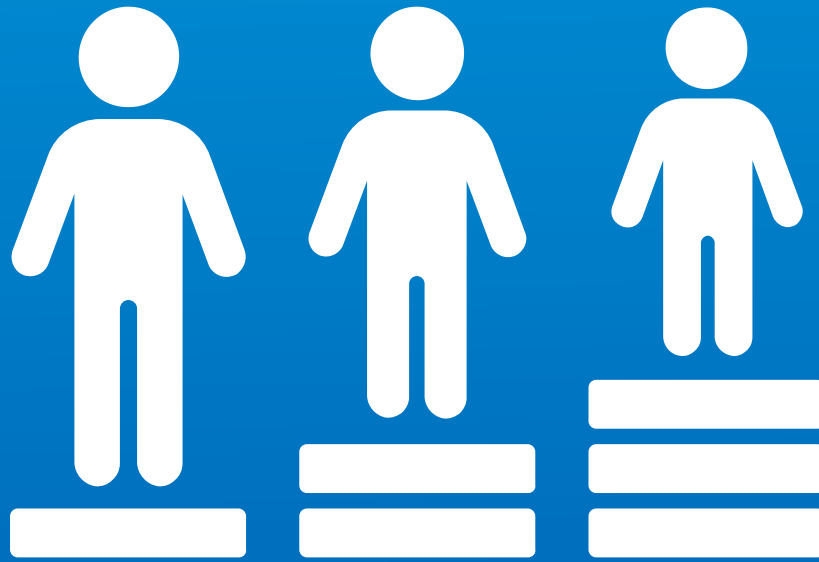




A PARENTS' GUIDE TO THE PUPIL PREMIUM





INTRODUCTION

In this guide, we explain key facts and information in relation to the Pupil Premium Funding. If your child is eligible for free school meals or has received Free School Meals in the last 6 years, the school may also be entitled to a sum of money called the Pupil Premium, paid to boost students' learning and progress.

WHAT IS PUPIL PREMIUM?

At Wales High School, we strive to ensure that all students are given every opportunity to succeed and achieve their full potential.

The Pupil Premium funding is a government initiative designed to raise the attainment of pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds, diminishing the difference in attainment between them and their peers. At Wales High School the Pupil Premium is spent in an integrated and targeted way, to ensure that students receive the opportunity of additional support and access to all learning opportunities.

Specifically, the Pupil Premium money is provided for those pupils who have been on Free School Meals (FSM) at any point over the past 6 years (Ever6) or those children who have been looked after by the local authority (LAC). It also applies to families who serve in the forces. Amounts are allocated per government financial year ending 31 March, not in academic years. **Please note: allocations are not made for pupils in the Sixth Form.**

The Pupil Premium currently has a value of **£1035** per eligible child. Funding to support looked-after children is **£2530**. A smaller amount of **£335** is provided for those pupils who have a parent in the Armed Services. Neither the government or any government agencies have dictated how the Pupil Premium money should be spent, but advises that the money should be used to promote strategies which, *"narrow the attainment gap between the highest and lowest achieving pupils."*

The Pupil Premium fund was introduced following research which shows that where families experience periods of low-income, children may perform less well at school than their peers. In some cases, children who are entitled to the Pupil Premium may face challenges such as poor language and communication skills, lack of confidence, issues with attendance and punctuality or other difficulties. Equally, students entitled to the Pupil Premium may flourish at school and at home.

The Pupil Premium is intended to directly benefit the children who are eligible, helping to narrow any gap between them and their classmates. The Pupil Premium can also help widen opportunity and enhance the student experience. However, the Pupil Premium can also be used to support students who do not meet any of the grant eligibility criteria.

HOW IS IT SPENT?

The Department for Education states that **schools can choose how to spend their Pupil Premium money**, as they are best placed to identify what would be of most benefit to the children who are eligible. At Wales High School the way in which the Pupil Premium Funding is spent is outlined in our [Pupil Premium Strategy](#). This strategy is based on evidence from the Education Endowment Fund. The Governing Body reviews and ratifies the strategy document and policy.

Often, all of the children in a class will reap some benefit from how the school spends its Pupil Premium: for example, if the money is used to fund an additional teaching assistant who works across the whole class or department, rather than providing one-to-one support.

If you would like more information, please read the [EEF Pupil Premium Tiered Strategies](#) and the [Department for Education Pupil Premium Guidance](#), as well as [Wales High School Pupil Premium Strategy](#).

