HinchingbrookeSchool

Introduction to the new Academic Year

Pupil Premium Newsletter September 2023

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 to all of our PP families once a term. The plan is that this will give you some information perhaps you didn't know about the schemes we are currently running at Hinchingbrooke, 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 by introducing ourselves, and explaining some of the terminology we use in school as well as explaining how Pupil Premium (PP) works here at HBK!

The Pupil Premium Team - Who are We?



I'm Anna Nightingale, Vice Principal. I work closely with the Pupil Premium team 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

pupilpremium@hbk.acesmat.uk

We also have the dynamo who is Mrs Gratton, Associate Principal and Head of Maths. Mrs Gratton oversees the Brilliant Club's Scholar's programme in Year 9, the Alumni Talks and GCSEPod. All of these improve attainment and encourage our students to be more ambitious.





This is the wonderful Mrs Stevens who looks after our services children. Being part of a services family herself, she really understands the importance of being part of a supportive family – which is just what we aim to create with special lunches, outings and events for the whole family to get involved with.

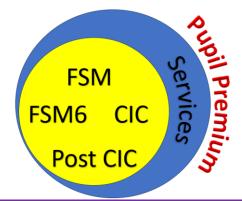
I am also thrilled to be able to introduce 2 new members to the team...Ms Buckley and Mr Nunn. Both are our new academic mentors, who will start working with us this October. Their main role will be to interview our Pupil Premium students to see what it is we need to do to support each one individually. They will also be mentoring students, through the breakfast club and the Year 11 Nightclub, as well as checking in daily with those students who need that extra support.



What is meant by the term Pupil Premium?

This refers to student who fall into one of the following categories:

- Children who have Free School Meals (FSM)
- Children who have had free school meals within the last 6 years (FSM Ever6)
- Children who are in care (CIC)
- Children who were in care and are now adopted (post CIC)
- Families where at least one parent serves in the armed forces (Services)
- Families where one parent was in the armed forces within the last 6 years (Services)
- Families who lost a parent who was in the armed services (Services)



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 pupil premium students. This is based on research showing that children from pupil premium families generally 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 Hinchingbrooke we focus on three main areas:- Ambition; Literacy and Attendance & Punctuality

How is it spent at Hinchingbrooke?

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.

<u>Some</u> of the ways Hinchingbrooke spends our pupil premium fund include:

- ✓ Some of the money goes towards our Bridge 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 leaning across all curriculum subjects
- ✓ Running a school breakfast club to improve attendance and ensure students are ready to learn
- ✓ 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
- ✓ Buying extra text books to use in lessons, so everyone has their own copy
- ✓ 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 (<u>sbennett@hbk.acesmat.uk</u>) and 2 academic mentors (Mr Nunn and Ms Buckley).