The pupil premium is additional funding for publicly funded schools in England to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils of all abilities and to close the gaps between them and their peers.

Pupil premium funding is available to:

- local-authority-maintained schools, including:
 - special schools (for children with special educational needs or disabilities)
 - pupil referral units (PRUs for children who can't go to a mainstream school)
- academies and free schools, including
 - special academies (for children with special educational needs or disabilities)
 - alternative provision (AP) academies (for children who can't go to a mainstream school)
- voluntary-sector alternative provision (AP), with local authority agreement
- non-maintained special schools (NMSS schools for children with special educational needs that the Secretary of State for Education has approved under section 342 of the Education Act 1996)

Funding

Financial year 2016 to 2017

In the 2016 to 2017 financial year, schools will receive the following funding for each child registered as eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years:

- £1,320 for pupils in reception year to year 6
- £935 for pupils in year 7 to year 11

Schools will also receive £1,900 for each pupil identified in the spring school census as having left localauthority care because of 1 of the following:

- adoption
- a special guardianship order
- a child arrangements order
- a residence order

If a pupil has been registered as eligible for free school meals and has also left local-authority care for any of the reasons above, they will attract the $\pounds 1,900$ rate.

Children who have been in local-authority care for 1 day or more also attract £1,900 of pupil premium funding. Funding for these pupils is managed by the virtual school head (VSH) in the local authority that looks after the child.