At Wales High School the Pupil Premium Funding is spent on some of the following:



PUPIL PREMIUM TARGETED ACTIVITIES AND SUPPORT

- One-to-one tuition.
- Special arrangements for monitoring progress.
- Small group teaching.
- Corrective reading accelerated reading and Lexia.
- Additional in-class support.
- Peer tutoring/peer-assisted learning.
- Homework clubs.
- Provision of materials/equipment.
- Reduced class sizes.
- Mentoring and coaching.



SUPPORT TO ENSURE ACCESS TO ALL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES (INSIDE/OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM)

- Strategies for improving attendance.
- Paying for ICT programmes and systems.
- Paying for transport costs.
- Subsidising off-site learning opportunities.
- Subsidising any pupil contribution.
- Incentives offered for improved attendance.
- Staffing to support social, emotional and mental health needs.
- Funding visits to Wales High School by theatre companies.
- Paying any additional staff costs for tutoring (NTP).
- For trips and visits, Wales High School can support each student eligible for the Pupil Premium. This will include being able to fully fund essential educational visits (those that students must complete as a course requirement) and partially funding (up to 1/3 of the full cost) for desirable trips and visits. When a student shows interest in a school trip or visit it is important that parents contact the visit leader to discuss these options.
- For Year 10 and Year 11 students the Pupil Premium grant can be used to support students with course materials. This applies to texts and revision guides.



ACTIONS TO ADDRESS BARRIERS TO LEARNING

- One-to-one counselling.
- Behaviour support programmes.
- Health information and advice.
- Support from SEMH Early Intervention Lead.
- Lead First Aider and internal staff trainer.
- Interventions from Schools Educational Psychologist.



TEACHING AND LEARNING

- Professional Learning and Development to ensure colleagues are up to date with the latest knowledge about what works for disadvantaged children/young people.
- Improving Marking and Feedback for students.



CONTACT US

We are always keen to hear from parents about ways in which we can support their children. If you would like to discuss your child's needs and how you feel we can work together to provide support for them then please contact your child's Head of Year or [Mr J Taylor, Assistant Headteacher](#).

- **Head of Year 7 (Deputy Head of Year 7)** [Miss A Thorneycroft \(Mr D McLaren\)](#)
- **Head of Year 8 (Deputy Head of Year 8)** [Ms M Unwin \(Mr J Asquith\)](#)
- **Head of Year 9 (Deputy Heads of Year 9)** [Mrs S Roberts-Commons \(Mr D Lefley / Mrs J Wright\)](#)
- **Head of Year 10 (Deputy Head of Year 10)** [Mr M Day \(Miss K Nuttall\)](#)
- **Head of Year 11 (Deputy Heads of Year 11)** [Miss R Race \(Miss G Gladwin / Mr S West\)](#)

CAN YOU INFLUENCE HOW THE PUPIL PREMIUM IS USED?

There is no obligation for schools to consult parents about how we use the money allocated for a child, however, we welcome the views of parents as outlined in this booklet.

Schools do have to show that they are using their Pupil Premium fund appropriately. This is measured through Ofsted inspections and annual performance tables showing the progress made by children who are eligible for Pupil Premium.

In addition, schools must publish details online, including how much money they have been allocated, how they intend to spend it, how they spent their previous year's allocation and how it made a difference to the attainment of pupils.

HOW CAN PARENTS SUPPORT?

Parents can support their child in several ways, but especially by talking to their child about school and their learning. Attending parents' evenings and communicating with school regularly also helps to improve children's outcomes and experience. By contacting Form Tutors and Heads of Year, parents can discuss bespoke support for their children.

Encourage children to take letters home about additional opportunities in school, we will also text parents using MCAS to share information regarding trips and extra-curricular opportunities. If you feel there is a financial barrier to your child's participation in extra-curricular activities, trips or other activities which will enrich their experience at Wales High School, please e-mail [Mr J Taylor, Assistant Headteacher](#) or the visit leader.

HOW TO CLAIM FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Your child may be able to get Free School Meals and therefore the Pupil Premium, if you receive any of the following:

- **Income Support**
- **Income-Based Jobseeker's Allowance**
- **Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance**
- **Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**
- **The Guaranteed Element of Pension Credit**
- **Child Tax Credit (*provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190*).**
- **Working Tax Credit Run-On (*paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit*).**
- **Universal Credit (*if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year after tax and not including any benefits you get*).**

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

If your child qualifies for Free School Meals, it is important that you inform school via [Mr J Taylor, Assistant Headteacher](#), even if they take a packed lunch as your child will be eligible for the Pupil Premium.