Watercliffe Meadow

A place for Learning

Policy Name:	**Policy for Effective Pupil Premium**
Date of policy:	**June 2026**
Member of staff responsible:	**Ian Read Headteacher**
Review:	**June 2027**
Date of Reference:	
Governors Present:	**Margaret Anderson, Sue Bibby, Vicky Helliwell**

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Background

1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Provide background information about the pupil premium grant so 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 pupil premium allocations and conditions of grant guidance 2025 to 2026 and guidance on using the pupil premium, virtual school heads' responsibilities concerning the pupil premium, and the service pupil premium from the Department for Education (DfE).

3. Purpose of the grant

3.1 Pupil premium grant

The pupil premium grant is additional funding allocated to publicly funded schools to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils.

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 they can reach their full potential.

3.2 Service pupil premium grant

An additional grant, the service pupil premium grant, is funding to provide pastoral support for pupils who are children of serving and former armed services personnel. Pupils can be eligible for both pupil premium and service pupil premium.

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Principles

- The Head teacher is responsible for Pupil Premium provision, with specific delegated responsibilities taken by the Assistant Head with responsibility for Inclusion, who is the Pupil Premium Champion.
- A link governor is working with the Pupil Premium Champion, and other staff where appropriate, to ensure that the governing body is directly involved in monitoring the use of Pupil Premium funding, and making decisions about provision
- We will ensure that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all pupils, since our primary purpose is to ensure that quality first teaching (QFT) is provided throughout the school, and we value the contribution that Pupil Premium funding is able to make to training for staff in key knowledge and skills
- We will 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, or have received, free school meals will be socially disadvantaged
- We recognise that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for Free School Meals (FSM), so we will ensure that entitled parents and carers are supported sensitively in applying for the meals, but also therefore the additional funding
- For KS1 pupils, who all entitled to receive Free School Meals, we will liaise with the Local Authority to identify those who are eligible for Pupil Premium funding
- Pupil Premium funding will be allocated to those pupils who are eligible, including proportional funding of strategies accessed by Pupil Premium and non-Pupil Premium children alike
- The majority of our work through the Pupil Premium will be aimed at accelerating progress, moving children to at least age related expectations (ARE) especially in English and maths, but even further where they have the potential to achieve beyond ARE
- We will also use Pupil Premium in areas where eligible pupils show a particular aptitude, but where their parents' financial circumstances prevent them from accessing specialist coaching or instruction
- The Pupil Premium funding will be allocated to a series of interventions grouped progressively, the ultimate outcome of which will be that pupils will achieve their academic and personal potential (see detail below)
- Funded interventions will include pastoral support where appropriate e.g. attendance support, family liaison, development of social skills (see detail below)
- Additional provision for SEN pupils will be funded through a combination of any SEN funding and their Pupil Premium allocation where applicable
- We will constantly monitor the effectiveness of strategies used and review provision in the light of tracking data and other evidence (e.g. Data analysis, fortnightly TA meetings and Pupil Progress Meetings)
- We will involve the widest possible group of appropriate stakeholders, especially members of the staff team, the Governing Body, pupils and their families, in making suggestions about Pupil Premium strategies and evaluating their outcomes

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Provision

The Senior Leadership Team and the Governing Body will consider evidence from a variety of sources, including: school's own data, external evaluative material such as the Education Endowment Foundation Teaching and Learning Toolkit, Ofsted Case Studies and visits to other settings, when choosing which of the following QFT approaches or interventions will be appropriate for a particular group of Pupil Premium children, or an individual pupil:

Group	**Examples**
1 Trauma informed approach	• Each child ins Boxall screened twice a year, this then provides a basis for learning mentor referral. • Learning Mentor for nurture, pastoral and family support • Learning Mentor for Early Intervention
2 Attendance	• Daily attendance monitoring • Breakfast Club • Learning Mentor link with attendance officer to do home visits • Reward trips and vouchers • SLT door knocking
3 Reading and phonics	• All F2, Y1 and Y2 children assessed every 6 weeks . Fast track tutoring for all children working below. • Y3 – 6 reading interventions. Fresh start in Y5 and Y6
4 Barriers to learning	• Providing small group work with an experienced teacher focused on overcoming gaps in learning • Additional staffing in specific targeted year groups • Additional teacher across all year groups • Literacy Consultant 2 days • Additional group teaching and learning opportunities provided by trained TAs or external agencies • Additional curriculum resources (fully or partly funded through Pupil Premium) for school and home use • Staff CPD for the trauma informed approach
5 Parental engagement	• Provide incentives for reading, completing home learning. Vulnerable families referred on.
6 Development of the whole child	• Monitor and mentor opportunities for pupils (e.g. Play Leaders) • Job Squad • Healthy mind champions • Subsidised residentials • Breakfast club

	• After school clubs

Governors

The governing board is responsible for:

- Holding the headteacher to account for the implementation of this policy
- Making sure 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 the school's use of the service pupil premium to assess the effectiveness of the school's use of the funding in providing pastoral support to service children
- 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

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 the funding 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.

Reporting

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It will be the responsibility of the Head Teacher to produce termly Pupil Premium reports for the Governing Body, including the following:

- an account of the progress made towards closing the gap for socially disadvantaged pupils (Pupil Premium against non-Pupil Premium pupils);
- an outline of any changes to provision that have been 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 (using attendance, attitudinal and academic measures depending on the intervention)

The Governing Body and its committees will share responsibility with the Senior Leadership Team for evaluating and improving the interventions used to close the achievement gap through Pupil Premium funding.

Members of the Governing Body will ensure that an annual statement is published on how the Pupil Premium funding has been used to address the issue of ‘closing the gap’, for socially disadvantaged pupils, and what the impact has been. Publication will include posting the statement on the school website.

Review

This policy will be reviewed annually in the light of any statutory or advisory changes (e.g. Ofsted Reports)

Ratified at Inclusion Governors July 2026