

# Hornsea School & Language College



## Pupil Premium Grant - Closing the Attainment Gap for Disadvantaged Pupils

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<b>Approved by:</b>	<b>Headteacher:</b> 26.11.25	<b>Governing Body:</b> 26.11.25
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## **Pupil Premium – Closing the Attainment Gaps for Disadvantaged Pupils**

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the following HSLC Policies:

- Previously Looked After Child (PLAC) Education Policy
- Children Looked After (CLA) Education Policy

### **Rationale**

Hornsea School and Language College (HSLC) is committed to providing the best possible education for all pupils, based on equality of opportunity, fairness and an inclusive ethos. In pursuit of this, and with regard to the education of pupils identified as Disadvantaged Pupils, HSLC is committed to working to overcome socio-economic factors – or any other external factor – which may hinder pupil progress and attainment, and ultimately affect life chances.

### **Aims**

- To provide all pupils with fair and equal opportunities to achieve and excel in all areas of the curriculum through the use of additional, delegated funding.
- To work in partnership with families and pupils eligible for pupil premium, to plan, monitor and evaluate support and intervention in order to secure individual progress and achievement.
- To ensure governors fulfil statutory responsibilities to make effective use of pupil premium funds in order to impact positively on pupils' achievement and attainment.

### **What is the Pupil Premium Grant (PPG)?**

The Pupil Premium Grant began in 2011 for children eligible for free school meals, children whose parents serve in the armed forces and looked after children; its purpose was to close the attainment gap between these groups and their peers. In 2013 the DfE introduced Pupil Premium Plus for looked after and previously looked after children. In doing this, the DfE acknowledged the enduring impact of trauma and loss in children's lives and the key role of schools in supporting children who have had a difficult start in life.

### **Is your child eligible?**

The Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) is allocated by the government to school in relation to the defined Disadvantaged Pupils cohort.

PPG provides funding for the purpose of improving the educational outcomes of disadvantaged pupils. Schools must use their PP grant to accelerate disadvantaged pupils' progress, in order to raise their attainment. This will contribute to closing the national attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers.

#### **Definition of 'Disadvantaged Pupils':**

Pupil Premium grant is allocated directly to academies and NMSS, and to local authorities, who must distribute to each school they maintain. Allocations are based on the number of pupils in year groups reception to year 11, who are:

-recorded as eligible for free school meals (FSM) or have been recorded as eligible in the past 6 years (FSM Ever 6)

-previously looked-after children (PLAC): pupils who were looked after by a local authority or other state care immediately before being adopted, or who left local authority or other state care on a special guardianship order or child arrangements order (previously known as a residence order). This includes children adopted from state care or equivalent from outside England and Wales

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium-allocations-and-conditions-of-grant-2025-to-2026/pupil-premium-conditions-of-grant-for-the-2025-to-2026-financial-year> (23 September 2025)

## Pupil Eligibility

### Disadvantaged Pupil cohort

This group comprises of pupils currently claiming free school meals (FSM) or at any point in the past six years (Ever 6)<sup>1</sup>, pupils in care (LAC)<sup>2</sup>, or who have left care through adoption or another formal route (PLAC)<sup>3</sup>.

### <sup>4</sup>Service Pupil Premium (SPP)

In addition, for mainstream and special schools, the SPP for financial year 2025-2026 will include pupils recorded in the October 2024 school census who meet any of the following criteria:

- one of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces (including pupils with a parent who is on full commitment as part of the full-time reserve service) or is in the armed forces of another nation and is stationed in England – and they have been registered as a 'service child' in the most recent autumn DfE school census
- they do not currently have 'service child' status but they have been registered as a 'service child' on any DfE school census in the past 6 years
- 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

Pupil Premium funding is a key and integral part of the resource base that helps maintain the inclusive ethos and agenda of HSLC.

## **Allocation of Funding**

<sup>5</sup>The DfE will allocate PP grant to local authorities for each school they maintain. Local authorities must allocate these amounts (minus the portion of the funding based on LAC eligibility) without delay for each full time equivalent (FTE) pupil on the October 2024 school census for mainstream and special schools.

Other than for the LAC cohort<sup>2</sup>, schools can choose how to spend their pupil premium money, as they are best placed to identify what would be of most benefit to the children who are eligible.

