



# **Pupil premium Policy**

Date: December 2025

Staff: Sarah Pickett

Governor: Lisa Rashid

Next Review: December 2026



## **Aims**

Grove Vale Primary School is determined and committed to providing all pupils with the best education possible; assisting all to achieve the very best they can. The pupil premium grant is used strategically to support targeted pupils to achieve this aim in a number of ways:

- developing high-quality teaching, for example through professional development and recruitment and retention
- providing targeted academic support, such as one-to-one or small group tuition
- tackling non-academic barriers to academic success, such as difficulties with attendance, behaviour and social and emotional wellbeing

## **Background**

The pupil premium grant is funding to improve educational outcomes for disadvantaged pupils in state-funded schools in England.

## **Funding Criteria**

Pupil premium funding is allocated to eligible schools based on the number of:

### **1. Ever 6 free school meals (FSM) children**

Pupils who are recorded as eligible for free school meals or have been recorded as eligible in the past 6 years (referred to as Ever 6 FSM).

*Children may qualify for free school meals if parents receive any of the following benefits:*

- *Income Support*
- *Universal Credit - To qualify if you are in receipt of Universal Credit, your net earned income (after taxes and deductions 'take home pay') must be below £616 per month under the Universal Credit allowance you receive. This will be confirmed on your latest online Universal Credit statement when you received it. If your net earned income shows above the £616 figure you don't qualify.*
- *Employment and Support Allowance (income related)*
- *Guaranteed Pension Credit (including Child Tax Credit)*
- *Income-based Jobseekers Allowance*
- *Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999*

***Parent's with No Recourse to Public Funds 'NRTPF'*** - For parent's with no recourse to public funds, will need to apply directly to the child's school and must meet the relevant Government set eligibility groups.



## **2. Previously looked-after children (PLAC)**

Children who have been previously looked after by a local authority or other state care immediately before being adopted, or who left local authority or other state care on a special guardianship order or child arrangements order.

## **3. Looked-after children (LAC)**

Pupils who are in the care of, or provided with accommodation by, an English local authority. It is for the local authority to decide how much of this funding to pass on to the child's school.

## **4. Service children.**

Pupils are eligible if:

- one of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces, (including pupils with a parent who is on full commitment as part of the full-time reserve service) – this includes pupils with a parent who is in the armed forces of another nation and is stationed in England.
- they have been registered as a 'service child' on any school census in the past 6 years
- one of their parents died whilst serving in the armed forces and the pupil receives a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme or the War Pensions Scheme.

*This funding is primarily to enable schools to offer pastoral support and help mitigate the negative impact of family mobility or parental deployment. It can also be used to help improve the academic progress of eligible pupils if the school deems this to be a priority.*



### **Funding Rates**

<b>Disadvantaged pupils</b>	<b>per pupil rate</b>
Pupils in year groups reception to year 6 recorded as FSM Ever 6	£1,515
Pupils in years 7 to 11 recorded as FSM Ever 6	£1,075
Looked-after children (LAC)	£2,630
Previously looked-after children (PLAC)	£2,630

<b>Service children</b>	<b>per pupil rate</b>
Eligible service children in year groups reception to year 11	£350

### **Early Years pupil premium**

The early years pupil premium (EYPP) is additional funding for early years settings to improve the education they provide for eligible 3 and 4 year olds. At Grove Vale, the pre-school manager of Little Valers will apply and manage this funding.

### **Identification**

For new starters to reception, information is sent out in the welcome pack regarding criteria and how to apply for pupil premium.

At the start of each academic year the school office sends information to parents regarding pupil premium and signposting them to how to apply via. The local authority website.

[Free school meals | Sandwell Council](#)

### **Allocation of funds**

Pupil premium is not a personal budget for individual pupils, and schools do not have to spend pupil premium so that it solely benefits pupils who meet the funding criteria. It can be used:

- to support other pupils with identified needs, such as those who have or have had a social worker, or who act as a carer
- for whole class interventions which will also benefit non-disadvantaged pupils



It is up to school leaders to decide how to spend the pupil premium grant. This is because school leaders are best placed to assess their pupils' needs and use funding to improve attainment.

Evidence suggests that pupil premium spending is most effective when schools use a tiered approach, targeting spending across the following 3 areas below but focusing on teaching quality – investing in learning and development for teachers.

#### Teaching

Schools will arrange training and professional development for all their staff to improve the impact of teaching and learning for pupils.

#### Academic support

School will decide the main barriers stopping their pupils from succeeding in school and use the pupil premium grant to employ staff to deliver intervention to support these children.

#### Wider approaches

They may include non-academic initiatives:

- music lessons
- help with the cost of educational trips or visits
- specialist teaching or equipment.
- forest schools
- Pastoral work with a qualified nurture learning support

#### Accountability

School must show how they are using their pupil premium effectively, by publishing a statement on their website each academic year using the DfE template. During inspections by Ofsted - inspectors may discuss plans schools have to spend their pupil premium through scrutiny of pupil premium plans by governors and senior leaders.

#### Funding 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, in line with the menu of approaches. They can pass all the funding on to schools or retain some to fund activities that will benefit a group, or all, of the local authority's looked-after children.

#### Outcomes

1. Children eligible for pupil premium grant will have greater chances available to them to enhance opportunities and attainment.
2. Children's enhanced opportunities will raise motivation and self-esteem.
3. Attainment of socially disadvantaged children will be maximised.





4. Accelerated progress of those children identified.

5. Socially disadvantaged children will have greater opportunities to take a full part in the school's curriculum including educational visits.