



GUILSBOROUGH ACADEMY

PUPIL PREMIUM POLICY

Policy Name	Pupil Premium
Committee	Standard & Curriculum
Owner	Assistant Principal (Disadvantaged Students)
Statutory	No (A review of PP spending is statutory and on the Academy website)
Trustees to ratify	

Date Ratified	Review Date
September 2026	November 2027

Version	Date	Author	Changes
V1	09.09.26	MHA	Changed FSM with reference to Targeted and Expanded eligibility. Added Appendix B

Legislative Guidance

Linked Policies
Inclusion Policy



1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Provide background information about the Pupil Premium grant so that all members of the school community understand its purpose and which pupils are eligible
- Explain how the school will make decisions on Pupil Premium spending
- Summarise the roles and responsibilities of those involved in managing the Pupil Premium fund in school

2. Overarching principles

Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust is dedicated to diminishing the attainment difference between those that are deemed to be our most deprived students and their peers through a variety of methods, one of which is the Pupil Premium Fund.

We believe that we must work in partnership with our students, parents/carers, staff and community to provide an outstanding education, as well as cultural experiences for our young people. We place a strong emphasis on ensuring high quality teaching and learning so that **every student** has equal access to the very best conditions to achieve and succeed. Supported by national research, providing quality-first teaching and learning is our principal approach to diminish the gaps in attainment and progress.

All members of staff and Trustees accept responsibility for those students recognised as disadvantaged and are committed to meeting their academic, social, personal and emotional needs. Every child considered to be disadvantaged is valued, respected and entitled to develop their full potential.

3. Background to the Pupil Premium Fund

Introduced in April 2011, the Pupil Premium Fund is a government initiative that provides additional funding aimed at students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Research suggests that students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds face greater barriers to learning and are therefore more susceptible to underachievement, compared to their non-disadvantaged peers. The Pupil Premium Fund is provided to support these students to reach their potential by accelerating their progress.

As an indicator for deprivation, the government has identified students entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) and those who are looked after by the local authority (LAC), including students who are adopted from local authority care (PLAC). Schools are given a fixed amount of money based on the number of students registered for Targeted FSM or who have been within the last six years (Ever 6), who are LAC or are PLAC. A premium has also been introduced for children whose parents are currently serving in the armed forces.

Overall objectives:

- As an Academy, we will ensure that the Pupil Premium Fund is used to support the groups of students for whom it is intended and that it makes a significant impact on their education and lives.
- The Pupil Premium Fund will be used to provide additional support to improve the progress and raise the achievement of these students. This additional support includes

targeted academic support and wider strategies such as attendance, behaviour and social and emotional support, as deemed appropriate.

- The funding will be used to narrow and diminish the difference between the achievement of these students and their peers.
- The funding will also be used to ensure exposure to the same rich cultural experiences as non-disadvantaged peers by funding educational visits and aspirational experiences, as deemed appropriate.
- The Academy will use the additional funding to address, within reason and based on the principle of diminishing the attainment difference, underlying inequalities between those deemed as disadvantaged and those that are not.
- The Pupil Premium Fund will be used to support the improvement in reading ages for students identified as Pupil Premium and have reading ages assessed below their chronological age.

4. How we will ensure effective use of the Pupil Premium Fund:

- The Pupil Premium Fund will be clearly identifiable within the Academy budget
- The Vice Principal and Assistant principal, in consultation with the Principal, Trustees and staff, will decide how the Pupil Premium Fund is spent for the benefit of the entitled students. Funding will be allocated following a needs analysis that will identify priority groups or individuals.
- We reserve the right to allocate the Pupil Premium Fund to support any group of students or individual that the Academy has legitimately identified as being socially disadvantaged.
- We also recognise that not all pupils eligible for Pupil Premium Funding will have lower attainment than their peers. In such cases, the Pupil Premium Fund will be used to help improve students' progress and attainment so that they can reach their full potential.
- The Academy will assess what additional provision should be made for individual and groups of students.
- The Academy will be accountable for how it has used the additional funding to support the achievement of those students covered by the Pupil Premium Fund.
- The Assistant Principal will report to the Trustees and parents/carers on the effectiveness of intervention in achieving its aims, including publishing online information about how the Pupil Premium Fund has been used.
- The Academy will track the impact of utilised strategies to demonstrate the value that has been added to the education of the entitled students.
- The Academy will monitor, evaluate and review the success of its use of the Pupil Premium Funding.

5. Terms on which the Pupil Premium Fund is allocated to schools:

The grant may be spent in the following ways:

- For the purposes of the school; that is, for the educational benefit of pupils registered at that school.
- On community facilities whose provision furthers the benefit of pupils at the school e.g. services whose provision furthers any charitable purpose for the benefit of students or their families, or people who live or work in the locality in which the school is situated.