The Pupil Premium Grant is not allocated on the basis of a being a personal budget for individual children. It is the responsibility of the school to manage the Pupil Premium allocation for the benefit of this group. As such, there is scope for Pupil Premium funding to be utilised in a variety of different ways in terms of individual, group and school wide initiatives.

Some funding will be allocated from the overall Pupil Premium budget for the provision of additional staff who will provide additional services in school. This funding will also support a universal entitlement to these services. All funding allocated in this way will be calculated on a pro rata basis amongst all of the pupils in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant

## **Using the Pupil Premium Grant**

<sup>6</sup>The PP grant provides funding for the purpose of improving the educational outcomes of disadvantaged pupils. Schools must use their PP grant to accelerate disadvantaged pupils' progress, in order to raise their attainment. This will contribute to closing the national attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers.

To ensure the PP grant is focused on effective approaches to raising the educational attainment of eligible pupils, HSLC allocates spending in line with the evidence-informed 3-tiered approach in Education Endowment Fund's pupil premium guide.

- developing high-quality teaching, for example through professional development and recruitment and retention
- providing targeted academic support, such as one-to-one or small group tuition
- tackling non-academic barriers to academic success, such as difficulties with attendance, behaviour and social and emotional wellbeing

### **HSLC's use of the Pupil Premium Grant:**

Examples of ways in which HSLC spend their PPG may include:

- Recruitment and retention of teaching staff
- Extra one-to-one or small-group support for children/young people within the classroom.
- Teaching assistant deployment and intervention.
- Reduced class sizes.
- Nurture Group (Y7/Y8/Y9) and Personalised Pathway Programmes (Y10 and Y11).
- Targeted Academic Support – Interventions to support acquiring and developing reading skills, language development, numeracy and literacy. One to one and small group tuition.
- Providing extra tuition for able children.
- Providing music lessons for children whose families would be unable to pay for them.
- Subsidising educational trips and visits including residential learning opportunities.
- Subsidising pupil contributions for inside and outside classroom learning experiences.
- Supporting extra-curricular activities.
- Providing revision support materials.
- Supporting sporting opportunities.
- Recruitment of Pastoral Staff
- Supporting pupils' social, emotional and behavioural needs
- Improving attendance
- Supporting emotional literacy and emotional regulation, for example through the recruitment/training of Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSA)
- Providing "Meet and Greet" support at the start of the school day.
- Supporting parents to provide better support to their children by engaging them in their children's learning and/or providing them with the knowledge and skills to do so effectively, for example Transition Family Learning Day, attending Parents Evening events.
- Investing in resources that boost children's learning, such as laptops/tablets, materials to be used in 1 to 1 and/or intervention sessions.
- Subsidising the purchase of shoes and school uniform, including PE items.

Often, all of the children in a class will reap some benefit from how the school spends its pupil premium: for example, if the money is used to fund an additional teaching assistant who works across the whole class, rather than providing one-to-one support.

### **When considering how the PPG is spent, HSLC will:**

- Ensure that Pupil Premium funding allocated to our school is used for its intended purpose.
- Use the latest evidence based research<sup>7</sup> on proven strategies which work to close 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 parents, interested stakeholders and Ofsted are fully aware of how this additional resource has been used to make a difference.
- Ensure there is robust monitoring and evaluation in place to account for the use of the Pupil Premium, by the school and governing body.
- Use the support of outside agencies either as part of an already purchased package or additional support as appropriate.

- Recognise the fact that disadvantaged children 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.
- Use the Pupil Premium for all year groups (Y7 to Y11) not just those taking examinations at the end of the year.
- Be mindful of the fact that eligibility for pupil premium funding does not equate with pupils being considered to be of 'low ability' because of their social circumstances.

## **Overview of HSLC Support Structure(s) for Disadvantaged Pupils**

The team in school with oversight of this group of young people comprises of:

- Miss Rachael Schofield (Disadvantaged Pupils Champion)
- Mrs Vicky Parnaby (Assistant Head, Inclusion)
- Mr Jon Raw (Assistant Head, Progress)

In the first instance, any day to day queries relating to this would be directed to Miss Schofield.

Oversight of this cohort involves the routine and ongoing monitoring in terms of progress in school across areas such as academic attainment / progress, attendance, additional needs, pastoral care, engagement with learning etc.

