

What is Pupil Premium?

Pupil Premium is an allocation of additional funding to schools to support children who may be vulnerable to possible underachievement. It is available to children who are eligible for Free School Meals (or have been so at any point over the past six years), children who have been looked after by the Local Authority for over six months and children whose parents serve in The Armed Forces.

Nationally, there is a gap between the achievements of children who access Free School Meals (FSM) provision and those who don't. The aim of the Pupil Premium is to 'close the gap' in achievement between these two groups.

How much Pupil Premium does Batheaston receive?

During the financial year 2017/18, the Pupil Premium allocation was £1320 per pupil. At Batheaston Primary School, we were allocated £40, 920, based on 31 eligible pupils. This allocation was received in April 2017. Reception children starting in September 2017 are not included until the following year (April 2018)

What are the main barriers to achievement for eligible children at Batheaston?

The main barriers for those children eligible for Pupil Premium can be summarised into three sections:

- Financial circumstances: some children are not able to access the resources and activities of their peers.
- Academic disadvantage: children may have had less access to home support in a wide variety of forms.
- Emotional well-being: children's emotional development may have been interrupted resulting in them struggling to access the learning on offer within school.

What is the strategy for how Pupil Premium will be used to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils?

The government allows schools to use their discretion in how they allocate their Pupil Premium Funding, but require schools to report on the amount of funding received, how it is being used and the outcomes for the pupils involved.

At Batheaston, we are fully committed to using the funding allocation available to eligible children in a way which recognises the individual needs of each child involved. The progress of these children is closely monitored to ensure that they make progress at the same rate as their peers.

We know that all children are different and have different needs. Therefore, if we feel that a child would benefit in a different way, we will invest Pupil Premium and support that child in a different way. (This means one or two children may benefit from adult support in a different way, such as small group learning to stretch and challenge – e.g. a small group worked with an artist to create a stained glass window or a group attended a maths challenge afternoon at The Paragon.)

Staff analyse and monitor individual pupils both through data tracking and by considering social and emotional needs. Staff work with the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) and other outside agencies to provide personalised support for those children. Impact of this support is evaluated to ensure the effective deployment of staff and strategies.

A large proportion of our funding is spent on additional classroom support. Staff are aware of which children are eligible for the pupil premium and provide additional, frequent targeted support for these pupils. Teachers are required to produce timetables detailing different support activities: what the learning objective is, when the support will happen, who will lead the support and who will benefit from the support. Children with Pupil Premium must be part of this.

Another area funded through Pupil Premium is our 'Thrive' Programme. Children identified with needing help with their social and emotional development are given specific targeted support outside the classroom with trained staff. This approach equips children with the skills to re-engage with life and learning. For some pupil premium children the constraints of life outside school impacts on how they view themselves and how they participate in their learning.

For a detailed outline of the way in which we use Pupil Premium to support children in our class and how we will its impact, please look at the document, 'Pupil Premium Provision 2017-18'.

When will we review the strategy?

Our strategy was reviewed in September 2017. It will be reviewed again in April 2018 when the new budget is set.