensure that there is an annual statement to parents on how the Pupil Premium funding has been used. This task will be carried out within the requirements published by the Department for Education and will appear on our school website.