

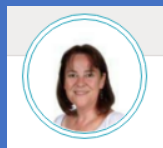
Pupil Premium Newsletter

In order to keep you up to date with all that is happening which is pupil premium related, we intend to send out a newsletter & a podcast to all of our PP families once a half term.

The plan is that this will give you some information perhaps you didn't know about the schemes we are currently running at Hinchingsbrooke, in addition to giving you advice on what you can do at home to support your child and asking for your opinions.

So, we thought we would start at the beginning and explain some of the terminology we use in school and explain how Pupil Premium (PP) works here at HBK!

Who Are We?



I'm Anna Nightingale, Vice Principal. I work closely with Sarah to ensure we have all the right things in place to support our Pupil Premium students. I am passionate about every single student being able to achieve their full potential.

...and this is the wonderful Sarah Bennett, who is the Pupil Premium Administrator. This essentially means she does all the hard work and should be your main point of contact with all things Pupil Premium. She is exceptionally efficient and will always do her best to make things happen!



Want to get in touch with us? Whatever the reason please email Sarah Bennett...



sbennett@hbk.acesmat.uk



We want to hear your thoughts!

Every term we have a coffee morning/afternoon. This is your opportunity to come in and meet those of us responsible for PP. It's your chance to grab a coffee/tea and a slice or two of cake and let us know **what we can do to support you and your child.**

**Our next coffee morning
is on....Thursday 9th
February 2023**

Would you rather listen to a podcast than read this newsletter? If so, then put this link into a search engine, or find it on our website:

<https://youtu.be/nZVhN3Tm2v8>



What's happened so far this year?

- ➔ Year 7 and 8 pupil premium students have taken part in Oracy workshops run by a company called Talk Oracy to help build their confidence and resilience;
- ➔ Year 11 students wanting extra help in their core subjects (English, maths or one of the sciences, have received 12 hours of free online tutoring;
- ➔ We have launched our Guided Reading schemes in Years 7 and 8 (9 and 10 to follow after Christmas);
- ➔ Year 9 students who will take part in the Scholar's Programme have been chosen - this starts after Christmas for one group, and after Easter for the other;
- ➔ We have relaunched GCSEPod - a revision learning platform with Years 9-11;
- ➔ We have added a free breakfast for all Free School Meals students in Years 7-11 from October half term;
- ➔ All Year 11 PP students will receive a special revision Christmas gift box!

So what's it all about then?

What is the pupil premium?

Introduced in 2011, the pupil premium is a sum of money given to schools each year by the Government to improve the attainment of disadvantaged and services children. This is based on research showing that children from low-income families or services families perform less well at school than their peers.

Often, children who are entitled to pupil premium face challenges such as poor language and communication skills, lack of confidence and issues with attendance and punctuality. The pupil premium is intended to directly benefit the children who are eligible, helping to narrow the gap between them and their classmates.

At Hinchingsbrooke we focus on three main areas:

- ❖ Ambition; Literacy and Attendance & Punctuality

Is your child eligible?

Our secondary school is given a pupil premium for every child who:

- is **currently entitled to free school meals** based on their family income
- was **previously entitled to benefits-based free school meals, even if they're no longer eligible**
- is in care or has previously been in care and who has now been adopted, or who has a special guardianship order, or a child arrangements order or a residence order
- is recorded as being from a service family who meet a set criteria.

How is it spent at Hinchingsbrooke?

As a school we can choose how to spend the pupil premium money, as we are best placed to identify what would be of most benefit to the children who are eligible. It is important to note that we are not expected to spend the amount received for each child on that child as an individual. Instead that child will benefit from a range of resources.

Some of the ways Hinchingsbrooke spends our pupil premium fund include:

- ✓ Some of the money goes towards our Nurture provision in Years 7 and 8
- ✓ Some of the money goes towards the Gateway Provision for students unable to cope in mainstream and need an alternative
- ✓ Employing extra teaching assistants to work with classes
- ✓ Running the National Tutoring Programme to boost GCSE performance in Years 10 and 11

