

Pupil Premium Policy



Statement of Intent

Willow Wood Community Nursery & Primary School is committed to ensuring that all pupils achieve their full potential, regardless of background or circumstance. The Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) is used to reduce the impact of disadvantage by addressing barriers to learning and promoting high aspirations for all eligible pupils.

We recognise that pupils entitled to Pupil Premium may face a range of challenges which can affect their learning, confidence, and wellbeing. This policy outlines how the school plans, allocates, monitors, and evaluates the use of Pupil Premium funding to ensure it has a positive and measurable impact.

Aims and Objectives

The school aims to use Pupil Premium funding to:

- Raise attainment and progress for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium.
- Close attainment gaps between disadvantaged pupils and their peers.
- Support pupils' social, emotional, and mental wellbeing.
- Improve attendance and engagement in learning.
- Ensure equality of opportunity and remove barriers to learning.

Pupil Premium Funding

The Pupil Premium Grant is allocated by the government to schools to support pupils who meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Pupils eligible for Free School Meals (FSM), including those eligible in the past six years (Ever 6).
- Looked After Children (LAC).
- Previously Looked After Children (PLAC).
- Children of service families (Service Premium).

Funding levels are set annually by the government and are reviewed each financial year.

Principles for Use of Funding

At Willow Wood Community Nursery & Primary School, decisions about the use of Pupil Premium funding are guided by:

- Robust assessment and tracking of pupil progress.
- Identification of individual and group barriers to learning.
- Evidence-based research and effective practice.
- Whole-school improvement priorities.

- Regular monitoring and evaluation of impact.

Funding is not ring-fenced to individual pupils but is used to support eligible pupils as a group, while also benefiting the wider school community where appropriate.

Identification of Barriers to Learning

The school identifies barriers to learning through:

- Assessment data and progress tracking.
- Teacher observations and professional judgement.
- Attendance and behaviour records.
- Discussions with pupils and parents/carers.
- External agency reports where relevant.

Common barriers may include:

- Gaps in prior learning.
- Low confidence or self-esteem.
- Attendance and punctuality issues.
- Speech, language, and communication needs.
- Social, emotional, and mental health challenges.
- Limited access to enrichment opportunities.

Strategies and Interventions

Pupil Premium funding may be used to support:

- Targeted academic interventions (e.g. small group or one-to-one support).
- Support for speech, language, and communication.
- Social, emotional, and mental health provision.
- Pastoral and family support.
- Professional development for staff.
- Enrichment activities, trips, and clubs.
- Attendance and engagement initiatives.

The specific strategies used are reviewed annually and published in the school's Pupil Premium Strategy Statement.

Roles and Responsibilities

Governing Body

The Governing Body is responsible for:

- Ensuring the Pupil Premium Grant is used appropriately and effectively.
- Monitoring the impact of spending on pupil outcomes.
- Holding school leaders to account for the use of funding.

Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- Overall leadership and management of Pupil Premium provision.
- Ensuring effective use of funding in line with this policy.
- Reporting to governors on progress and impact.

Pupil Premium Lead

The Pupil Premium Lead is responsible for:

- Coordinating Pupil Premium provision.
- Analysing data and identifying priorities.
- Monitoring and evaluating interventions.
- Supporting staff to meet the needs of disadvantaged pupils.

Teachers and Support Staff

All staff are responsible for:

- High-quality teaching and learning for all pupils.
- Identifying barriers to learning.
- Implementing and reviewing strategies to support eligible pupils.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The impact of Pupil Premium funding is monitored through:

- Termly assessment and progress data.
- Attendance and behaviour analysis.
- Review of intervention outcomes.
- Pupil and parent feedback.
- Governor scrutiny.

Findings are used to inform future planning and ensure continuous improvement.

Reporting and Accountability

In line with government requirements, the school publishes an annual Pupil Premium Strategy Statement on its website, detailing:

- The amount of funding received.
- Identified barriers to learning.
- Planned expenditure and rationale.
- Evaluation of impact.

Review of Policy

This policy is reviewed annually to ensure it remains up to date, effective, and compliant with statutory guidance.

Agreed: January 2026

Review Date: January 2027