

Alumwell Infant School



Learn, Grow and Achieve

Pupil Premium Policy

Signed by The Chair of The Governing Board:	Signed copy available.
Date policy ratified by governing body:	5th February 2025
Date of policy's review:	Autumn Term 2025
Review Schedule:	Annual
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1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Provide background information about the pupil premium grant so that all members of the school community understand its purpose and which pupils are eligible
- Set out how the school will make decisions on pupil premium spending
- Summarise the roles and responsibilities of those involved in managing the pupil premium in school

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the [allocations and conditions of grant guidance 2024 to 2025](#), published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). It is also based on guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on [using the pupil premium](#), [virtual school heads' responsibilities concerning the pupil premium](#), and the [service pupil premium](#). In addition, this policy refers to the DfE's information on [what maintained schools must publish online](#).

3. Purpose of the grant

The Pupil Premium Grant is additional funding allocated to publicly funded schools to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and support pupils with parents in the armed forces.

The school will use the grant to support these groups, which comprise pupils with a range of different abilities, to narrow any achievement gaps between them and their peers.

We also recognise that not all pupils eligible for pupil premium funding will have lower attainment than their peers. In such cases, the grant will be used to help improve pupils' progress and attainment so that they can reach their full potential.

4. Use of the grant

The government believes that Head Teachers and school leaders are best placed to assess what additional provision their pupils need and should decide how to use the pupil premium. The Pupil Premium Grant is designed to address inequality by giving every school and teacher the resources they need to help their most disadvantaged pupils, allowing them the freedom to respond appropriately to individual circumstances.

In making provision for socially disadvantaged pupils, we recognise that not all pupils who receive free school meals will be socially disadvantaged. We also recognise that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered for Free School Meals. We reserve the right to allocate the Pupil Premium Funding to support any pupil or groups of pupils the school has legitimately identified as being socially disadvantaged, although they may not at the time be eligible for Free School Meals.

In determining how the Pupil Premium Grant is to be used at Alumwell Infant School, leaders consider a range of factors in order to deploy monies most effectively. This can include using evidence-based research and resources such as those from the Education Endowment Foundation {[guide published by the Education Endowment Foundation \(EEF\)](#)}; consultation with other stakeholders such as parents and governors; learning from what has shown to work successfully in our school; the performance tables which show the performance of disadvantaged pupils compared with their peers and; responding to the context, main challenges and barriers that may face many of our pupils. Alumwell Infant School is set in an increasingly diverse area and many of this school's families are presented with significant challenges including high levels of deprivation, lack of opportunities for employment, affordable housing, domestic violence and substance abuse.

Some examples of how the school may use the grant include, but are not limited to:

- Employing extra staff in order to increase adult: child ratios and more targeted support
- Running catch-up sessions or extra tuition where needed
- Funding educational trips and visits
- Funding English language support for children who speak another language
- Working with the community to provide opportunities to engage parents with training and improved prospects for employment

We publish our strategy on the school's use of the pupil premium in each academic year on the school website, in line the DfE's requirements on what maintained schools must publish online. We also publish information on the school's use of the pupil premium on the school website in line with the requirements set out in our funding agreement and the DfE's guidance on what academies should publish online. Information on how the school uses the pupil premium is available here: <http://www.alumwell-i.walsall.sch.uk/pupil-premium>

5. Eligible pupils

The Pupil Premium is allocated to the school based on the number of eligible pupils between Reception and Year 2. Eligible pupils fall into the categories explained below.

5.1 Ever 6 free school meals

Pupils recorded in the most recent October school census who are known to have been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years (as determined by the DfE's latest conditions of grant guidance). This includes pupils first known to be eligible for free school meals in the most recent October census. This also includes pupils with no recourse to public funds (NRPF). The government has permanently extended FSM eligibility to include children in all households with NRPF. It does not include pupils who received universal infant free school meals but would not have otherwise received free lunches.

5.2 Looked after children

Pupils who are in the care of, or provided with accommodation by, a local authority in England or Wales for at least 1 day. Allocations will be provisionally based on the children looked-after data return in March of the previous year, and then confirmed in December of the current year based on the children looked-after data return in March of the current year..

5.3 Previously looked-after children

Pupils recorded in the most recent October census who:

- Were looked after by a local authority or other state care immediately before being adopted, or
- Left local authority or other state care on a special guardianship order or child arrangements order

This includes children adopted from state care or equivalent from outside England and Wales.

5.4 Ever 6 service children

Pupils recorded in the most recent October census:

- With a parent serving in the regular armed forces
- Who have been registered as a 'service child' in the school census at any point in the last 6 years (as determined by the DfE's latest conditions of grant guidance), including those first recorded as such in the most recent October census
- In receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence because one of their parents died while serving in the armed forces

6. Roles and responsibilities

6.1 Head Teacher and senior leadership team

The Head Teacher and senior leadership team are responsible for:

- Keeping this policy up to date, and ensuring that it is implemented across the school
- Ensuring that all school staff are aware of their role in raising the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and supporting pupils with parents in the armed forces
- Planning pupil premium spending and keeping this under constant review, using an evidence-based approach and working with virtual school heads where appropriate
- Monitoring the attainment and progress of pupils eligible for the pupil premium to assess the impact of the school's use of the funding
- Reporting on the impact of pupil premium spending to the governing board on an ongoing basis
- Publishing the pupil premium strategy statement on the school's use of the pupil premium in each academic year on the school website, in line with the DfE's guidance on using the pupil premium and using the templates on GOV.UK.
- Providing relevant training for staff, as necessary, on supporting disadvantaged pupils and raising attainment

6.2 Governors

The governing board is responsible for:

- Holding the Head Teacher to account for the implementation of this policy
- Ensuring the school is using pupil premium funding appropriately, in line with the rules set out in the conditions of grant
- Monitoring the attainment and progress of pupils eligible for the pupil premium, in conjunction with the Head Teacher, to assess the impact and effectiveness of the school's use of the funding
- Monitoring whether the school is ensuring value for money in its use of the pupil premium
- Challenging the Head Teacher to use the Pupil Premium in the most effective way

- Setting the school's ethos and values around supporting disadvantaged members of the school community

6.3 Other school staff

All school staff are responsible for:

- Implementing this policy on a day-to-day basis
- Setting high expectations for all pupils, including those eligible for the pupil premium
- Identifying pupils whose attainment is not improving in response to interventions funded by the pupil premium, and highlighting these individuals to the senior leadership team
- Sharing insights into effective practice with other school staff

6.4 Virtual school heads

Virtual school heads are responsible for managing pupil premium funding for children looked after by a local authority and allocating it to schools. Their responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Identifying the eligible looked after children and informing the local authority
- Making sure methods for allocating and spending ensure that looked after children benefit without delay
- Working with each looked after child's educational setting to put together a personal education plan, agree how pupil premium funding will be spent to meet the need identified in this plan, and ensure the funding is spent in this way
- Demonstrating how pupil premium funding is raising the achievement of looked after children

Virtual school heads are in charge of promoting the educational achievement of all the children looked after by the local authority they work for.

7. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Head and Deputy Head Teacher. At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing board.