- ✓ Purchasing various learning platforms such as GCSEPod for all students in Years 9-11 to access and support their learning across all curriculum subjects
- ✓ Running a school breakfast club to improve attendance and ensure students are ready to learn
- ✓ Providing music lessons for children whose families would be unable to pay for them.
- ✓ Paying for additional help such as counselling by part funding the school counsellor
- ✓ Investing in resources that boost children's learning, such as laptops
- ✓ Providing a fully stocked pencil case to all Year 6 into 7 students at transition
- ✓ Providing vouchers for families so they are able to buy ingredients for cooking lessons
- ✓ Running a range of workshops across all year groups such as Oracy (Y7), Confidence Building in Years 10 and 11, Motivational workshops and more
- ✓ Purchasing reading books for the Guided Reading Programme and competitions
- ✓ Funding competition prizes
- ✓ The Year 9 Scholar's Programme which involves trips to universities
- ✓ Providing high quality teaching by supporting professional development (training) of classroom staff
- ✓ We also employ an administrator who works exclusively on Pupil Premium projects – Mrs Sarah Bennett (sbennett@hbk.acesmat.uk).

How to claim your child's pupil premium

All children who currently qualify for free school meals based on their family circumstances are entitled to pupil premium. This applies if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Universal credit (provided you have a net income of £7400 or less)
- Income support
- Income-based jobseekers' allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of state pension credit
- Child tax credit, provided that you are not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of £16,190 or less
- Children who are or have been in care, and children who have a parent who is or was in the armed forces, are also entitled to pupil premium.

In addition, pupils who have qualified for free school meals on the above grounds in the past, but are no longer eligible, continue to receive pupil premium for the next six years.

What other support is on offer?

Since the pandemic Cambridgeshire County Council have also offered families on Free School Meals (FSM) support over the school holidays. This is in the form of vouchers for supermarkets, to purchase food. The voucher is sent to your phone/email address for you to download and use at your preferred supermarket. We will let you know each time they are about to be sent to you. Failure to use them means they will be taken back and redistributed to other families. Again, we will let you know when this deadline is about to happen.

More recently the county council have also offered a Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) during the Christmas, Easter and Summer holidays. This is essentially a holiday scheme which provides a range of fun activities, experiences and sports along with a nutritious meal. Parents have the option to book a place for a set amount of hours via using an e-voucher which is sent to them. We will alert you when this is being sent out.

Fancy a free bottle of wine?

Complete our survey to help us help you. Names will then be picked out of a hat and 3 of you will win a bottle of wine just in time for the New Year!

<https://forms.office.com/e/kYWeSEe7G>

The survey can be found here (you will also be sent the link on parentmail so watch out for that!).



How was school today, sweetheart?

Is it impossible to get an answer out of your child when you ask them how their school day was? Try these alternative questions which will give you an insight into how it went!

Questions about schoolwork

1. Tell me one thing you've learned today that you didn't know this morning.
2. What did you do today that made you feel proud?
3. What word did your teacher say the most today?
4. Did you need to ask your teacher for help with anything?
5. What did you do today that made your brain work really hard?
6. Did you do anything that made your teacher say 'well done'?
7. Did you get any recognition points today? What for?
8. Were you bored in any lessons today?

Questions about friendships

9. Who do you most enjoy talking to at school?
10. Who did you sit next to today?
11. Who made you laugh the most?
12. If an alien spaceship landed in the school playground, who would you want them to beam up?
13. Who'd be the most likely to survive a zombie apocalypse?
14. Who in your class has a talent that you really wish you had?
15. Which one of your classmates do you think would be the best prime minister?
16. Who would be the most likely to win X Factor?

Questions about break and lunchtime

17. Who did you hang out with at break/lunch?
18. Where's the best place to hang out at break?
19. What's your favourite thing to do if it's a wet break?

Questions about school life

20. If you could change one thing about school, what would it be?
21. If you were the headteacher, what one rule would you make for all the children in your school?
22. If a new child was thinking about coming to your school, what would you say to them?
23. What's the hardest rule to follow at school?
24. How would you rate your day out of 10, and why?
25. What would make tomorrow more fun than today?

Reading

Reading is the one thing which research shows will make the most difference to your child succeeding at school. Did you know that the most effective type of reading is when an adult reads aloud, and a child follows in the book. We tend to stop doing this once children get old enough to read for themselves, but here's why we should continue:-

- You model fluency when you read;
- A child can focus on the story when you are reading rather than reading the words which can build a love of reading;
- You are able to ask questions as you go along to ensure they are engaged;
- You can get them to read a page and then you read one.

Children think they are too old for this?

- How about reading an article to them you've enjoyed in the newspaper/magazine and then having a conversation;
- Put the subtitles on the TV (they will naturally read along, obviously whilst moaning);
- Buy them the audio book and a physical book to encourage reading along.