

**St. Joseph's Specialist Trust
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Website: www.st-josephscranleigh.surrey.sch.uk

Pupil Premium Grant Guidelines for 2025/26



***Christ in our Lives
'No limits ... just possibilities'***

***Reviewed February 2026
Next Review: February 2027
Cycle: Annual***

WEBSITE GUIDELINES

Guidelines on Pupil Premium Grant

Introduction

The Government guidelines are that Pupil Premium Grant (PPG), which is additional to main school funding, is given to schools to raise the attainment of disadvantaged children of all abilities.

PPG was introduced in April 2011.

Disadvantaged Children

For the purposes of PPG disadvantaged children are defined as:

- Children who were eligible for free school meals (FSM) at any time in the last six years (known as 'Ever 6 FSM') including eligible children of families with no recourse to public funds ("NRPF").
- Looked after children (LAC) – children who have been in the care of a local authority for one day or more
- Post-LAC – children who have been adopted from or have left care
- Children with a parent who is serving or who has served in the armed forces

Funding

Only students in Key stages 1 to 4 are eligible for PPG.

For academic year 2024/25 the funding was:

FSM children of primary age:	£1,480
FSM children of secondary age:	£1,050
LAC	£2,570
Post-LAC:	£2,570
Service children:	£340

Funding comes from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

FSM and post-LAC money is paid direct to the school in four instalments, on the last day of June, September, December and March.

LAC money is paid to the Local Authority (LA) in which the relevant pupil lives.

Purpose

The current government policy intent is for the FSM grant to improve the attainment of children and help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. This is based on research that children from disadvantaged backgrounds perform less well at school than their peers. School leaders are best placed to assess their pupils' needs and use the funding to improve attainment, drawing on evidence of effective practice.

The FSM grant does not have to be completely spent by schools in the financial year, some or all of it may be carried forward to future financial years.

The LAC grant is paid to the LA 'for the benefit of the looked after child's educational needs as described in their personal education plan'. The distribution of money is the responsibility of the LA's Virtual School Head (VSH) working with the school's designated teacher or another member of staff in the child's education setting who best understands their needs.

Local authorities may not carry forward LAC.

Each LA and Virtual School has its own policy on LAC PPG, and they are all different.

Accessing PPG

PPG money will be spent in accordance with our published pupil premium strategy.

Use of evidence

Schools must demonstrate how their spending decisions are informed by research evidence, making reference to a range of sources including the Education Endowment Foundation's (EEF) toolkit. In line with the EEF's pupil premium guide, activities should include those that:

- Developing high-quality teaching, for example through professional development and recruitment and retention
- Providing targeted academic support, such as one-to-one or small group tuition
- Tackling non-academic barriers to academic success, such as difficulties with attendance, behaviour and social and emotional wellbeing

Accountability

Schools are required to publish an updated pupil premium strategy annually. All schools must use the templates available on GOV.UK to publish their pupil premium strategy, by the end of December each year. The Department for Education will undertake monitoring checks on a sample of schools' published reports.

Given their role in ensuring schools spend funding appropriately and in holding schools to account for educational performance, governors and trustees should scrutinise schools'

plans for and use of their pupil premium funding. Ofsted inspections may also include such scrutiny.

The school's records relating to PPG are open to inspection by the Secretary of State and by the Comptroller and Auditor General.

The Comptroller and Auditor General may, under Section 6 of the National Audit Act 1983, carry out examinations into the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which the school have used PPG.

The school must provide information as may be required by the Secretary of State to determine whether it has complied with these conditions.

Additional Information

Please go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium-allocations-and-conditions-of-grant-2024-to-2025/pupil-premium-2024-to-2025-conditions-of-grant-for-non-maintained-special-schools-nmss#permitteduse-ofppgrant>

Date Guidelines Reviewed

Updated	Changes	By	Version
March 2013	Created	Simon Charleton	v1
April 2013	Minor changes	Simon Charleton	v1.1
November 2014	Minor changes and data information update	Alex Ratcliffe	V1.2
October 2016	Updated with new class information	Dawn Phillips	V1.3
July 2018	Major changes to all sections and removal of out-of-date information and appendices.	Fairley Allan and Sue Collins	V1.4
February 2020	Interim Review to reclassify policy to guidelines, cycle changed to annual and name changed to reflect Trust	Admin	n/a
October 2020	No Changes	Simon Jaggard	V1.5
July 2021	Major changes to all sections of 2020/2021	Fairley Allan/Monika Hosker	V1.6
Summer 2021	Major changes to some sections of 2020/2021 edition and updated to 2021/2022 edition	Fairley Allan/Monika Hosker	V1.7
Summer 2022	Major changes to some sections of 2021/2022 edition	Monika Hosker	V1.8
Summer 2022	Additional changes made	Lizzie Hurst	V1.9
Summer 2023	Updated for the 2023-4 Academic Year	Simon Jaggard	V1.10
November 2024	Updates and removal of Covid Recovery Annexe 1	Simon Jaggard	V1.11
February 2026	No changes	Simon Jaggard	V1.12