



Together Each  
Achieves More

## Our Parent Guide to



### What is the pupil premium?

Introduced in 2011, the pupil premium is a sum of money given to schools each year by the Government to improve the attainment of disadvantaged children. This is based on research showing that children from low income families perform less well than their peers. The pupil premium is intended to directly benefit the children who are eligible, helping to narrow the gap between them and their classmates.

### Is your child eligible?

Schools are given a pupil premium for:

- Children who have qualified for free school meals at any point in the last six years. The school receives approximately £1320 for each child.
- Children who have been looked after under local authority care for more than one day. These children are awarded a premium of £1900.
- Service pupil premium for those children who have a parent currently serving in the armed forces or whose parent is in receipt of a pension under the armed forces compensation scheme. These children are awarded £300.

### Can you influence how the premium is spent?

There is no obligation for a school to consult with you on how the money is used. However, all schools have to show how they are using their premium on their website. The impact of the funding is assessed annually by OfSTED through their analysis of performance data. It is also an important focus for the OfSTED inspection framework.

### How is it spent?

Ways in which we spend our fund include:

- Extra one to one and small group support
- Employment of extra teaching assistants
- Catch up session for children needing extra help
- Breakfast club support
- Funding educational trips

- Music lessons for children who cannot afford to pay for them.
- Paying for additional help such as speech and language therapy or family support.
- Investing in resources that boost learning such as laptops and tablets.

### How to claim pupil premium

Your child may be eligible for free school meals – and accordingly pupil premium – if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income-based jobseekers allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under Part IV of the immigration and Asylum Act
- The guaranteed element of state pension credit
- Child tax credit, provided that you are not entitled to working tax credit and have a gross annual income of £16,190 or less
- Universal credit.

Please contact school if you think you may be eligible. We will advise you on what you need to do to register. From September 2014, all children in Reception and Year 1 and 2 became eligible for free school meals, regardless of their family income, but only the children who would have qualified for free meals under the above income-based criteria will receive pupil premium.

**Importantly, even if your child receives free school meals as a reception/Yr1/2 child they may still be eligible for pupil premium.** So, if your child qualifies for free school meals, it is very important that you tell us – even if they bring a packed lunch – as this enables us to claim pupil premium.

