

Pupil Premium

Purpose

Pupil Premium is funding to improve education outcomes for disadvantaged pupils in schools in England. Evidence shows that disadvantaged children generally face additional challenges in reaching their potential at school and often do not perform as well as other pupils.

Pupil eligibility criteria	Amount of funding for each primary aged pupil per year.	Funding is paid to
Pupils who are eligible for free school meals, or have been eligible in the past six years.	£1455	School
Pupils who have been adopted from care or have left care.	£2530	School
Children who are looked after by the Local Authority	£2530	Local Authority

Use of the pupil premium

Funding paid to schools

School leaders are best placed to assess their pupils' needs and use the funding to improve attainment, drawing on evidence of effective practice. Pupil premium is not a personal budget for individual pupils and schools are not required to spend all of the allocated grant on eligible pupils.

It is for school leaders to decide how to spend the pupil premium, within the requirements of the conditions of grant.

Evidence suggests that pupil premium spending is most effective when used across 3 areas.

1. High-quality teaching, such as staff professional development.
2. Targeted academic support, such as tutoring.
3. Wider strategies to address non-academic barriers to success in schools, such as attendance, behaviour and social and emotional support.

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) recommend that schools particularly focus their pupil premium on supporting high-quality teaching.

Funding paid to local authorities for looked after children

Virtual School Heads are responsible for managing the funding given to local authorities for the children in their care. They work with schools to ensure the funding is used to help deliver the outcomes identified in the children's personal education plans.

They can pass all of the funding on to schools or retain some to fund activities that will benefit a group, or all of the authority's looked-after children.

Use of funds for non-eligible pupils

Schools do not have to spend pupil premium so that it solely benefits eligible pupils. They can use it wherever they identify the greatest need. Using pupil premium funding to improve teaching quality is the most effective way to improve outcomes for disadvantaged pupils. By doing so, schools will inevitably benefit non-eligible pupils as well.

Academically able pupils

Pupil premium funding is not allocated based on academic ability. Schools and local authorities will receive funding based on all of the children who are eligible.

Evidence shows that academically able pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds are most at risk of underperforming. These pupils should receive just as much focus as less academically able pupils