

**Title:** Pupil Premium

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**Intended audience:** Internal  Partner organisations  Public  Confidential

## Purpose or recommendation

The report is to inform Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel: what is Pupil Premium Funding and why it is available

## Background and context

The pupil premium is additional funding for schools in England to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils of all abilities and to close the gaps between them and their more affluent peers. In the 2016 to 2017 financial year, schools received the following funding for each child registered as eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years:

- £1,320 for pupils in reception year to year 6
- £935 for pupils in year 7 to year 11
- Schools will also receive £1,900 for each pupil identified as having left local-authority care because of 1 of the following:
  - adoption
  - a special guardianship order
  - a child arrangements order
  - a residence order
- If a pupil has been registered as eligible for free school meals and has also left local-authority care for any of the reasons above, they will attract the £1,900 rate.

Children who have been in local-authority care for 1 day or more also attract £1,900 of pupil premium funding. Funding for these pupils is managed by the Virtual School Head-an officer in the local authority that has responsibility for the learning and progress of Looked After Children.

There has also more recently been money made available via the introduction of the Early Year Pupil Premium for 3 and 4 year olds with the aims of bridging the gap between the most and least advantaged children and their readiness for school.

Schools can choose how to spend this additional funding and whilst there is guidance available to them it is entirely at their discretion. However the effectiveness of the school's spending of this additional money is a key focus for scrutiny when Ofsted inspect a school as they judge the performance of Disadvantaged pupils with schools being expected to be improving the achievement of pupils from this group as a result of the additional money provided.

The highly effective work of Elston Hall Primary School and St Stephen's CE Primary School in the use of Pupil Premium funding has resulted in them being nominated for and winning national and regional recognition.

From the 1 September 2016, local authority schools have been asked to publish their strategy for the school's use of the pupil premium on their websites.

## **Financial implications**

The cost of implementation and monitoring of the Council's actions to challenge and support schools to improve their end Ofsted outcomes has been included in the approved revenue budget for the Schools Standards service.

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## **Legal implications**

Under Section 13 of the Education Act 1996 the Council has a duty to contribute to the development of the community by securing efficient primary and secondary education and promote high standards in the city.

Recent improvements in attainment and in the performance of schools suggest that the Council's duties are being discharged.

## **Equalities implications**

Some pupils and some schools face greater challenges in achieving educational success; there are therefore profound Equalities implications to the LA and to schools in ensuring that every child and young person achieves their full potential and every school provides good educational outcomes.

A coherent and effective strategy to support schools is in place and Ofsted regularly audit all of this work.

## **Environmental and Corporate landlord implications**

There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report

## **Human resources implications**

Where the Headteacher, staff or governors require support or training there can be significant HR implications.

The wider social costs of educational underachievement or failure have been previously referred to.