

CHANCERY EDUCATION TRUST

PUPIL PREMIUM POLICY

SEPTEMBER 2025

Next Review Date: September 2028

Staff should make themselves aware of all policies and amendments or updates to policies and adhere to the same, which will be made available on relevant websites and internal data and computer systems.

Executive Summary for CET – Pupil Premium Policy September 2025:

1. Purpose and Aims

The policy outlines how Chancery Education Trust (CET) and its academies will use the Pupil Premium Grant to:

- Raise attainment among disadvantaged pupils.
- Support pupils with parents in the armed forces.
- Narrow achievement gaps between these pupils and their peers.

It also clarifies roles, responsibilities, and the principles guiding funding decisions.

2. Legislative Framework

The policy aligns with the Education and Skills Funding Agency's (ESFA) *Conditions of Grant Guidance 2025–2026*.

It mandates adherence to Department for Education (DfE) rules on reporting, evaluation, and public accountability.

3. Use of the Grant

- The Pupil Premium is additional government funding that schools can use flexibly to meet local pupil need
- CET ensures that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all children, especially those who are socially disadvantaged.
- Allocation is based on a needs analysis—not all pupils receiving the premium will have individual interventions
- Schools must publish an annual Pupil Premium Strategy Statement on their website using DfE templates

4. Types of Support and Interventions

A wide range of provisions may be used, including:

- Targeted academic support: intervention groups, one-to-one tuition, booster class
 - Pastoral and wellbeing support: access to counsellors, therapists, family workers, and attendance checks.
 - Parental engagement: workshops, transition sessions, and community links
 - Staff development: training for teachers and support staff
 - Enrichment opportunities: school trips, clubs, and activities promoting aspiration and engagement
- All interventions are monitored through an "assess, plan, do, review" cycle

5. Assessment and Reporting

- Regular termly pupil progress meetings ensure that Pupil Premium (PP) pupils' needs are assessed and addressed
- Schools must produce termly reports for governors detailing:
 - Progress in narrowing gap
 - Provision provided.
 - Evaluation of cost-effectiveness

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- Annual reports must be published on academy websites, demonstrating the impact of PP spending.

6. Success Criteria

The policy's effectiveness is judged by:

- Early intervention and consistent support.
- The majority of disadvantaged pupils meeting individual progress targets.
- Effective identification, monitoring, and assessment systems.
- Fostering a positive, inclusive school culture that recognises and values diversity.

7. Eligibility Categories

Pupils qualifying for Pupil Premium funding include:

- Ever 6 Free School Meals (FSM): Pupils who have received FSM in the past 6 years.
- Looked-After Children (LAC): Pupils in care for at least one day.
- Post-Looked-After Children: Pupils adopted or under special guardianship/child arrangement orders.
- Ever 6 Service Children: Pupils with parents in the armed forces, including those receiving a child pension after a parent's death in service.

Eligibility varies across CET schools:

- Darrick Wood Infant & Nursery School (Reception–Y2)
- John Wood School & Nursery (Reception–Y6)
- Oaklands Primary Academy (Reception–Y6)
- Pickhurst Academy (Y3–Y6)

8. Roles and Responsibilities

Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team (SLT):

- Implement and monitor the policy.
- Plan and review pupil premium spending using evidence-based approaches.
- Ensure staff training and publish the annual strategy statement.

Governors:

- Hold the Headteacher accountable for policy implementation.
- Monitor funding impact and ensure value for money.
- Challenge leadership to ensure effective use of funds.

All Staff:

- Maintain high expectations for all pupils.
- Identify pupils not progressing as expected.
- Share effective practice across the school.

9. Links with Other Policies

Chancery Education Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

This policy connects closely with:

- SEND Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Equality and Objectives Statement
- Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policies
- Admissions and Prospectus Documents

10. Monitoring and Review

- Reviewed every three years (next due September 2028) or sooner if required.
- Formal review stages:
 - Written by CEO/Headteachers – September 2025
 - Committee Review – October 2025
 - CET Board Approval – December 2025
 - Local Governing Board Adoption – February 2026

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PUPIL PREMIUM POLICY

Aims

This policy aims to:

- **Provide background information** about the pupil premium grant so that all members of the school community understand its purpose and which pupils are eligible
- Set out **how the school will make decisions** on pupil premium spending
- **Summarise the roles and responsibilities of those involved** in managing the pupil premium in school

Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the [pupil premium conditions of grant guidance 2025 to 2026](#) published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Purpose of the grant

The pupil premium grant is additional funding allocated to publicly funded schools to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and support pupils with parents in the armed forces.

