

Early Years Pupil Premium

The pupil premium is extra money for schools to help disadvantaged pupils of all abilities achieve their full potential. The amount of pupil premium funding schools receive is decided by how many disadvantaged pupils they have – schools then receive funding per pupil premium-eligible child.

The pupil premium is a government scheme that was introduced in 2011 to improve the education of underprivileged children. It was launched after several research papers suggested that there was a significant gap between the educational performance of disadvantaged children and their classmates. In contrast to the rest of their classmates, many children who are eligible for pupil premium have to face extra challenges daily. These challenges can include attendance issues, lack of confidence and difficulty communicating.

The scheme aims to grant schools extra funding so that they're able to provide additional support for children who are faced with these types of challenges. Its objective is to help schools unlock the learning potential of their pupils and provide them with a better education. It also aspires to narrow the gap in educational development between children of underprivileged backgrounds and their peers.

How did we decide to spend our Early Years Pupil Premium?

The EYPP funding and Inclusion funding enabled us to employ a member of staff who is trained in sign language and has a wealth of experience in communication and language delays. She works closely with our link SALT and models effective ways of developing communication. This benefitted EYPP children at all levels of development.

We have created interventions which aim to narrow this gap and give the children opportunities for small intense 'talk' sessions. We have created a dedicated quiet focus area to enable the children to concentrate without the distractions from other activity. Additional talk groups and Bucket time are carried out in small groups daily.

The children's engagement and their progress are evaluated, and the findings inform the following weeks planning.

We currently have 14 children eligible for EYPP this Autumn term and all of these children are assessed to be below or significantly below expected range according to age in the 3 prime areas.

The low level of eligibility is out of line both with the general local data about child poverty, and with the experience of the staff team about levels of poverty e.g. when visiting families at home. In some cases, non-eligibility is due to families having no recourse to public funds, or other issues around producing the key information needed to determine eligibility. Families

may often move house or have other factors which appear to make it difficult to establish their eligibility for the premium.

Additionally, the nursery school takes a much broader perspective in its support for disadvantaged children and families to ensure that every disadvantaged child is given the teaching, help and family support needed to ensure that he or she makes strong progress from their starting points. Any child who needed extra help from the talk groups received it, regardless of EYPP eligibility. Where progress stalls, children are fast-tracked for assessment and if, appropriate, there is early identification of special needs and support strategies are put in place.

23 – 24

Project	Cost	Objectives	Actions	Impact
Provision of additional speech and language support by employing additional staff	£ 5,970	To support EYPP eligible children to make accelerated progress in their communication. To provide rapid assessment and individualised support for EYPP eligible children with a speech and language delay or disorder.	All staff received training and support, including modelling in the rooms, to boost children’s progress in communication. Therapist met with parents and completed assessments and programmes as needed for individual children.	