Southam College
Pupil Premium Policy

2026/27

Headteacher	Mel Mason
Chair of Governors	Karen Boucher
Person responsible for overseeing implementation	Joe Johnson
Ratified date	2nd July 2026
Review date	4th February 2027

Pupil Premium Policy

Overarching Principles

- At Southam College, all members of staff and governors accept responsibility for those targeted students recognised as 'disadvantaged' and are committed to meeting their pastoral, social and academic needs.

- Every child who is considered to be 'disadvantaged' is valued, respected and entitled to develop to his/her full potential, irrespective of disadvantage.

Background to the Pupil Premium

Introduced in April 2011, the Pupil Premium is a Government initiative that provides additional funding aimed at students from deprived backgrounds. Research shows that students from deprived backgrounds underachieve compared to their non-deprived peers. The Pupil Premium is provided in order to support these students in reaching their potential by accelerating their progress.

We also recognise that not all students eligible for pupil premium funding will have lower attainment than their peers. In such cases, the grant may be used to help improve students' progress and attainment so that they can reach their full potential.

Overall Objectives:

- Our school will ensure that the Pupil Premium funding reaches the groups of students for whom it was intended and that it makes a significant impact on their education and lives.
- The Pupil Premium will be used to provide additional educational support to improve the progress and raise the achievement for these students.
- The funding will be used to narrow and close the gap between the achievement of these students and their peers.
- The school will use the additional funding to address any underlying inequalities between children eligible for Pupils Premium and others.

How we will ensure effective use of the Pupil Premium

- The Pupil Premium will be clearly identifiable within the budget.

- The Head teacher in consultation with the governors, senior leadership team and staff, will decide how the Pupil Premium is spent for the benefit of the entitled students. Funding will be allocated following a needs analysis, carried out by Heads of Year, which will identify priority groups or individuals.

- In making provision for disadvantaged students, we recognise that not all students who receive free school meals will be disadvantaged or underachieving. We also recognise that not all students who are disadvantaged are registered or qualify for free school meals. Therefore, the school will support any groups of students the school has legitimately identified as being disadvantaged. The school will use its discretion based upon appropriate

evidence to identify disadvantaged students, in addition to those eligible for pupil premium funds.

- The school will assess the additional provision that should be made for the individual students, with special attention on early intervention to maintain high levels of attendance.

- The school will be accountable for how it has used the additional funding to support the achievement of those students covered by the Pupil Premium.

- The Head teacher will report to the governing body and parents on how effective the intervention has been in achieving its aims, including publishing online information about how the Premium has been used.

- We will track the impact of the strategies put into place through the funding to ensure that we can show the value that has been added to the education of the entitled children.

- We will monitor evaluate and review the success of the impact of the pupil premium funding.

Provision

We will regularly seek to further develop strategies and interventions which can improve the progress and attainment of these students. Examples of the range of provision we may put in place include:

- Analysing attendance every half term of Pupil Premium students and applying early intervention as appropriate in line with the college's Attendance Policy
- Providing small group or 1:1 support with an experienced member of staff to focus on overcoming barriers to learning
- Facilitating students' access to education and the curriculum through additional or specialist resources e.g. specialist software
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities provided through learning mentors, trained TAs or external agencies
- Additional careers advice and mentoring to boost aspirations.
- Fast tracking to support services (E.g. School counsellor, Art therapy)
- Access to a laptop through the laptop loan scheme if required
- Each student is allocated a £120 individual allocation held in trust by the College for parents to use towards individual equipment, memorable experiences, or items such as uniform to help as a way of support for students and their families during the academic year.

Eligible pupils

The pupil premium is allocated to the school based on the number of eligible students in Year 7 to Year 11.
Eligible students fall into the categories explained below.

Ever 6 free school meals

Students recorded in the most recent January school census who are known to have been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years (as determined by the DfE's latest conditions of grant guidance).
This includes students first known to be eligible for free school meals in the most recent January census.
It does not include students who received universal infant free school meals but would not have otherwise received free lunches.

Looked after children
Students who are in the care of, or provided with accommodation by, a local authority in England or Wales.

Post-looked after children
Students recorded in the most recent January census and alternative provision census who were looked after by an English or Welsh local authority immediately before being adopted, or who left local authority care on a special guardianship order or child arrangements order.

Ever 6 service children
Pupils:

- With a parent serving in the regular armed forces
- Who have been registered as a 'service child' in the school census at any point in the last 6 years (as determined by the DfE's latest conditions of grant guidance), including those first recorded as such in the most recent January census
- In receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence because one of their parents died while serving in the armed forces

Roles and responsibilities

The headteacher and senior leadership team are responsible for:

- Keeping this policy up to date, and ensuring that it is implemented across the school
- Ensuring that all school staff are aware of their role in raising the attainment of disadvantaged students and supporting students with parents in the armed forces
- Planning pupil premium spending and keeping this under constant review, using an evidence-based approach and working with virtual school heads where appropriate
- Monitoring the attainment and progress of students eligible for the pupil premium to assess the impact of the school's use of the funding
- Reporting on the impact of pupil premium spending to the governing board on an ongoing basis
- Publishing information on the school's use of the pupil premium on the school website, as required by our funding agreement and in line with guidance from the DfE

Governors

The governors are responsible for:

- Holding the headteacher to account for the implementation of this policy
- Ensuring the school is using pupil premium funding appropriately, in line with the rules set out in the conditions of grant
- Monitoring the attainment and progress of students eligible for the pupil premium, in conjunction with the headteacher, to assess the impact and effectiveness of the school's use of the funding
- Monitoring whether the school is ensuring value for money in its use of the pupil premium
- Challenging the headteacher to use the pupil premium in the most effective way
- Setting the school's ethos and values around supporting disadvantaged members of the school community

Other school staff

All school staff are responsible for:

- Implementing this policy on a day-to-day basis
- Setting high expectations for all students, including those eligible for the pupil premium
- Identifying students whose attainment is not improving in response to interventions funded by the pupil premium, and highlighting these individuals to the senior leadership team

Virtual school heads

Virtual school heads are responsible for managing pupil premium funding for children looked after by a local authority, and allocating it to schools. Their responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Identifying the eligible looked after children and informing the local authority
- Making sure methods for allocating and spending ensure that looked after children benefit without delay
- Working with each looked after child's educational setting to put together a personal education plan, agree how pupil premium funding will be spent to the meet the need identified in this plan, and ensure the funding is spent in this way
- Demonstrating how pupil premium funding is raising the achievement of looked after children

Virtual school heads are in charge of promoting the educational achievement of all the children looked after by the local authority they work for.

Appeal

Any appeals against this policy will be through the governor's complaints procedure.