Barnet Virtual School
Pupil Premium 2017-18

Information for head teachers, designated teachers, social workers, residential staff, foster carers and independent reviewing officers

Pupil Premium for Children Looked After

- The Pupil Premium for Children Looked After is a government grant to support and promote the education of children and young people in care.
- From 1 April 2014 the Pupil Premium for Looked After Children can provide each child of statutory school age with £1,900 to support their education. However, some children may get more, some less, depending on an assessment of their individual needs. £1900 is the average amount provided to the local authority for all Barnet’s looked after children.
- Children and young people will be eligible as soon as they enter care, if they are in any year group between Reception and Year 11.
- Pupil Premium must be used to improve educational outcomes and raise attainment of CLA
- The Virtual School Head Teacher is responsible for making sure that there are effective arrangements in place for the allocation of Pupil Premium.
- All children looked after by Barnet are eligible, including those placed outside the borough.
- The Personal Education Plan (PEP) is the vehicle for recording how the allocation of funding will be used to raise the attainment of each young person.
- PEPs will be monitored and Quality Assured by the Virtual School and Pupil Premium will be allocated as a consequence of this process. The Headteacher of the Virtual School has the final decision on how Pupil Premium will be allocated and spent.
- On completion of a robust PEP, £500 will be sent to the establishment which is educating the CLA, unless it has been agreed to fund an alternative agency e.g. the Grasvenor Project, a tuition agency
- In order to ensure that we collectively meet statutory requirements, the PEP will be reviewed on a termly basis.

The allocation of Pupil Premium funding

- The needs of the children and young people in care will vary. In some circumstances £1900 would be a fraction of the cost of the support required to meet the identified needs of some individuals. For example:
  - Children who come into care in an emergency with a fragmented home and education history and who are behind academically
  - Children who have to move into or out of Barnet in an emergency
- Children where there is significant and often delayed reaction to abuse and neglect, which manifests in hard to anticipate behaviours.
- In view of this there will be significant differences in the amount of pupil premium allocated for individual children to schools. This accounts for Schools being sent £1,500 (3x£500) not £1,900 so CLA with higher needs can be appropriately supported.

**The Personal Education Plan (PEP)**

- The Pupil Premium will **only** be provided to meet the needs identified in a high quality PEP
- PEPs must specify educational outcomes and measurable targets for improvement.
- Targets and outcomes should stem from the following areas:
  - Raising levels of achievement and progress
  - Supporting achievement in an area where a child is gifted and talented
  - Improving attendance
  - Supporting emotional wellbeing
  - Promoting inclusion (by reducing internal and external exclusion)
  - Developing social skills
  - Supporting a smooth transition into the next key stage or new place of learning
- The PEP action plan will show the baseline data, targets for improvement, expected outcomes and the cost of support.
- National research has shown that one to one tuition has a disproportionately positive impact for children in care.

**Pupil Premium will not be allocated in the following circumstances:**

- To double fund or replace funding which should already have been allocated to the school to support a child e.g.:
- Services that should be provided via an Education Health Care plan
- A Statutory Assessment or support from health services
- The interventions put in place do not require any funding
- The school’s own funding covers the cost of the interventions
- Transport to and from school
- The PEP action plan does not meet quality standards.

**Further Information**

If you require further information on Pupil Premium or the education of Children Looked After please contact a member of the Virtual School, please see contact sheet overleaf.
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