

Minster School – Pupil Premium Information for Parents

“Succeeding Together”

Enabling all members of our school community to work together, care for each other and strive to realise their potential in their studies and all other aspects of life.

Wisdom – Optimism – Resilience – Kindness – Service

What is Pupil Premium?

Pupil premium funding was introduced in April 2011 and is allocated to schools to support students who are considered to be disadvantaged with regard to academic outcomes in school.

Schools are given money according to how many students attend the school who:

- have had free school meals in the last six years
- are in care
- were previously in care before being adopted or placed under guardianship
- have parents currently serving in the armed forces

Schools then decide how to spend the money to support students in school. In many situations the money is not spent individually on each student, the money is aggregated to pay for staffing to provide support for the group of students as a whole.

How is the Pupil Premium used at Minster School?

The key purpose of the pupil premium is to enable all students, whatever their background to make the same excellent academic progress. The first priority for us in our spending is ensuring that the teaching students receive is of the highest possible quality. Where students need extra support beyond this, it is important to ensure those students who most need the support are prioritised.

We are aware that students learn best when their parents or carers work closely with the school to support their learning. Working with parents/carers to ensure good attendance at school is key to this, as is ensuring they are well informed about their child's progress.

Although this is not the case for all, some students eligible for pupil premium funding will benefit from support to help overcome any possible barriers to their learning and engagement at school. These can lead to lower attendance at school which has a dramatically negative effect on student outcomes. Practical support with uniform, basic equipment, the cost of school trips and revision materials can help to overcome these barriers. It can be hard to attend a school where many other students seem to have lots of advantages and opportunities. It is important to support all our students to engage in a wide range of activities to give them the same life experiences and opportunities as their peers.

What support will my child get?

Not all students are the same; not all students need the same support. We offer some support to all students eligible for the Pupil Premium and this is described in our core offer below. Extra support is also offered to

students who are identified through our assessments in school as not making progress in line with other students. We are also aware that some students have their own individual barriers to progress and we seek to help with these where possible.

The core offer

Support with progress

- Following each Assessment Point, the progress of every PP student is reviewed by the Progress and Achievement Leader

Support with Maths and English

- Individual sessions with the Heads of Subject at KS4 to support progress

Support with parents' evenings

- Students given priority for booking appointments

Support with trips and visits

- All non-residential visits provided
- One residential educational trip paid for during a student's time at school

Support with uniform

- Two £25 vouchers each year

Support with equipment

- A pencil case and contents provided at the start of the year
- Scientific calculator
- Revision guides at GCSE
- Textbooks for some subjects at GCSE

Possible extra support

Support with learning

- Following each Assessment Point, PALs identify students in need of extra support
- 1:1 tuition in Maths and/or English
- Individual Mentoring by a member of staff

Support with equipment

- Stationery available from Student Services
- Laptop for use at home if no ICT facilities available

Support with attendance

- Support from PSAs for parents and students to ensure the highest levels of attendance

Support with extra-curricular experiences

- Duke of Edinburgh paid for including support with equipment
- Sports clubs
- Music lessons and instrument hire

Notes

- The programme of activities described above is only available whilst a student is eligible for the Pupil Premium.
- All decisions regarding the support for eligible students are the school's.
- Support and spending priorities are reviewed on a yearly basis and may be withdrawn or adapted.