

Dear Parent/Guardian,

***Was your adopted child formally in care and adopted on or after 30 December 2005?***

***Did your child leave care under a Special Guardianship Order on or after 30 December 2005?***

You may be aware that schools receive additional funding for children in receipt of Free School Meals, however you may not know that this additional funding is also available to schools for pupils who:

- left care under a Residential Order on or after 14 October 1991 (under the Children Act 1989)
- left care under a Special Guardianship Order on or after 30 December 2005 (under the Children Act 1989)
- were adopted from care on or after 30 December 2005 (under the Adoption and Children Act 2002)

For confidentiality reasons, the local authority does not identify these pupils and it is for you as the parent/guardian to decide whether to disclose this information about your child to the school. If you are willing to share this information with the school, the school will be able to claim additional funding every year.

Whilst the Pupil Premium funding is not ring-fenced for individual previously looked after children, often all **children in a class will reap some benefit from how the school spends its pupil premium, such as a teaching assistant in the class or specific interventions available**. The additional funding is designed to provide specific support to raise attainment and address the wider needs of children in this vulnerable group. National statistics show that children who have been in care face unique challenges at school and often struggle to keep up with their peers. It is vital that they are given the targeted support they need and the education they deserve to help them get on in life.

If you also have a child in your care under a 'Special Guardianship Order' (SGO) it would be beneficial if the school knew of this. If you are happy to share this information, please get in touch with the school office.

### **Service Premium**

The Service Premium gives schools extra funding to support children and young people with parents in the armed forces. Pupils attract the premium if they meet the following criteria:

- One of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces
- One of their parents served in the regular armed forces in the last 3 years
- One of their parents died while serving in the armed forces and the pupil is in receipt of a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) and the War Pensions Scheme (WPS).

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If your child meets one of the above Service Premium criteria, please let us know as this will enable us to claim this additional funding. Please help us to maximise the amount of Pupil Premium the school receives.

To inform the school that your child was previously looked after, a service child or under an SGO, please contact the school office by 20<sup>th</sup> October. For previously looked after children, you will then be asked to provide supporting evidence, i.e. the Adoption (Court) Order. In order to claim the funding for the next financial year the school need to include this information in the census return that they send to the DfE in **October each year**.

There is no obligation for you to share this information with us, but doing so will help both your child and the school to benefit from this funding. Any information received will be treated with the strictest confidence.

Yours sincerely,



Jonathan Heath  
Headteacher