

## **Pupil Premium – Eligibility and Funding Information for Parents**

Central to the mission of Bennett Memorial School is the aim of realising the potential of every single student to achieve excellence. This means tackling and overcoming obstacles to achievement caused by material disadvantage and raising the attainment of those students in low income families.

We can apply for additional funding for all of our year 7 to 11 students who:

- Have received free school meals within the last 6 years
- Have parents who are in the armed services
- Have been in local authority care or have been adopted from local authority care.

Pupil Premium funding is spent in a wide variety of ways, including provision for groups, welfare support and training. Some of the funding is also used for provision which is tailored to suit each individual student and family's needs. For example, we may provide additional English and mathematics tuition where needed, intensive career guidance, enhanced work experience placements and help with the cost of equipment, educational trips and music lessons. A detailed breakdown of spending for each academic year is published on a separate document on our website.

At Bennett Memorial the Director of Pupil Premium Support works with students, families and school staff to ensure that this funding is effectively used to support disadvantaged students. If you are unsure whether your child is included on our Pupil Premium Register, or wish to discuss any aspect of this, please contact Mrs Neill, the Director of Pupil Premium Support, directly at [neill@bennett.kent.sch.uk](mailto:neill@bennett.kent.sch.uk)

### **Allocation of Funding**

We have the following priorities for allocation of Pupil Premium funding:

1. Achievement in core subjects (English and Mathematics)
2. Addressing problems with attendance
3. Achievement in the broader curriculum
4. Developing aspiration
5. Promoting engagement in co-curriculum provided by the school (clubs/ D of E / sport / music)

We are keen to ensure that Pupil Premium funding is used effectively to support students in genuine need, and therefore allocate funding for individual costs such as equipment, visits or music tuition on a case by case basis. Should you wish to request financial assistance please write, in confidence, to Mrs C Dottridge, School Business Manager.

### **Free School Meal Eligibility**

The School can apply for the additional Pupil Premium funding for all students who have been eligible for free school meals at any time in the last six years.

Even if your child does not intend to have the school meal, if you make an application and qualify, we can get the additional funding to help their learning.

Your child may be eligible for free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- 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 you're 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 you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

To check your eligibility and make an application, follow this link <https://www.gov.uk/apply-freeschool-meals> or contact Mrs Wagstaff at school.

### **Year 6 transition**

We work closely with our Primary feeder schools to transfer information about students, and will automatically identify students who are eligible for Pupil Premium. Bennett Memorial also offers a summer school for Pupil Premium students who are moving into Year 7.

### **Year 12 and 13**

Pupil Premium funding does not extend beyond Year 11. However students can apply for the 16-19 bursary using the [application form](#) on the school website. All students who were eligible for free school meals or Pupil Premium are encouraged to apply.