



Gade Valley Primary School Pupil Premium Policy

Review Date: November 2025
Next Review Date: November 2026

Aims

This policy aims to:

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

Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the pupil premium [allocations and conditions of grant guidance 2025 to 2026](#) and guidance on [using the pupil premium](#), [virtual school heads' responsibilities concerning the pupil premium](#), and the [service pupil premium](#) from the Department for Education (DfE).

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.

Gade Valley 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.

Key principles

By following the key principles below, we believe that we can maximise the impact of our pupil premium spending.

Preparing all our pupils for the future by giving them the best possible learning experience.

We will do this by:

- Creating a happy, safe and positive school community where everyone is valued and all pupils have an equal opportunity to thrive.

- Developing pupils as successful lifelong learners.
- Developing each pupil's character by providing a meaningful curriculum, experiences and opportunities.
- Ensuring high quality teaching leads to high quality learning.

Key Objectives

1. The pupil premium will be used to improve the quality of teaching and classroom provision.
2. The pupil premium will be used to provide additional educational support to improve the progress and to raise the standard of achievement for these pupils.
3. The funding will be used to improve wider strategies such as attendance or resilience.
4. As far as its powers allow, Gade Valley will use the additional funding to address any underlying inequalities between pupils eligible for pupils premium and others.
5. We will ensure that the additional funding reaches the pupils who need it most and that it makes a significant impact on their education and lives.

Use of the Grant

In making decisions on the use of the pupil premium we will:

- Ensure that pupil premium funding allocated to our school is used primarily for its intended purpose.
- Use the latest evidence based research on proven strategies which work to narrow the attainment gaps and adapt these as necessary to meet the needs of our pupils.
- Be transparent in our reporting of how we have used the pupil premium so that our school community are fully aware of how this additional resource has been used to make a difference.
- Encourage take up of FSM by working proactively with our parents and carers in a sensitive and supportive manner.
- Ensure there is regular monitoring and evaluation in place to account for the use of the pupil premium by the school and governing body.
- Recognise the fact that FSM pupils are not a homogeneous group and cover a wide range of needs - as such the strategies we use to raise attainment will take these group and individual needs fully into account.
- In the first instance, use high quality teaching and learning as the preferred way to narrow the gaps in attainment.
- We will also use high quality interventions with proven evidence of impact to assist our pupils who need additional support in a time limited way.
- Use the pupil premium for all year groups.

We will publish our strategy statement on the school's use of the pupil premium in each academic year on the school website, in line with the conditions of grant, and using the templates on GOV.UK.

Our pupil premium strategy statement is available here:

<https://www.gadevalley.herts.sch.uk/pupil-premium/>

Eligible pupils

The pupil premium is allocated to the school based on the number of eligible pupils in between Reception and year 6. Eligible pupils fall into the categories explained below:

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 January census. It does not include pupils who received universal infant free school meals but would not have otherwise received free lunches.

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.

Previously-looked after children

Pupils recorded in the most recent October census and alternative provision census who were looked after by an English or Welsh local authority immediately before being adopted, or who left local authority care on a special guardianship order or child arrangements order.

Ever 6 service children

Pupils:

- 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

Roles and Responsibilities

Headteacher and senior leadership team

The headteacher 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 body on an ongoing basis.
- Publishing the school's pupil premium strategy on the school website each academic year, as required by the DfE.

- Providing relevant training for staff, as necessary, on supporting disadvantaged pupils and raising attainment.

Governors

The governing body is responsible for:

- Holding the headteacher 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 headteacher, 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 headteacher 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.

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.

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.

Monitoring Arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher. At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing body.