

PUPIL PREMIUM

In April 2011, the Department for Education introduced the pupil premium and the service premium. This gave schools funding to close attainment gaps for disadvantaged pupils and to assist with the pastoral needs of children with parents in the armed forces.

The pupil premium is designed to address inequality by giving every school the resources they need to help their most disadvantaged pupils, allowing them the freedom to respond appropriately to individual circumstances.

Pupil Premium

The pupil premium gives schools extra funding to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils from reception to year 11.

The Department for Education introduced a fund in April 2011 to give schools £400 per year for children who:

- were registered as eligible for free school meals
- had been looked after for 6 months or longer

From April 2012, pupil premium funding was extended to children eligible for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years. For the 2015 to 2016 financial year, funding for the pupil premium has increased and schools now receive:

- £1,320 per pupil of primary-school age
- £935 per pupil of secondary-school age
- £1,900 per pupil who:
 - has been looked after for 1 day or more
 - has been adopted from care
 - has left care under a special guardianship order, a residence order or a child arrangements order

Service Premium

The service premium gives schools extra funding to support children and young people with parents in the armed forces. Pupils attract the premium if they meet the following criteria:

- one of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces
- one of their parents served in the regular armed forces in the last 3 years
- one of their parents died while serving in the armed forces and the pupil is in receipt of a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) and the War Pensions Scheme (WPS)

The service premium is paid to schools as they are best placed to identify eligible pupils and assess what additional provision they need. Schools are responsible for using the service premium funding effectively.

School accountability for the pupil premium

The pupil premium is paid to schools as they are best placed to assess what additional provision their pupils need.

Ofsted inspections report on how schools' use of the funding affects the attainment of their disadvantaged pupils.

Schools are held to account through performance tables, which include data on:

- the attainment of the pupils who attract the funding
- the progress made by these pupils
- the gap in attainment between disadvantaged pupils and their peers