

Pupil Premium

What is the Pupil Premium?

The pupil premium is additional funding for publicly funded schools in England to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils of all abilities and to close the gaps between them and their peers.

Pupil Premium funding was introduced in 2011 for those students registered for free school meals (FSM) and extended in 2012 to pupils who have been eligible for FSM at any point in the last 6 years. As a group, children who have been eligible for FSM at any point in time have consistently lower educational attainment than those who have never been eligible for FSM.

Pupil Premium funding is allocated directly to schools and they can choose how this is spent to support the achievement of students who attract this funding.

Schools are held accountable for how effectively they spend Pupil Premium funding by Ofsted, who report on the attainment and progress of disadvantaged pupils during school inspections. [School and college performance tables](#) also report on the performance of disadvantaged pupils compared with their peers.

In the 2016 to 2017 financial year, secondary schools will receive £935 for each child registered as eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years.

Children who have been in local-authority care for 1 day or more are allocated £1,900 of pupil premium funding. Funding for these pupils is managed by the [virtual school head \(VSH\)](#) in the local authority that looks after the child. Schools will also receive £1,900 for each pupil identified in the spring [school census](#) 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.