



Pupil Premium Policy 2025-26

Status	Non-Statutory	Date Created	14/10/2020
Any other statutory names for this policy (where applicable)		Date First Approved	
Responsibility for this policy (job title)	PP Lead	Date last reviewed	Autumn 2025
Governors' Committee with responsibility for its review	T&L	Frequency of Review	Annually
Tick here if Bucks Policy attached in its entirety		To be put on the website	Yes
Approval necessary	Committee		

Principles

All members of staff and governors accept responsibility for 'socially disadvantaged' pupils and are committed to meeting their pastoral, social and academic needs within the school and the local community.

As with every child in our care, a child who is considered to be 'socially disadvantaged' is valued, respected and entitled to develop to their full potential, irrespective of need.

Overview

The Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) is a government initiative that was introduced in 2011 to target resources on those students deemed to be from a financially disadvantaged background. Specifically, the PPG is provided for those students who are currently entitled to Free School Meals (FSM), or who have been entitled to FSM at any point over the past 6 years (Ever 6) and students who are looked after by the local authority (LAC). There is also a smaller provision for students whose parent(s) are currently serving in the armed forces to address the emotional and social well-being of these students.

This initiative is based on research showing that young people from low income families perform less well at school than their peers. These students can sometimes face challenges

such as poor language and communication skills, less family support, lack of confidence and issues with attendance and punctuality.

PPG is additional to main school funding and is used to provide additional educational support to improve the progress and to raise the standard of achievement of students who are eligible.

Main barriers

Main barriers faced by disadvantaged students at Aylesbury High School

- Students' social, emotional and mental health which reduces their self-confidence and attitude to learning.
- Wider gaps in students' knowledge have arisen due to the pandemic.
- Reduced access to resources due to a lack of understanding or reluctance to gain available financial resources.
- Lack of access to resources to supplement learning outside of the classroom.
- Access to extended learning opportunities.
- Restricted access to all the opportunities offered as part of our co-curricular programme due to distance from school to home.
- Lower than average PP numbers.
- Current financial situation.
- Lower co-curricular engagement
- Slightly higher number of behaviour marks
- Slightly lower than average attendance

Provision

Aylesbury High School is recognised as an outstanding school where teaching is outstanding and teachers show high levels of commitment. This gives students from all backgrounds the best possible educational experience. We make use of the Pupil Premium funding to maintain a high standard of teaching and learning and implement intervention strategies for those students who need additional support. AHS places significant emphasis on co-curricular opportunities and it is important that our PP students are facilitated to experience and make the most of these opportunities.

Our plans for 2025-26 are informed by reviewing the strategies implemented and barriers faced by disadvantaged students in the previous years, the barriers to learning post the pandemic and by research evidence. We use the Education Endowment Fund (EEF) Toolkit and findings from the Ofsted report 'The Pupil Premium: how schools are spending the funding successfully to maximise achievement' to research the most effective strategies to overcome students' barriers to learning. Below are the key points from our **3 Year Development Plan strategy**.

Academic Support

We aim to:

- Ensure PP students are supported by the PP Lead.
- Continue to have one to one meetings with students to explain funding, discuss extra curricular activities and how to request for financial support.
- Monitor PP students' attendance closely and encourage better attendance

- Monitor PP students' behaviour record and put interventions in place (eg help with uniform and equipment to reduce the number of behaviour marks)
- Encourage students to attend Homework drop-in sessions (Mon and Wed lunch time).
- Provide Cognito Pro for all Year 10 and Year 11 PP students at the start of the Autumn term.
- Provide opportunities for independent study both before and after school.
- Enhance parental involvement in learning and attendance, for example Pupil Premium Lead available at consultation evenings
- Provide identified students access to specialist staff to provide 1:1 support/ group intervention to improve students' literacy and numeracy skills.
- Provide tutoring in English and Maths where required
- Provide academic support to Year 12/13 students who were previously PP

Co-curricular Opportunities

We aim to:

- Provide a wealth of opportunities driven by our holistic education approach.
- Encourage and monitor engagement in co-curricular activities.
- Address all requests from the Financial Assistance Form in a timely manner.
- Embed career-related learning opportunities.
- Support PP students to find ambitious work experience placements.
- Offer financial support for trips and music lessons

Service and Pupil Premium Pastoral Support

We aim to:

- Place well-being at the heart of all we do.
- Address students' social and emotional needs with the help of the newly appointed Wellbeing Assistant.
- Provide emotional support, advice, mentoring and guidance for PP students in order to raise their confidence.

Resources

We aim to:

- Continue to support the new Year 7 students with their chromebooks - new scheme introduced in order to minimise costs for parents.
- Continue to offer a £100 towards uniform for Year 6 on FSM and £50 each year.
- Provide resources, equipment and revision guides, such as Cognito Pro for GCSE PP students

Success criteria

The evaluation of this policy is based on the educational development of the individual pupils who are entitled to the Pupil Premium. Aylesbury High School will use Pupil Premium funding to promote the achievement and progress of all entitled pupils, paying particular regard to the effectiveness of quality first teaching, targeted academic support and pastoral support.

The success criteria for the Pupil Premium Policy are:

- Early intervention and support for socially disadvantaged students.
- Effective parental pupil school support.
- Having an effective system for identifying, assessing and monitoring pupils.
- Having a whole-school approach.

- Create a positive school atmosphere in which pupils' differences are recognised and valued as full members of the school community; developing confident and independent learners.

Please go to the [Governance & Policies page](#) of our website and click on Key Information and Policies to view the DfE PP Strategy Statement 2025-26.

Please also click on [the link](#) to view our Pupil Premium Page of the website.