6. Provision

We will seek to further develop strategies and interventions that can improve the progress and attainment of these students. For some students, provision may be personalised to meet their individual needs. Our provision will be based on national and local research in our aim to diminish the difference. One of the principle pieces of research we will use is the Education Endowment Fund (EEF) Teacher Toolkit, as well as our own in-house best practice. As stated above, our primary focus is to provide quality-first teaching for all students and uphold the EEF's 3 tiers of support within its Pupil Premium toolkit, the Pupil Premium Fund is utilised to:

- Support the quality of teaching, such as staff professional development
- Provide targeted academic support
- Tackle non-academic barriers to academic success such as attendance, behaviour and social and emotional support

From 2026-2027 the funding is set at:

Group	Pupil premium per pupil 2026-27
Pupils in years 7 to 11 recorded as FSM Ever 6, including eligible NRPF pupils	£1,100
Looked-after children (LAC) in year groups reception to year 11	£2,690
Previously-LAC in year groups reception to year 11	£2,690
Pupils with parents in the regular armed forces recorded as 'Ever 6 service children'	£360

Beyond the 3 tiers of support referenced above, there is no dictate from the government in terms of how we use the Pupil Premium Fund. At Guilsborough, we strive to achieve a rigorous and sustained reduction in the attainment gaps between socially disadvantaged students (on the Pupil Premium register) and their peers. Most importantly, Guilsborough Academy is dedicated to ensuring that this attainment difference is consistently reduced. Following consultation with the Department of Education, it is clear that the Fund is not a personal budget and it is for schools to decide how it should be spent. Therefore, the vast majority of the Pupil Premium Fund will be spent on securing the highest quality teaching and learning. Equally, we place importance on working with our parents/carers and students to achieve the most effective use of the Fund.

In addition to the principle use of the Fund to deliver quality-first teaching and learning, detailed below are our considerations for what the remaining monies can and cannot fund. This is based on our principles to diminish the attainment difference and to support all our students in their social, emotional and personal growth. Equally, we recognise that the needs of each student and each cohort are different and we may modify the provision based on this. Please see Appendix A.



7. Eligible pupils

The Pupil Premium Fund is allocated to the school based on the number of eligible students in Years 7 to 11, based on the categories below.

7.1 Targeted FSM

Pupils in household incomes less than the £7,400 income threshold

7.2 Expanded FSM

Which will apply to meals only, covering pupils who do not qualify for Targeted FSM, but who are in households in receipt of Universal Credit

7.3 Ever 6

Pupils recorded as eligible for targeted FSM or have been recorded as eligible at any point in the last 6 years and pupils that were registered for FSM between January 2020 to October 2025. This includes eligible children of families who have no recourse to public funds (NRPF).

7.4 Looked after children

Pupils who are in the care of, or provided with accommodation by, a local authority in England or Wales.

7.5 Post-looked after children

Pupils who were looked after by an English or Welsh local authority care on a special guardianship order or child arrangement order.

A summary of the 2026 changes to the Pupil premium funding can be found in Appendix B

7.5 Service children

The Service Pupil Premium is additional funding for schools that is not based on disadvantage. It is combined with the Pupil Premium payments to assist schools in managing their spending. The funding is primarily to help with pastoral support and it can be used to improve the academic progress of eligible pupils if schools deem this to be a priority. To secure the funding, eligible children must be flagged as service children ahead of the autumn school census deadline. Children are eligible for this Premium if they fulfil one of the following criteria:

- One of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces (including those with a parent who is on full commitment as part of the full time reserve service)
- They have been registered as a 'service child' on a school census since 2016 (Ever 6 Service Children)
- One of their parents died whilst serving in the armed forces and the pupil receives a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme or the War Pensions Scheme

8. Roles and responsibilities

8.1 Assistant Principal

The Assistant Principal, in consultation with the Principal, are responsible for:

- Keeping this policy up to date and ensuring that it is implemented across the Academy
- Ensuring that all Academy staff are aware of their role in raising the attainment of disadvantaged students and supporting those with parents in the armed forces



- Planning Pupil Premium Fund spending and keeping this under constant review, using an evidence-based approach and working with Virtual School Headteachers where appropriate
- Monitoring the attainment and progress of students eligible for the Pupil Premium Fund to assess the impact of the Academy's use of the funding
- Reporting on the impact of Pupil Premium spending to the governing board on an ongoing basis
- Publishing information on the Academy's use of the Pupil Premium Fund on the Academy website, as required by our funding agreement and in line with guidance from the DfE
- Providing relevant training for staff, as necessary, on supporting disadvantaged students and raising attainment

6.2 Trustees

Trustees are responsible for:

- Holding the Academy to account for the implementation of this policy
- Ensuring the Academy is using Pupil Premium Funding appropriately, in line with the rules set out in the conditions of grant
- Monitoring the attainment and progress of students eligible for the Pupil Premium, in conjunction with Academy staff, to assess the impact and effectiveness of the Academy's use of the funding
- Monitoring whether the Academy is ensuring value for money in its use of the Pupil Premium
- Setting the Academy's ethos and values around supporting disadvantaged members of the Academy community

6.3 Academy Staff

All Academy staff are responsible for:

- Implementing this policy on a day-to-day basis
- Setting high expectations for all students, including those eligible for the Pupil Premium
- Identifying students 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 Academy staff

Please note:

The Academy recognises that individual needs may arise during the academic year that do not 'fit' into the earlier categories. In such cases, any request should be made in writing to Miss Keenes for due consideration. Please note that the Principal's decision following any request will be final; this is based on the premise of a fair and consistent approach to diminish **attainment** gaps for all students deemed to be disadvantaged. Furthermore, the policy may be subject to change based on wider school needs and national developments/changes.

