



Pupil Premium Policy

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.

A 'disadvantaged pupil' is taken to be one from a home with a lower income.

The yardstick to decide if a pupil is 'disadvantaged' is the 'Ever 6 rule' If a child is currently, or has ever been eligible for Free School Meals in the last 6 years then they receive Pupil Premium. The category also included looked after children (CLA) and those who have been adopted from care (these children receive £2300 annually).

How much do we receive?

We receive £1320 per pupil and approximately ¼ of the pupils at Dulwich Wood are eligible.

Issues with the system

- The money is calculated April to April but the school year runs September – August so the money in the system only matches the actual PP pupils for 6 months of the 12 months the budget covers.
- Because Southwark offers free school meals to all pupils' many parents don't apply for FSM and therefore do not get pupil premium even though they are entitled to it. Therefore on the initial Nursery/Reception home visit Teachers discuss the PP funding criteria and encourage those eligible or those that might be to complete the form. Also when new pupils join the school their Parents are also, where relevant, asked to complete the PP funding form.
- Pupil Premium pupils do not exist in isolation from other pupils so it is difficult to focus spending on them to the exclusion of the rest of the pupils.
- The government data on who in a school is eligible is constantly being updated, making budgeting a challenge as a school has to constantly under budget as a precaution.

The main barriers faced by eligible pupils

It is wrong to generalise as eligible pupils do not fall neatly into a particular category.

However, barriers could possibly include:

- Lack of access to parental support to learn at home
- Lack of English as a first language among the family
- Lack of access to books at home
- Poor modelling of behaviour by parents leading to behavioural difficulties at school
- Lack of verbal communication skills
- Being behind age related expectations as a result of a low starting point or because of attendance at various schools
- Limited exposure to stimuli (cultural capital) e.g. not be taken to places of interest, parks, museums, holidays, cinema, libraries etc.
- Problems affording access to after-school clubs
- Problems affording uniform
- Being sent to school hungry and / or unkempt
- Problems affording voluntary contributions to extracurricular trips
- Lack of access to computers for home learning research, online secondary applications etc
- Housing issues
- Problems accessing health care
- Problems accessing benefits

This list is not exhaustive and some of these barriers may also exist for all 'non disadvantaged' children as well.

To find out in detail how the Pupil Premium allocation is spent at Dulwich Wood to address these barriers, the reasons for our approach and performance data please refer to the Pupil Premium strategy.

More generally where Parents ask for support they may receive part funded after school care or club membership. As well as help with school trips and residential. The Inclusion Lead at the school has extensive and up to date knowledge around claiming benefits, supporting the applications for and information on grants that might be available to families in need, she also sign posts families to other agencies for support like DW Children's Centre, Early Help, Solace etc. School also provides free fruit and milk for pupils in Reception under the age of 5, which is available throughout the day. If a child presents as hungry or neglected all the appropriate safeguarding measures are followed but in the short term school provides and washes uniform, loans shoes and coats as well as provides breakfast. All children have access to free fruit throughout the day and Parents who need to are encouraged to take second hand uniform, PE kit etc. for free. Class Teachers and Senior Leaders are on the playground at the beginning and end of every day, they are always available and approachable, happy to help in any way they can. They are also vigilant and proactive if they perceive a family in need of additional support.

It is also important to note that some of our funding will be used to address potential barriers through a whole school approach which is set out in 3 tiers. (See EEF July 2019 and Dulwich Wood's Pupil Premium strategy)

How impact is measured

- All pupil premium pupils are tagged in the school's data tracker and are flagged up to class teachers
- Impact is measured 3 times a year as part of the normal assessment cycle when the progress and attainment of all pupils is analysed.
- It is recorded on the school's tracker and the progress and attainment of pupil premium pupils is one of the groups we focus on.

Review of the strategy

The strategy is reviewed at each round of assessment (termly) and adjusted accordingly through discussions at pupil progress meetings with class teachers.

This policy was reviewed in September 2019 and will be reviewed again in September 2021