

Pupil premium - funding to support the development of disadvantaged pupils

Pupil premium is additional funding for publicly funded schools in England to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and close the gap between them and their peers.

Pupil premium funding is available to:

- local-authority-maintained schools, including special schools, pupil referral units (PRUs), and voluntary-sector alternative provision (AP)
- special schools not maintained by the local authority (NMSS)
- academies and free schools, including special and AP academies.

In 2022/23 schools could receive over £1,385 a year per eligible child to put towards improving the education provided. The eligibility criteria for a child to qualify for the pupil premium and in addition a free school meal can be [found here](#).

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 at state schools in England automatically get free school meals. However, the parents/carers of those children who meet the eligibility criteria can also attract the pupil premium funding for their school and obtain this by completing the application form. Children in year 3 – year 11 can also obtain free school meals and the pupil premium by completing the application form. Pupils do not have to take the free school meal if they do not want to but it will give their school additional funding.

The pupil premium is paid to schools as they are best placed to assess what additional provision their pupils need. Ofsted inspections report on how schools' use of the funding affects the attainment of their disadvantaged pupils.

We are launching a campaign to promote the pupil premium funding available to schools and to encourage those parents/carers with eligible children to apply.

For further information please visit www.sutton.gov.uk/w/apply-for-free-school-meals.