The SLT, Subject Leaders and Progress Leaders collaborate to ensure that, at a strategic and operational level within school, the needs of this cohort are identified and met and that a holistic approach is adopted. This approach is predicated upon establishing and maintaining a mutually supportive, open, transparent and positive relationship with parents / carers and any professionals and partner agencies involved working together in the best interests of the child.

## **The role of the Governing Body**

The designated link governor for Disadvantaged Pupils/Pupil Premium will act on behalf of the governors to monitor and review the progress and impact of PPG. This will involve regular meetings with the Disadvantaged Pupils Champion and the Assistant Head (Inclusion) to evaluate impact on progress and attainment; evaluating reports; participating in discussions with pupils, where appropriate, with a focus on learning and success.

## **Additional Notes/Sources of Information**

### Pupil Eligibility

#### <sup>1</sup>Free School Meals Ever 6 children.

For mainstream and special schools, the PP grant for financial year 2025 to 2026 will include pupils recorded in the October 2024 school census who have had a recorded period of FSM eligibility since (and including) January 2019, as well as those first recorded as eligible in October 2024. For the purposes of this note, these pupils are collectively referred to as 'FSM Ever 6' <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium-allocations-and-conditions-of-grant-2025-to-2026/pupil-premium-2025-to-2026-technical-note> (23 September 2025)

#### <sup>2</sup>Looked-after children (LAC)

LAC are defined in the Children Act 1989 as those who are in the care of, or provided with accommodation by, an English local authority. It is for the local authority to decide how much of this funding to pass on to the child's school. If LAC PP funding is retained by the local authority it must still be spent to improve the attainment of eligible pupils. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium-allocations-and-conditions-of-grant-2025-to-2026/pupil-premium-2025-to-2026-technical-note> (23 September 2025)

With regard to the LAC cohort, school works with the respective LA and LAC Virtual School to identify and agree the individual use of the LAC PPG via the Personal Education Plan (PEP) process.

### <sup>3</sup>Previously looked-after children (PLAC)

For mainstream and special schools, the PP grant for financial year 2025 to 2026 will include children recorded in the October 2024 school census who were looked after by a local authority or other state care immediately before being adopted, or who left local authority or other state care on a special guardianship order or child arrangements order (previously known as a residence order). This includes children adopted from state care or equivalent from outside England and Wales.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium-allocations-and-conditions-of-grant-2025-to-2026/pupil-premium-2025-to-2026-technical-note> (23 September 2025)

### <sup>4</sup>Service Pupil Premium (SPP)

Pupils in state-funded schools in England attract the service pupil premium (SPP) if they meet any of the following criteria:

- one of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces (including pupils with a parent who is on full commitment as part of the full-time reserve service) or is in the armed forces of another nation and is stationed in England – and they have been registered as a 'service child' in the most recent autumn Department for Education (DfE) school census
- they do not currently have 'service child' status but they have been registered as a 'service child' on any DfE school census in the past 6 years
- 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

For mainstream and special schools, the SPP for financial year 2025 to 2026 will include pupils recorded in the October 2024 school census who have been recorded as a service child at any point since the January 2019 census, as well as those recorded as a service child for the first time in the October 2024 school census.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium-allocations-and-conditions-of-grant-2025-to-2026/pupil-premium-2025-to-2026-technical-note> (23 September 2025)

<sup>5</sup>The DfE will allocate PP grant to local authorities for each school they maintain. Local authorities must allocate these amounts (minus the portion of the funding based on LAC eligibility) without delay for each full time equivalent (FTE) pupil on the October 2024 school census for mainstream and special schools

Where a pupil is recorded as both LAC and FSM Ever 6, the pupil is included only in the LAC count for the local authority allocation. This means the school's PP grant allocation will not include a payment for that pupil.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium-allocations-and-conditions-of-grant-2025-to-2026/pupil-premium-2025-to-2026-technical-note> (23 September 2025)

<sup>6</sup>Guidance: Pupil premium: conditions of grant for the 2025 to 2026 financial year

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium-allocations-and-conditions-of-grant-2025-to-2026/pupil-premium-conditions-of-grant-for-the-2025-to-2026-financial-year>

(Updated 23 September 2025)

<sup>7</sup>Such as the Education Endowment Foundation, Teaching and Learning Toolkit

<http://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/toolkit/> which is regularly updated and The Research Schools Network <https://researchschool.org.uk/>