Pupil Premium at Overleigh 2021/2022

How are we using the grant in line with Ofsted guidance?



School leaders, including governing bodies, should ensure that Pupil Premium (PP) funding is not simply absorbed into mainstream budgets, but instead is carefully targeted towards the designated children. They should be able to identify clearly how the money is being spent.

At Overleigh, it is the PP Leads (PPL), and the Head teacher who ensure that the PP allowance is spent on the children who are in receipt of the grants. Individual tracking sheets called 'Narratives' are logged by class teachers to record what is provided for each child. These are then costed and monitored by the PPL. The PPL reports to governors on a termly basis as to how the Pupil Premium budget is being spent and the impact it is having. The Finance Committee also monitors the budget to ensure that the Pupil Premium grant is spent on those who are entitled to it.

School leaders, including governing bodies, should evaluate their Pupil Premium spending, spending it on activities that have the most impact on achievement for their disadvantaged pupils.

At Overleigh, our aim is that all spending has a direct influence on the progress that pupils make and we aim to narrow any gap between the achievement of Pupil Premium Pupils and our other children. Our Narratives, together with termly progress data, are analysed by the PPL to monitor how effectively the cohort is being provided for. From this information, judgements are made as to the use of the budget and fed back to staff. Staff are encouraged to be creative and flexible in their provision and alter interventions when they are lacking effectiveness. The Narratives were a focus of discussion by teachers during the handover process at the end of the year to ensure a smooth transition as our children moved into the next year group.

Schools should continue to seek ways to encourage parents and carers to apply for free school meals where pride, stigma or changing circumstances act as barriers to its take-up.

At Overleigh, our communication with our PP families improved last year. We issue a form to all new starters (whether to Reception or sideways-entrants) to establish if they may be entitled to the grant. Where children move from another state school, this information is also sought through the inter-school transfer of records system. If a child is granted Pupil Premium at any point in their time at primary school, they will be entitled to the grant for all their whole time at our school, even if the family circumstances change. This is called Ever 6 funding. Over the year, the PPL and Head teacher met with the parents of PP+ children to discuss their provision and ask if there was anything else we could do to improve the support offered to their child.

Ofsted should continue to evaluate the use of Pupil Premium funding by schools to ensure that they are focusing it on disadvantaged pupils and using it effectively.

At Overleigh, we are able to show OFSTED the way in which we have used our Pupil Premium budget, how we have targeted the children it is intended for and the impact which it has had using our Narratives, data and financial checks.

How have we spent the allowance?

During the financial year 2021-2022, we received £1320 for each PP child and £2300 for our PP+ child. We consider the barriers faced by our PP children and how these might be broken down by interventions put in place. We use the money in a variety of ways, always targeting the needs of PP children.

The majority of the PP budget is spent on providing additional teaching assistants or other skilled adults to work with individuals and to support learning both in class and in small support groups. TAs help us to have smaller teaching groups for reading, writing and maths which has a positive impact on learning for all pupils but is particularly targeted at those entitled to PP. TA support also allows teachers time to work with individuals and small groups. It is often a TA, additional teacher or specifically trained outside agency who delivers specific interventions which can target a specific learning need or provide a child with valuable mentoring/ nurture time to help their social and emotional development.

In 2021-2022, the following shows the various support offered to our PP children:

- Additional/individual reading
- Spelling and phonics groups
- Speech and Language
- Handwriting/ letter formation
- Social Skills groups and resources, targeting behaviour management, friendship issues, social & emotional well-being, self-esteem & confidence (Can take the form of craft clubs/ chess/ lego/ gardening groups. Sometimes on a drop in basis.)
- In-class Literacy and Maths support via TA
- Financial support for music, languages, art, cooking, swimming clubs to enable all children to have access to the broader curriculum.
- Support with homework
- Precision Teaching
- Fine Motor Skills
- Specific equipment purchased
- Help getting to school (taxis/lifts)
- Small group Maths support
- FFT Maths and Literacy targeted
- Small group/individual Literacy support writing groups/ sentence structure/ grammar focus
- Maths reasoning groups
- Maths & Literacy misconception groups (often during assembly)
- Beat Dyslexia

During these unprecedented times of COVID 19 staff adapted their support for PP pupils -

- Weekly phone calls from their class teacher to offer support and guidance, with an emphasis on emotional support.
- Lunches prepared and delivered each day to school for FSM pupils to collect (pre government voucher system).
- The school ensured that FSM pupils received meals during the Holidays, despite the government voucher system not covering school holidays.
- On top of the weekly home learning packs, PP pupils were sent additional activities, such as social games and well-being activities. With a focus on activities that inspire, are easy to complete and practical for PP pupils.

- In some year groups, hard to reach PP pupils were being emailed directly with dialogue to encourage them to engage with the home learning packs – this was very successful in engaging PP pupils.
- Staff members delivered books and baking ingredients to PP pupils. These provided the pupils with a variety of additional learning opportunities that they may not have otherwise experienced.
- Written postcards were sent to PP pupils in all year groups. These offer words of encouragement and support.

What impact did the spending have in 2021/2022?

The impact of the Pupil Premium spending is measured in terms of the progress made by the children in their Literacy and Maths across the year. The aim is that, whilst all children will make good progress, the gap between the Pupil Premium children and their peers will steadily close.

At Overleigh, we use our whole-school, online tracking system to measure the progress made by our children.

In addition over time the gap in the progress made between Pupil Premium children and the rest of the children at Overleigh has decreased compared to previous years.