



THE WHITEOAK ACADEMIES,
HANNAH MORE INFANTS AND GROVE JUNIORS
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“Planting Dreams. Nurturing Hearts. Growing Minds.”

Pupil Premium

Dear Parents and Carers,

I just wanted to take the time to introduce myself in my role as Pupil Premium Champion across our family of schools. At The Whiteoak Academies, we want to make sure that we are providing your child with the best education and support we can. For those of you that do not know what Pupil Premium involves and what this could mean for your child I have answered some commonly asked questions below.

What is Pupil Premium?

Pupil Premium is a grant, also referred to as ‘Free School Meals’, received by schools from the Government to improve the attainment of some of our children. Not only do children receive a free school meal, because healthy eating and having a hot school meal is linked to being learning ready, but also this funding also helps the school to support pupils to achieve their best socially and academically.

Unfortunately, for us as a school, there is a slight confusion for some Key Stage 1 parents. All infant pupils are entitled to a “Universal Free School Meal” that is provided by the Government, irrelevant of family income or employment status. However, this is a different Government initiative to “Pupil Premium – Free School Meals.” The pupil premium grant is the only initiative that provides additional funding to the school, which can fund additional support for academic and social activities, on top of a daily “Free School Meal”. This grant needs to be applied for by families but as a result of all children from Reception to Year 2 receiving a free hot school meal, or because some parents do not want their child to take up the free school meal, some parents are discouraged from making this application despite the additional benefits that their child may receive.

How do I know if I am eligible?

Your child's school may be entitled to Pupil Premium/ Free School Meals if you receive one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit Only (with income up to £16,190) with no element of Working Tax Credit
- National Asylum Seekers Support
- Guarantee Element of the State Pension Credit
- Employment and Support Allowance (income related)
- Universal Credit (income dependant)

At this stage, we would encourage **all of our Reception families** to apply, especially because many families' financial situations have changed because of the COVID pandemic and recent financial challenges.



How do I apply for Pupil Premium Funding?

There are several ways to apply. You can complete a form online, via the North Somerset Council [website](#). If you have more than one child, you will need to complete the form again, one for each child. ***However, please do not be put off and please do apply!*** It only takes 5 minutes per application and could save you £100s over the time that your children are at school with us. It might surprise you to know that you can also apply for Pupil Premium by contacting the school directly. I am offering appointments over the phone to complete the application form with you. The whole process takes 5 minutes and you get an instant answer. If you have any questions regarding the application process or you would like to make an appointment for me to complete the form with you over the phone please do get in touch.

What support can we as a school offer?

- Children are all supported in ensuring they receive Quality First Teaching – through staff CPD and curriculum development opportunities.
- Children could be given opportunities to take part in afterschool clubs where appropriate.
- KS2 children have the opportunity to receive music tuition e.g. guitar and keyboard.
- Priority is given to enrichment opportunities e.g. school trips, classroom visitors etc...
- Additional support for social and emotional needs, and academic progress through interventions from our support staff or teachers or outside agencies with agreement from the school.

What is the role of the Inclusion Lead in relation to Pupil Premium?

I am a point of contact for our children, parents and staff. As part of my role, I will be looking at whole school enrichment opportunities and supporting staff to ensure our children are given every opportunity to succeed both inside and outside of the classroom. I will monitor the impact of any interventions put into place for individuals and groups, ensuring we meet the needs of our children to the best of our ability.

My working days are Monday - Wednesday and messages can be left for me via the office or please email the school office on school@hannahmoreandgrove.co.uk should you need to contact me.

I look forward to working with you and your children.

Kind regards

[Mrs Rachel McClive](#)

Pupil Premium Champion