

Why should I sign up?

In the academic year 2025-26, we are using the Pupil Premium funding to continually improve quality first teaching through professional development opportunities for teaching staff.

This year, we are in our second year of a three year programme as a **Voice 21 School**. As part of this, we have access to training, consultancy with oracy experts and resources that will enable us to now embed oracy into our curriculum, teaching and learning and wider school life. Oracy is the ability to articulate ideas, develop understanding and engage with others through spoken language and listening. We are committed to giving opportunities for the children to learn to and through talk. Oracy skills set children up for success in school and life beyond education.

In addition to this, we are dedicated to supporting children with their social, emotional, mental health (SEMH), by funding 1:1 counselling through the YMCA.

We also provide additional time for Teaching Assistants to offer support in classrooms for children in receipt of Pupil Premium funding. Time is also allocated for Teaching Assistants to support the teaching of phonics and early reading in EYFS and Key Stage One, alongside Keep Up interventions for individual children and small groups where needed beyond the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check and into lower Key Stage Two.

Furthermore, we use our funding to extend our children's learning beyond the curriculum by subsidising **instrumental lessons**.

We can also provide financial support towards **uniform**, as well as **milk**.

We think there may be lots of families who could be eligible, but have not applied for a range of reasons.

"My child is in Key Stage 1 and receives a free school meal anyway."

It is important to sign up for free school meals, even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, so that the school receives as much funding as possible. The Pupil Premium offers much more than free school meals.

"I don't want my child to be labelled as from a lower income family."

All information about children who receive Pupil Premium funding is kept confidential to the school. Families are eligible for a range of reasons and there is no such thing as a typical Pupil Premium child.

Did you know that our school could be receiving more than £1500 of funding per year for 6 years to help your child succeed?

To summarise, Pupil Premium Funding is a lot more than just a free school dinner!

It allows us to fund training for staff, adult support in and out of class, resources and financial support for families.

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Pupil Premium



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What is Pupil Premium?

Pupil Premium is additional funding that schools receive for every child who is eligible. Currently, we receive over £1,500 per eligible pupil, and this funding is used to enhance educational opportunities—such as staff training, classroom support, learning resources, and financial assistance for families.

Each year, we carefully review how this funding is used, and our Pupil Premium Strategy is published on the school website for full transparency.

While all children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals, this does not automatically qualify the school for Pupil Premium funding. To ensure we receive this vital support, eligible families must apply separately.

If your child qualifies for income-related Free School Meals, they do not have to eat school meals—they can still bring a packed lunch. However, the school will still receive the funding, which stays with your child for six years, even if they stop receiving Free School Meals during that time.

Does my child qualify?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance or
- Child Tax Credit, as long as you do not get Working Tax Credit and whose annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) does not exceed £16,190.
- If you are supported under Part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit during the four week period immediately after your employment finishes or after you start to work less hours per week.
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400



How do I sign up?

If you think you are eligible, please apply as soon as possible by completing an online application on the following website:

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals.

If you are in any doubt please do not hesitate to contact the school office who can help you.



Did you know?

Once you are eligible, the funding is attached to your children for 6 years.

It is different from Free School Meals, so even if you are not eligible for Free School Meals after a year, Pupil Premium will not be removed.