

Pupil Premium Information

The 'Pupil Premium' was introduced by the Coalition Government in April 2011. It was allocated to schools to support children from low income families – identified as those in receipt of free school meals and children who had been 'Looked After' by the Local Authority continuously for more than six months.

In 2011-2012 this amount was set at £488 per pupil.

In 2012-2013 this amount increased to £623 per pupil and was also extended to all pupils eligible for free school meals at any time over the last six years (Ever6 FSM). Additionally, children whose parents are currently in Military Service are granted funding of £250.

In 2013/2014 the allocation rose again to £900 per pupil.

In 2014-15 the allocation was as follows:

Disadvantaged pupils	Pupil Premium per pupil
Pupils in Year Groups R to 6 recorded as Ever 6 FSM	£1,300
Looked After Children (LAC)	£1,900
Children adopted from care under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 1 and children who have left care under a Special Guardianship or Residence Order	£1,900
Service children	
Pupils in Year Groups R to 11 recorded as Ever 4 Service Child or in receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence.	£300

In 2015-16 the allocation is as follows:

Disadvantaged pupils	Pupil Premium per pupil
Pupils in Year Groups R to 6 recorded as Ever 6 FSM	£1,320
Looked After Children (LAC)	£1,900
Children adopted from care under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 1 and children who have left care under a Special Guardianship or Residence Order	£1,900
Service children	
Pupils in Year Groups R to 11 recorded as Ever 4 Service Child or in receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence.	£300

Schools may spend Pupil Premium as they see fit, however the overriding aim is to help bridge the gap between children from lower-income families and their peers, as evidence suggests that children from disadvantaged backgrounds often do not do as well as others.

The funding enables us to provide intervention and support where it is needed for disadvantaged children in our school.

As part of this scheme we have not only been looking at the academic needs of the children but also at the wider needs. Therefore at Howes the money is allocated to initiatives which help to ensure that pupils reach their full potential both academically and socially.

In September 2014 the Government introduced Universal Free School Meals (UFSM) for all infant children, however parents can still apply for the income based free school meals which means at Howes that all trips attended by your child (ren) will be subsidised by the school.

If your child does not have free school meals but may be eligible because of your family's income level, please contact our office staff to register them. You will need to give your completed application to your child's school and make sure you can show documentary proof of any support you get.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

Children who get any of the above benefits in their own right (ie they get benefits payments directly, instead of through a parent or guardian) can also get free school meals.

Children under the compulsory school age who are in full time education may also be able to get free school meals.

Even if you do not wish them to have the meals, this would mean that school would be able to claim the pupil premium funding that will be used to benefit your child.

Please be assured that all enquiries will be dealt with in the strictest of confidence.