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3rd March 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian, Head Teacher, Governors and Designated Teachers of Previously Looked After Children,

**RE: Pupil Premium Plus for Previously Looked After Children**

Schools are entitled to £2,345 per child on roll who is previously looked after. This is known as the Pupil Premium Plus Grant. It is available for pupils that attend the school from Reception to Year 11 through Pupil Premium Plus (+). The purpose of this money is to provide additional educational and developmental support to all eligible children and young persons, and the DfE has stated that it is good practice to consult parents and guardians on how PP+

To be eligible for PP+, the child must:

* Be a Looked-After Child (according to the Children Act 1989), or Have left care through adoption, special guardianship order (SGO), or child arrangement order (CAO)
* Be in Reception-Year 11
* Be adopted from within England and Wales

Any school Local Authority School, Academy, Free School, non-maintained special school, or voluntary-aided-school with local authority agreement qualifies for PP+

Children who have been adopted from overseas are not eligible for PP+, unless it can be demonstrated that they have been previously looked after by a public authority, a religious organisation or other care provider whose purpose is to benefit society.

From April 2021, PP+ is allocated according to the number of eligible children and young people a school records in their October School Census. If this is the first time the child has been recorded as previously looked after by their school, the parent or guardian will have to provide evidence. For example, the Special Guardianship/Adoption order.

For children who have left care (through adoption, SGO, or CAO), the Pupil Premium Plus grant goes directly to the school. It is the responsibility of the parents, guardians, or carers of previously looked after children, to make sure that the school is aware that a child was previously looked after. The designated teacher should ensure that parents and guardians are aware that informing the school will allow them to provide extra support. They should also track closely the progress and achievement of these children like they would for children in care.

The Virtual School is not responsible for managing Pupil Premium Plus for previously looked after children. The Virtual School has a duty to provide advice and guidance to professionals working with children, previously looked after children which we do through our training and day to day contact with schools and social care.

Pupil Premium Plus funding can be used to support children across a broad range of educational and developmental needs, including supporting a child’s personal education needs or mental health needs. How to use the additional funding is largely at the discretion of the school, but the DfE have stated that best practice is that parents and guardians should be consulted. Statutory guidance for Pupil Premium for schools’ states that:

* Funds should be pooled to provide the greatest benefit to all eligible children within the school
* Interventions should be evidence based, and in the best interests of the child

More information on using the Pupil Premium Plus grant is available in the EEF’s Pupil Premium Guide which can be found online at [Using pupil premium | EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/guidance-for-teachers/using-pupil-premium)

You can also check out the latest Government guidance on pupil premium funding [online](../AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/Downloads/online) at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium/pupil-premium>.

If you have any queries or require advice, please email [vsliverpool@si.liverpool.gov.uk](mailto:vsliverpool@si.liverpool.gov.uk)

Best Wishes

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**Mrs. C. Lawler**

**Virtual School Head**