Appeal

It is best to try and resolve any appeals by talking first with the Academy – please contact the Assistant Principal responsible for disadvantaged students (Mr Harrison) in the first instance. In the event of your concern remaining unresolved, please follow the Academy's complaints procedure.



9. Reporting outcomes

It will be the responsibility of the Assistant Principal to produce a report for Trustees that will include:

- The progress made towards diminishing the difference for disadvantaged students.
- An outline of the provision made during the term since the last report.
- An annual evaluation of the cost effectiveness, in terms of the progress made by the students receiving a particular provision, when compared with other forms of support.

The Trustees will ensure that there is an annual statement to parents/carers outlining how the Pupil Premium Fund has been used to address the issue of diminishing the difference for socially disadvantaged students, which will be published on the Academy's website.

10. Monitoring and evaluation

The Pupil Premium policy will be monitored through:

- The Trustee responsible for the Pupil Premium and the Assistant Principal reporting to Board of Directors
- Trustee visits to the Academy
- Tracking of student data at each key assessment point and reporting findings to the Senior Leadership Team, whole staff and Trustees
- Examination results

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Education Endowment Fund:

https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Pupil_Premium_Guidance_iPDF.pdf

Teaching and Learning Toolkit:

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/teaching-learning-toolkit/>

Appendix A:

Please note the application students in receipt of Expanded FSM are only eligible for free school meals and not those items listed below.

<u>Can be funded/contribution made to:</u>	<u>Cannot be funded/contribution cannot be made to:</u>
1. Curriculum linked educational visits e.g. Geography field trips and the enrollment fees for the Duke of Edinburgh programme - The Academy will pay the full amount for students entitled to Targeted FSM and half the cost for those who are Ever 6 - This will also extend to the reward trip at the end of the academic year with the Academy paying as above	Residential non-curriculum visits e.g. Ski Trip and Sports Tour
2. Additional learning resources as deemed necessary to enhance learning If this is a non-consumable resource, only one such resource can be funded during the students' time at Guilsborough Academy	Insurance for any electronic device
3. Uniform – essential uniform purchases e.g. Academy blazer tie and essential items of PE kit (excluding optional PE kit items) The Academy will reimburse parents/carers of Year 7 PP students and Year 9 students in receipt of FSM £50	Optional items of PE kit e.g. hoodies, waterproof jackets, base layers etc.
4. Materials to enhance creative learning in the classroom e.g. stationery (as needed) to support Art, Design Technology and Food Technology	
5. Revision materials for Year 11 PP students - Pencil case that meets exam regulations, pens, pencils, rubber, ruler, folder, divider, lined paper and Maths equipment as deemed necessary - Revision guides recommended by and purchased through the school - Core GCSE English Literature texts	
6. Music lessons Lessons taken with external music teachers visiting the Academy A waiting list for music lessons is operated, and session attendance is monitored	Music lessons with external teachers
7. Year 11 Celebration mementos – Leavers' Hoody, Yearbook and Prom ticket The Academy will fully fund one of the above items for Year 11 students in receipt of FSM and half fund one of the above items for Year 11 PP students	
8. Up to two GCSE exam re-sit fees	

Appendix B.

	Previously	From 2026	Note
FSM	Yes	Will not attract Funding other than meals	This will now be referred to as Expanded FSM and will be given to any household in receipt of universal credit*
Service Child	Yes	Yes	
PLAC/CIC	Yes	Yes	
Ever 6	Yes	Only if registered between Jan 2020 to Oct 2025 or if part of the new 'Targeted FSM cohort'	
Income < £7400 + Universal credit	Yes	Yes	This cohort will now be referred to as 'Targeted FSM'*

*Following the expansion of FSM, only pupils eligible for Targeted FSM will be part of the Ever 6 FSM cohort. This means that pupils who become eligible for FSM for the first time through the new Expanded FSM category will not attract pupil premium funding.

Pupils who were eligible for FSM before the expansion will continue to be part of the Ever 6 FSM cohort after the expansion. That includes any pupil whose household income increases after the expansion, such that they either lose FSM eligibility altogether or become eligible for FSM through Expanded FSM. Such pupils will remain part of the Ever 6 FSM cohort for 6 years.