



# PUPIL PREMIUM - INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

## What is the Pupil Premium?

Introduced in 2011, the pupil premium is a sum of money given to publicly funded schools in England each year by the Government to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils of all abilities and to close the gaps between them and their peers.

This is based on research showing that children from low income families perform less well at school than their peers. Often, children who are entitled to pupil premium face challenges such as poor language and communication skills, less family support, lack of confidence and issues with attendance and punctuality. The pupil premium is intended to directly benefit the children who are eligible, helping to narrow the gap between them and their classmates.

## Is your child eligible?

Schools receive the following funding for each child given a pupil premium:

- Children who are registered as eligible for free school meals at any point in the past six years. The Forest Academy receives £935.00 for pupils.
- £1,900 for each pupil identified in the spring school census as having left local authority care because one of the following:
  - Adoption;
  - a Special Guardianship Order;
  - a Child Arrangement Order (previously Residence Order);
  - In Service Children.

If a pupil has been registered as eligible for free school meals and has also left local authority care for any of the reasons above, they will attract the £1,900 rate. Children who have been in local authority care for 1 day or more also attract £1,900 of pupil premium funding. Funding for these pupils is managed by the [virtual school head \(VSH\)](#) in the local authority that looks after the child.



## How to claim your child's pupil premium

Your child may be eligible for free school meals – and accordingly pupil premium – if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Income Support (IS)
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- 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 are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after qualification for Working Tax Credit ends
- Universal Credit (currently in place in pathfinder areas only)

You can check if you are eligible and apply online for free school meals by going to:

<http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals>

or by emailing

[admissionsandawards@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:admissionsandawards@redbridge.gov.uk)

Alternatively you can visit the Admissions and Awards Team at the London Borough of Redbridge at the following address:

Lynton House  
255-259 High Road  
Ilford  
IG1 1NN

## Accountability

The Government believes that Principals and School Leaders should decide how to use the pupil premium money as they are best placed to identify what would be of most benefit to the children who are eligible. They are held accountable for the decisions they make through:

- The performance tables which show the performance of disadvantaged pupils compared with their peers;
- The Ofsted inspection framework, under which inspectors focus on the attainment of pupil groups, and in particular those who attract the pupil premium;
- The reports for parents that schools have to publish online.



## Using the pupil premium effectively

The Forest Academy effectively uses the pupil premium to support disadvantaged pupils and teachers are encouraged to use the teaching and learning toolkit and evaluation tools provided by the Government.

The Forest Academy Pupil Premium forecast can be seen on the school website.