**What is Pupil Premium?**

*The Pupil Premium is additional funding paid to schools in respect of pupils who have been registered for free schools meals (FSM) at any point in the last six years or are looked after continuously by the local authority for more than six months. Schools receive this funding to support their eligible pupils and narrow the attainment gap between them and their peers.*

**Can the pupil premium really narrow attainment gaps?**

*It is not the funding itself that will improve attainment gaps, but how schools use it. Some children require additional support to meet their potential, and the Pupil Premium will provide schools with the resources they need to provide that support.*

**How are schools accountable for how they use the Pupil Premium?**

*Head teachers are free to decide how best to use the Premium to support their FSM and Looked After pupils and close the attainment gap between them and their peers. The Department does not want to micro-manage schools, but it does expect them to use the Pupil Premium appropriately and to be accountable for the decisions they make.*

**Is your child eligible for Pupil Premium funding?**

There are three types of Pupil Premium allocation:

* Pupil Premium
* Pupil Premium Plus
* Service Child Premium

In order to receive this additional funding, as a school we are required to provide information to the Department for Education confirming which children meet the government criteria.

* **Pupil Premium:**

If your child is eligible for free school meals or has been in the last six years this will generate pupil premium funding. To be eligible for free school meals you must be in receipt of the appropriate benefits and have submitted an application for free school meals to the Local Authority Benefits Team.

If you qualify for the appropriate benefits, but have chosen not to apply for free school meals, please consider applying. You do not have to take up the free school meal to attract the funding. Free school meals cannot be backdated, so you should only apply if you currently qualify.

* **Pupil Premium Plus:**

In the 2014 to 2015 financial year, the pupil premium plus for looked after children will more than double: to £1900 per pupil. The government is also extending eligibility to include those who have been looked after for one day or more, as compared with the six months in care currently required. From April 2014, schools in England can receive the Pupil Premium Plus for children adopted from care, or who left care under a Special Guardianship Order on or after 30th December 2005.

School can also claim for children who left care under a Residence Order on or after 14th October 1991. It is up to those with parental responsibility to decide if they wish the school to know whether their child is adopted, or is under a special guardianship order or residence order. If you would like to enable us to claim this premium, you will need to inform us about your child and provide supporting evidence, for example, provide the original Adoption (Court) Order.

* **Service Child Premium:**

The Service Child Premium gives schools extra funding to support children and young people with parents in the armed forces. Pupils attract the premium if they meet the following criteria:

* one of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces;
* one of their parents served in the regular armed forces in the last three years;
* one of their parents died while serving in the armed forces and the pupil is in receipt of a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) and the War Pensions Scheme (WPS).

It is for schools to decide how the pupil premium is spent as schools are best placed to assess what additional provision should be made for individual pupils and groups. Schools are however, held accountable for how this additional funding is used to support children on Free School Meals.

This information must be published on the school website. The table below explains how the pupil premium is currently being spent. We work very hard to ensure the best outcomes in mathematics and literacy for all our children. The support from the Pupil Premium is intended to help all pupils to achieve regardless of background or circumstance.