

# The Mead Infant and Nursery School

## Pupil Premium Policy



**Proud to Belong**

This Policy is reviewed annually.

**Reviewed by:** A.Bedford Deputy Headteacher in Autumn 2021

**Next Review:** Autumn 2022

# Pupil Premium Policy

## Introduction

At the Mead Infant and Nursery School, staff and parents work together so that all members of The Mead family can achieve their full potential. The staff work hard to meet each individual's needs, valuing individuality and diversity whilst upholding everyone's right to be included in all aspects of school life.

The school closely tracks and analyses the attainment and progress of all children at The Mead and strives to understand and remove any identified barriers to learning through careful planning and differentiated teaching. As part of this analysis, staff gather information on any imbalances between boys and girls, children who speak English as an Additional Language, and other groups who may be vulnerable to disadvantage, for example as a result of family income or circumstance.

## Pupil Premium

The school is allocated additional funding to raise the attainment of children who may be vulnerable to disadvantage, known as the Pupil Premium. For school-age children, the allocation of funds is based on the number of children registered as eligible for free school meals (determined by receipt of one of the benefits listed below), at any point in the last 6 years, and the number of children who have ceased to be looked after by a local authority because of adoption, a special guardianship order, a child arrangements order or a residence order. Additionally, the school is allocated a Service premium based on the number of children, if any, with parents serving in the regular British armed forces.

From April 2015, 3- and 4-year old children in the school's nursery will also attract funding, known as Early Years Pupil Premium, if they have ceased to be looked after by a local authority for the same reasons as above, or their family is **currently** in receipt of one of the following benefits:-

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's 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 they'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, which is paid for 4 weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

Pupil premium is not an individual entitlement: it is not allocated to individual students. The school is responsible for assessing what additional provision pupils need, and the school is accountable for how the use of the funding affects the attainment of those who are vulnerable to disadvantage. The school is required to publish online details of our allocation for the current academic year, how the school intends to spend this allocation, how the school spent the previous years' allocation, and how this made a difference to attainment.

### **How Pupil Premium is spent at The Mead**

The school's pupil premium spending for school-age children is aimed at accelerating progress and promoting attainment across the whole curriculum and draws on evidence about the effectiveness of different approaches. Children known to be eligible for pupil premium are identified in all of the school's tracking and analysis and discussed at regular pupil progress meetings, where provision and impact are reviewed and next steps agreed.

Funding is allocated to a range of interventions which are delivered individually or in small groups by experienced staff and co-ordinated by the non-class based Deputy Head. These interventions focus on closing gaps, accelerating progress or extending learning in language, literacy and numeracy, and also on supporting the emotional well-being of vulnerable children and families.

Pupil premium spending in the school's Nursery is focused on helping children and families get ready for school, providing information and advice to parents and working with them to support learning both in nursery and at home.

Pupil Premium funding is supplemented by funding from the school's central allocation and the interventions often involve a mixture of children eligible for Pupil Premium and those who are not, to ensure that these highly effective interventions are available to all pupils who may benefit from them.

Pupil Premium and other available funding may also be allocated to clubs and trips to enable all pupils to participate in these enrichment activities regardless of family income, or used to support the purchase of school uniform and other resources. The school encourages families to speak to a member of class-based or senior staff, in confidence, if they feel that they require assistance of this nature.

### **Partnership with Parents**

Staff at The Mead recognise that they are building on the skills and experiences that children enjoy at home and they aim to build relationships with all families, including those eligible for Pupil Premium, to ensure that children can engage fully with their learning and benefit from the opportunities open to them. The school values the role that all parents play in their child's education and are always willing to meet with parents to talk through the progress of their child.

The school recognises that children eligible for Pupil Premium are a diverse group of children with different backgrounds, abilities, strengths and needs. The school's class-based and senior staff, are available to meet with families, to listen to their views, and to support their role in their child's education, for example, sharing the strategies we are using at school to support reading and other learning at home.

### **Identifying and Checking Eligibility**

To ensure that The Mead receives all the Pupil Premium funding to which it is entitled, families are asked for certain information when they join our school, in order to determine eligibility. Information about income and benefits is used by the council to confirm receipt of one of the listed welfare benefits. For children who have ceased to be looked after by a local authority, parents are asked for a copy of the relevant court order. If a family thinks their child becomes eligible due to a change during their time with us, parents are encouraged them to let the school know.

Autumn 2021  
Reviewed annually