The school will use the grant to support these groups, which comprise pupils with a range of different abilities, to narrow any achievement gaps between them and their peers.

We also recognise that not all pupils eligible for pupil premium funding will have lower attainment than their peers. In such cases, the grant will be used to help improve pupils' progress and attainment so that they can reach their full potential.

Use of the grant

The Government has given schools the freedom to spend this funding as they think best based upon their knowledge of pupil needs.

Chancery Education Trust and all its Academy Schools view the needs of all our children as important and ensures that our teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all of them. This includes ensuring that the needs of socially disadvantaged pupils are adequately assessed and addressed. We recognise that not all pupils who receive free school meals (FSM) will be socially disadvantaged. We also recognise that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for free school meals. Nationally, the statistics show that pupils who are, or have been, in receipt of FSM, do less well than their peers in exams, for example: SATs.

The Academy School reserves the right to allocate the Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil or groups of pupils the Academy School has legitimately identified as being socially disadvantaged. Pupil Premium funding will be allocated following a needs analysis, which will identify priority classes, groups or individuals. Funding and resources means that not all children in receipt of Pupil Premium will be in receipt of individual interventions.

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We continually evaluate our Pupil Premium spending to make certain it is being used in ways known to be most effective. Chancery Education Trust and its Academy Schools will use the money in a variety of ways.

In order to meet the above requirements, Chancery Education Trust and its Academy Schools will ensure that provision is made which secures the teaching and learning opportunities that meet the needs of all pupils.

We will publish our strategy statement on the Academy School's use of the pupil premium in each academic year on the Academy School website, in line with the DfE's [guidance on using the pupil premium](#) and using the templates on GOV.UK.

Our pupil premium strategy is available on the Academy School website (click on the links below to be redirected to each Academy School's pupil premium strategy):

- [Darrick Wood Infant & Nursery School](#)
- [John Wood School & Nursery](#)
- [Oaklands Primary Academy](#)
- [Pickhurst Academy](#)

The range of provision

The range of provision that the Chancery Education Trust and its Academy Schools **may** consider include:

- Employing staff to run specific intervention groups
- Additional support from Teaching Assistants/Para Professionals and Higher Level Teaching Assistants
- Teacher and Teaching Assistant training
- Transition workshops for parents and children at key points
- Strong focus on speaking and listening – e.g. project work, theme days
- Promoting roles and responsibilities within the academy
- Parent workshops and training
- Access to the School Counsellor, Play Therapist, Speech Therapist, Family Worker
- Staff training
- 1:1 tuition
- Recruiting, developing staff who work with vulnerable children
- Promoting community links
- Workshops and visitors raising aspirations
- Interventions monitored with an 'assess, plan, do, review' model.
- 1-1 tuition from Para Professionals and Teachers
- Attendance Checks
- Home and School support
- Boost Groups and support materials
- After School/In School booster classes for Year 6 children
- Pastoral support
- Support within the curriculum
- Access to enrichment opportunities including school trips/clubs
- Support for pupils with English as an Additional Language

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Assessment

Chancery Education Trust and its Academy Schools will ensure that the needs of those children in receipt of PP funding are adequately assessed and addressed through termly pupil progress meetings and on-going assessments.

Reporting

It is the responsibility of the individual Academy Schools to produce a termly report for Governors outlining

- The progress made towards narrowing the gap, by year group, for pupils in receipt of PP funding
- An outline of the provision that was made during the term since the last meeting
- An evaluation of the cost effectiveness, in terms of the progress made by the pupils receiving a particular provision, when compared with other forms of support

The Academy School will publish information annually on how they have used their Pupil Premium Grant to address the issue of 'narrowing the gap', for these pupils. This task will be carried out within the requirements published by the Department for Education and displayed on the Academy School websites.

Success Criteria

The evaluation of this policy is based on how quickly the Academy School can 'narrow the gap' between socially disadvantaged pupils and their peers. The success criteria for the Pupil Premium Policy are:

- Early intervention and support for socially disadvantaged children
- The vast majority of socially disadvantaged children will meet their individual targets
- Having an effective system for identifying, assessing and monitoring pupils
- Create a positive Academy School atmosphere in which pupils' differences are recognised and valued as full members of the Academy School community; developing confident and independent learners.

