

MORE HOUSE SCHOOL

POLICY

PUPIL PREMIUM

Rationale:

Introduced in 2011, the Pupil Premium is a sum of money given to schools each year by the Government to improve the attainment of disadvantaged children. Pupil Premium funding is available to More House School as a non-maintained special school (NMSS - schools for children with special educational needs that the Secretary of State for Education has approved under section 342 of the Education Act 1996). This is additional funding is to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils of all abilities and to close the gaps between them and their peers. The Secretary of State for Education lays down the terms and conditions on which assistance is given in terms of:

- raising the attainment of disadvantaged pupils of all abilities to reach their potential,
- supporting children and young people with parents in the regular armed forces.

Purpose:

The Government pay local authorities in quarterly instalments and this is then passed onto the school. In the 2023 to 2024 financial year the funding designated to certain boys attending More House has been based upon:

- £1,455 for pupils in reception year to year 6
- £1035 for pupils in year 7 to year 11
- £2530 for Looked After Children (LAC)
- £2530 for Previously Looked After Children (PLAC)
- £335 for Service Children

The funds can be used as deemed fit by the Headmaster of the school *for the educational benefit of pupils registered at the school*. The funding is not at the discretion of the parent, although external input is valued. Examples of premium funding use include, but are not limited to, reading comprehension strategies, the physical environment, phonics, outdoor adventure learning, digital technology, staff training and laptop access, to name but a few. The Government is keen for schools to implement innovative ways of using the additional funding so as to make a difference to students' educational achievements. The broad guidelines below identify the ways in which More House School applies this funding.

In line with guidance provided predominantly by the Education Endowment Foundation, More House School will, in line with its Pupil Premium Strategy and Vision, implement the 'menu of approaches' through a 'tiered approach to school improvement' (EEF, 2021), surrounding 'High

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Quality Teaching', 'Targeted Academic Support' and 'Wider Strategies', all of which have been considered in preparation for the 2021-2022 vision and expenditure, available on the school website. This method will be recognisable within the three-year expenditure strategy for Pupil Premium.

Broad Guidelines:

More House School uses the Pupil Premium it receives to enhance the overall educational experience that it offers its pupils. This will be determined by the senior management of the school year by year, when funds have been received and the wide range of appropriate opportunities available have been identified. Not all pupils will have the same needs and therefore at times individual consideration will need to be assessed in order to address the differing strengths and weaknesses of these students and where the Pupil Premium will have good effect. The Governors oversee this strategy. The broad guidelines are as follows:

- Government allows schools to choose how to spend their Pupil Premium money, as it believes that they are best placed to identify what would be of most benefit to the children who are eligible.
- As part of a long-term Pupil Premium plan, More House School spends its funding in a variety of ways dependent on the pupils commanding the funding.
- In previous years, the school has paid for or subsidised the following:
 1. Music lessons for children whose families would be unable to pay for them.
 2. Specific educational trips, visits and other outdoor learning.
 3. Additional help/support that may be required, such as speech and language therapy or family therapy.
 4. Resources that boost children's learning, such as digital technology, including laptops, tablets and kindles.
 5. Catering demonstrations and the teaching of cookery.
 6. Talks from external speakers.
 7. Activities that develop social skills, mental health and welfare
- The grant does not have to be completely spent by the school in the financial year in which it was allocated as some or all of it may be carried forward to future financial years.
- The Education Funding Agency (EFA) will issue a certification form in April of each year to be returned by May requesting confirmation regarding receipt of the funds and evidence of how the spending of the premiums has supported the achievement of the children.
- The expenditure of Pupil Premium monies is exhibited on the school website in accordance with guidelines from the Department for Education.

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Expenditure for Pupil Premium surrounds the school's 'menu of approaches' (DfE) which surrounds three key areas; high quality teaching, targeted academic support and wider strategies. In doing so, the school considers closely how each decision can fit within one of these focus areas, however there may also be occasions where specific, targeted intervention falls slightly outside of one of these areas, particularly given the needs and targets specific to all pupils and those with Education, Health and Care Plans.

Conclusion:

Pupil Premium is received by the school under the crucial condition that pupils who attract these additional funds must have improved because of it. Some of the most effective uses of Pupil Premium can be the most subtle. Pupil Premium funding is a precious resource and the senior management of the school and Governors are committed to its effective use.