

Pupil Premium

at

St Christopher's C of E Primary School



What is pupil premium?

The pupil premium grant is a sum of money given to schools by the government. The amount of money each school receives depends on how many pupils are eligible in their school. It is intended to be used to help eligible children to reach full potential. Parents often think that a free school meal is the only benefit when a child is eligible for the pupil premium – think again! It's so much more... **How does the money help children who are eligible for the Pupil Premium Grant?**

Our school uses the Pupil Premium Grant in a variety of ways including:

- It is used to purchase extra resources that a child might need
- It funds the deployment of extra adults to support learning in lessons and in small groups/1-1 situations to support academic and emotional lessons
- It funds extra curriculum opportunities

And much more...

Will people know my child is entitled to the pupil premium grant?

- School staff are the only people who will know. All information about our pupils remains confidential.
- The government know how many pupils in each school are eligible for the Pupil Premium Grant. In fact, the achievement of the children in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant is closely tracked by the government

When is a child eligible for the pupil premium grant?

- If they are entitled to free school meals (or have been at any point in the past six years)

or

- If they have been looked after by the local authority for more than one day

or

- If their parents claim **any** of the following benefits:

- ✓ Income Support
- ✓ Income based Job Seeker's Allowance
- ✓ Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- ✓ Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- ✓ Child Tax Credit but **no element of Working Tax Credit** and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenues & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190

- ✓ If you are supported under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- ✓ Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after your employment finishes or after you start to work less hours per week
- ✓ **Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 (£616.67 per month), as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).**

I will get a job soon, so is there any point in applying?

My income will go up soon, so is there any point in applying?

I will only claim for a little while, so is there any point on applying?

Absolutely! If a child is eligible for free school meals (therefore eligible for the Pupil Premium Grant) for even just ONE DAY, that child remains eligible for the Pupil Premium Grant for the following SIX YEARS even if circumstances change.

My child is in Reception/KS1 so they already get universal free school meals. Should I still apply?

Absolutely! A child is only entitled to Pupil Premium Grant after a successful application. If a child is in Reception or KS1, it is important that they receive all of the benefits of being eligible for the Pupil Premium Grant, not just the free school meals.

Who ensures that the school is spending the Pupil Premium Grant wisely?

OFSTED check how we spent our grant. Additionally, school performance tables explicitly show the progress of pupils eligible for the Pupil Premium Grant, so it is in our best interest to spend the money wisely. All schools must publish information about how they use the Pupil Premium Grant and its impact on their website.

So, what now?

If you think that your child might be eligible for a Pupil Premium Grant, you can choose how you apply

- Pop in and see us for a form. If you need help to complete the form, we are happy to do it with you. If you are worried about privacy when you ask for a form, please email us and we can post it to you or put it into your child's book bag.
- Alternatively, apply online. The school does not need to know if you apply. You can apply at:
- <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals-uniforms-and-trips/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

The online application is straight forward – only a few details are needed.

To check if your child is eligible, please call **01473 260989** for an immediate response

We are happy to help you. There is no harm in applying – the form and online application only take a few minutes to complete. You've got nothing to lose, but your child could have lots to gain.