Eligible pupils

The pupil premium is allocated to the school based on the number of eligible pupils in:

DWINS: Reception to Year 2

JWSN: Reception to Year 6

OAK: Reception to Year 6

PCK: Year 3 to Year 6

Eligible pupils fall into the categories explained below.

Ever 6 free school meals

Pupils recorded in the most recent October school census who are known to have been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years (as determined by the DfE's latest conditions of grant guidance).

This includes pupils first known to be eligible for free school meals in the most recent October census.

It does not include pupils who received universal infant free school meals but would not have otherwise received free lunches.

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This includes pupils first known to be eligible for free school meals in the most recent January census.

It does not include pupils who received universal infant free school meals but would not have otherwise received free lunches.

Looked-after children

Pupils who are in the care of, or provided with accommodation by, a local authority in England or Wales for at least 1 day. Allocations will be provisionally based on the children looked-after data return in March of the previous year and then confirmed in December of the current year based on the children looked-after data return in March of the current year.

Post looked-after children

Pupils recorded in the most recent October census who were looked after by an English or Welsh local authority immediately before being adopted, or who left local authority care on a special guardianship order or child arrangements order.

Ever 6 service children

Pupils recorded in the most recent October census:

- With a parent serving in the regular armed forces
- Who have been registered as a 'service child' in the school census at any point in the last 6 years (as determined by the DfE's latest conditions of grant guidance), including those first recorded as such in the most recent October census
- In receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence because one of their parents died while serving in the armed forces

Roles and responsibilities

Headteacher/Principal and Senior Leadership Team

The Headteacher/Principal and Senior Leadership Team are responsible for:

- Keeping this policy up to date, and ensuring that it is implemented across the school
- Ensuring that all school staff are aware of their role in raising the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and supporting pupils with parents in the armed forces
- Planning pupil premium spending and keeping this under constant review, using an evidence-based approach and working with virtual school heads where appropriate
- Monitoring the attainment and progress of pupils eligible for the pupil premium to assess the impact of the school's use of the funding
- Reporting on the impact of pupil premium spending to the governing board on an ongoing basis
- Publishing the pupil premium strategy statement on the school's use of the pupil premium in each academic year on the school website, in line with the DfE's [guidance on using the pupil premium](#) and using the templates on GOV.UK.
- Providing relevant training for staff, as necessary, on supporting disadvantaged pupils and raising attainment

Governors

The local governing board is responsible for:

- Holding the headteacher to account for the implementation of this policy
- Ensuring the school is using pupil premium funding appropriately, in line with the rules set out in the conditions of grant
- Monitoring the attainment and progress of pupils eligible for the pupil premium, in conjunction with the headteacher, to assess the impact and effectiveness of the school's use of the funding
- Monitoring whether the school is ensuring value for money in its use of the pupil premium
- Challenging the headteacher to use the pupil premium in the most effective way
- Setting the school's ethos and values around supporting disadvantaged members of the school community

Other school staff

All school staff are responsible for:

- Implementing this policy on a day-to-day basis
- Setting high expectations for all pupils, including those eligible for the pupil premium
- Identifying pupils whose attainment is not improving in response to interventions funded by the pupil premium, and highlighting these individuals to the senior leadership team
- Sharing insights into effective practice with other school staff

Links with other policies

This policy is linked to:

- SEND Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding policy
- The Equality Information and Objectives statement
- Behaviour and Anti Bullying policies
- Academy School prospectuses

Useful Information:

- Admissions Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding policy
- The Equality Information and Objectives policy
- SEND Policy
- Gov.UK - [Pupil premium: funding and accountability for schools](#)
- Gov.UK - [Apply for Free School Meals](#)
- Gov.UK - [Pupil premium: conditions of grant 2025 to 2026](#)

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Monitoring and Implementation Policy

The policy is reviewed every three years, although the Trust may vary or amend it periodically to ensure that we fulfil our obligation around the Pupil Premium Policy. All proposed changes to this policy would be made following the approval from the Committee.

	Name	Date
Policy written by	CEO, Headteacher/Principal	September 2025
Review by Committee	CEO, Headteacher/Principal	October 2025
Approved by Committee	CET Board	December 2025
Adopted by Governing Board	Local Governing Board	February 2026
To be reviewed annually		
Review by	September 2028	

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