

Pupil Premium

In order to secure the progress of children who may be disadvantaged, the government allocates finances to all schools called the 'Pupil Premium'. Each child in receipt of free school meals receives £1300 within the school budget. This money must be spent to provide additional resources, services and support for these pupils in order that they achieve their potential.

At Churchfields, the Village School, we firmly believe that pupils learn and achieve well through receiving quality first teaching from highly trained staff. This is why we invest so heavily in staff training and school improvement. We believe the Pupil Premium supplements the good work we carry out every day at school but does not replace the high standards we set for ourselves to ensure we provide the highest quality education for all our pupils.

It is essential that this money is diligently spent to ensure our children get the most from it. Consequently we use our intimate knowledge of our pupils and families to determine the strategies we employ to secure excellent value for money through maximum impact.

Our 2014/15 Pupil Premium allocation which has been spent in the following ways:

- First-Hand Experiences

Often families who are in receipt of free school meals may find it difficult to fund often expensive first-hand experiences for their children. For this reason, some of the funding we receive is used to provide these pupils with experiences that help support their development, skills and knowledge that they would otherwise lack. Exactly how these experiences are decided on is determined through our thorough knowledge and assessment of our children.

- Parental Support

Parents spend much more time with their children than the staff do at school! They play a pivotal role in their educational success. To support parents in the difficult task of nurturing their children through their school years, we offer support classes and workshops, run by outside providers, funded through our Pupil Premium budget.

- Technology

Modern technology has huge educational value for children if used correctly. Amongst a multitude of other uses, it allows pupils access to the internet which is a rich source of information, and can support with homework and the development of a range of skills and knowledge. Most of our pupils in receipt of the Pupil Premium do not have access to such technology outside of the school day. For this reason, part of our spending of this money goes on getting technology into their hands.

- Extended Learning Opportunities

We are proud of the extra-curricular clubs we run at Churchfields, the Village School. We have a comprehensive selection that includes clubs run by teachers in their own time for free, as well as those from external providers which charge. Every term, children in receipt of the Pupil Premium receive funding from the school to attend one club where there is a charge in addition to any free club they may choose. This allows our pupils to have further opportunity to extend their learning beyond the school day all year round.

- Experienced Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo)

Some of our pupils who are receipt of the Pupil Premium have also been identified as having Special Educational Needs (SEN). In order to ensure these children receive the best support possible to overcome their difficulties and make progress in line with their peers, we employ a highly skilled SENCo to lead this critical area of education within our school. Mrs Bolwell has extensive experience working in many school contexts as well as in an advisory role for the Department for Education. A proportion of Mrs Bolwell's time, linked to the number of Pupil Premium children who are also SEN, is therefore funded via our Pupil Premium budget.

- Resources

In order to support learning, quality resources are required. These provide stimulation and motivation to our young people to help secure their progress.

- Qualified Intervention Teachers

We employ qualified teachers to work with some of our children in receipt of the Pupil Premium. These teachers work under the direction of the children's classteacher in very small groups or individually to plug any gaps in learning or preteach material that is to be covered in subsequent daily lessons. The progress of pupils in receipt of this teaching is closely monitored by both the intervention teacher and the classteacher to determine its effectiveness and make any necessary changes.

- Skilled Teaching Assistants

Teaching assistants are employed by the school to support pupils and staff in teaching and learning. They are an important part of the Churchfields, the Village School staff and work closely with the teaching staff. Their role in school is wide and encompasses children in receipt of Pupil Premium both collectively with other pupils and individually. Similarly to intervention teachers, our teaching assistants deliver specific learning programmes devised by qualified teachers in the school and the impact of this work is closely monitored.

- Nurture Room

We are currently developing a Nurture Room within the school. This will allow children to learn social skills, and explore theirs and others feelings in a secure, nurturing and stimulating environment. The development of this room will also include the appropriate recruitment, training and deployment of skilled staff, who will be able to deliver specialist support – such as Play Therapy.

- Personal Budgets

Parents now receive individual budgets of £200 for every child that is receipt of Pupil Premium funding. This is to be spent in consultation with the school in the best interests of the child to secure their well-being and educational achievement and attainment. This is a new initiative which we believe aids the strengthening of the home-school partnership, as well as provide a further personalized approach to children’s learning and support.

Pupil Premium Spending Impact

Since making significant adjustments to the way Pupil Premium is now spent at Churchfields, we are now beginning to monitor the impact of these on the progress pupils make. Class teachers are beginning to assess pupils in reading, writing and maths six times per year and meet with the Headteacher as frequently. Discussions around impact and adjustment to how Pupil Premium is spent will become the norm and provision adjusted accordingly. This varied and personalised approach is already showing significant benefits to pupils who are now beginning to make accelerated progress to reach their potential.

2014/15 Spending & Impact of £36,630 Pupil Premium funding. Percentages are approximate.

Strategy	Spending as Overall Percentage	Impact
Direct Teaching/Support (academic/social/pastoral): e.g. Group work; Interventions; Forest School staffing.	47%	Targeted, regularly reviewed interventions and individual/group/class work has resulted in an acceleration of the progress of most children in reading, writing and maths. Many children have also shown significant improvement in their social skills. This is the highest cost area of the budget and is monitored regularly and adjustments made swiftly to ensure good value for money is obtained.
Resources & Consumables: e.g. Forest School expenses; Classroom/school resources; Club resources; Books/e-books;	14%	A measurable improvement in the quality of teaching is evident within the school; and the impact this has had on the academic, social and pastoral progress children have made is typically good. Children are also further supported and immersed in learning at home due to the use of this funding which further leads to overall improvement in their attainment, achievement and

Food/drink.		wellbeing.
Nurture Room Development	12%	This project is currently underway. The finances have been ring-fenced by the school to ensure its successful completion. An update on impact will be provided in due course.
Curriculum/Professional: e.g. Clubs; Holiday activities; Sports activities; Music tuition; One to one consultant fees.	8%	Parents have been supported to ensure children have a broad range of experiences outside of school, related to their individual talents and interests. Children have been able to positively incorporate these experiences into their schooling and have made better progress as a result, academically, socially and pastorally.
Personal Budgets	8%	This is a new strategy for which finances have been ring-fenced. An update on impact will be provided in due course.
First Hand Experiences e.g. Trips & Visits; Visitors; Transport.	2%	Pupils, parents and staff report that children have gained valuable experiences as a result of the utilisation of this element of the funding. This has enhanced social and academic skills, and in many cases has resulted in clearly measurable progress on the National Curriculum.
Technology e.g. Kindles	2%	The purchase of technology has had a positive impact on many of our reluctant readers within school. This in turn has stimulated a love of books in these children, increased reading at home and school, and measurable improvement in their standards and progress.
Contingency	2% + 5%*	A small contingency is kept by the school to ensure it can respond to immediate need. *The school received a retrospective increase in the amount of Pupil Premium money it received at the end of 14/15 financial year so will roll over this amount into 15/16.