

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Improving Lives Select Commission
2.	Date:	30th April, 2014
3.	Title:	Impact of the Pupil Premium
4.	Directorate:	CYPS

5. Summary

Attainment gaps between pupils from deprived backgrounds and their more affluent peers persist through all stages of education, including entry into higher education. The highest early achievers from deprived backgrounds are overtaken by lower achieving children from advantaged backgrounds by age seven. The gap widens further during secondary education and persists into higher education. The likelihood of a pupil eligible for FSM achieving five or more GCSEs at A*-C including English and mathematics is less than one third of a non-FSM pupil. A pupil from a non-deprived background is more than twice as likely to go on to study at university as their deprived peer.

Source: *Department for Education: Disadvantaged pupils: what you need to know*

Introduced in April 2011 by the coalition government, the pupil premium is allocated to children who are looked after by the local authority, those who have been eligible for Free School Meals(FSM) at any point in the last six years (also known as Ever 6 FSM) and for children whose parents are currently serving in the armed forces. The pupil premium gives schools extra funding to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils from reception to year 11.

6. Recommendations

The contents of this report are noted.

7. Proposals and Details

The level of premium for 2013-14 is £900 per primary pupil, rising to £1300 per pupil for 2014-15. Secondary FSM 'Ever 6' attract a premium of £900 rising to £935 in 2014-15. The level for Looked-after children will be £1,900 per pupil.

The pupil premium is paid to schools as the government believes that they are best placed to assess what additional provision their pupils need. It is for schools to decide how the pupil premium allocated to their school is spent. Schools are held accountable for their use of the additional funding to support pupils from low-income families and the impact this has on educational attainment.

Local authorities are responsible for distributing the Pupil Premium payments for LAC to schools and academies.

Since September 2012, schools have had to publish online details of their pupil premium allocation and their plans to spend it in the current year. The level of detail included in the information a school puts online is for each school to decide, but it must include the following:

- pupil premium allocation for the current academic year
- details of how the school intends to spend their allocation
- details of how the school spent the previous academic year's allocation
- how the schools has made a difference to the attainment of disadvantaged pupils

The funding is allocated for each financial year, but the information the school publishes online should refer to the academic year, as this is how parents and the general public understand the school year.

Schools are free to spend the Pupil Premium as they see fit. (Annex One gives an outline of effective practice)

Ofsted inspections report on how schools' use of the funding affects the attainment of their disadvantaged pupils. Ofsted now have a sharper focus to the performance and progress of pupil premium pupils in their inspections. It is unlikely that a school will be judged 'outstanding' if its disadvantaged pupils are not making good progress. Schools that are judged not to be using their pupil premium effectively will be expected to commission an external pupil premium review, led by a system-leader, in order to improve provision for their disadvantaged pupils.

Schools are also held to account for the use of the Pupil Premium through performance tables, which include data on:

- the attainment of the pupils who attract the funding
- the progress made by these pupils
- the gap in attainment between disadvantaged pupils and their peers.

Schools are rewarded for the use of the pupil premium when significant improvement in the attainment of their disadvantaged pupils is demonstrated with Pupil Premium Awards.

An overview of Rotherham Pupil Premium performance for 2013 is in Annex Two.

8. Finance

Annex Three outlines the Pupil Premium allocation to each school across Rotherham

9. Risks and Uncertainties

N/A

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

N/A

11. Background Papers and Consultation

N/A

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