

# Virginia Primary School



## The Pupil Premium 2013 - 2014

**The Government believes that the Pupil Premium, which is additional to main school funding, is the best way to address the current underlying inequalities between children eligible for free school meals (FSM) and their wealthier peers by ensuring that funding to tackle disadvantage reaches the pupils who need it most.**

In most cases the Pupil Premium is allocated to schools and is clearly identifiable. It is for schools to decide how the Pupil Premium, allocated to schools per FSM pupil, is spent, since they are best placed to assess what additional provision should be made for the individual pupils within their responsibility.

At Virginia Primary School, approximately 48% of our children are eligible for free school meals. However, the majority of our families are on low incomes. Therefore, most of our pupil premium allocation is used for the benefit of pupils across the school. That said, we consistently monitor the progress of our FSM children and we allocate specific funding as appropriate to ensure inequalities are robustly addressed through a range of learning programmes.

At Virginia Primary School, we strongly believe that an enriched curriculum that engages and motivates children has a profound impact on achievement and attainment. We believe that it has this impact because of the confidence and self-esteem it fosters in our children. Therefore we have allocated a large percentage of our pupil premium to fund learning opportunities that develop and challenge our children in the following ways:

- Our range of school journeys means that children are challenged from year 3 upwards to explore our world and see the possibilities for their own future travel and exploration. Each school journey is carefully planned to address aspects of the PSHE curriculum and to embody our values.
- Our ICT, science and curriculum consultant works closely with all staff to ensure that the learning opportunities we provide reflect the changing world around us and have a local, national and global dimension. She also develops teacher's subject knowledge and skills in ICT and science ensuring the provision of high quality learning and teaching for all.
- Learning music has long been shown to develop thinking skills and is a big part of our curriculum throughout the school. This includes whole class violin for two years and music teaching for all age groups. We provide extra tuition for gifted and talented pupils to develop their skills as well as an after school drumming club.
- A recent development for us has been the training of an in house counsellor. This has meant that children in need of emotional support (either in the short term or long term) have benefited from expertise that in turn means they are able to continue to progress in their learning.
- We believe that a consistent approach to the teaching of basic skills is vital in ensuring that our children are able to compete on an equal footing with any of their peers locally and nationally. This year, we have employed a consultant in mathematics to support our development of the teaching of mathematics in the EYFS and KS1. This links with our school improvement priorities. In the past we have used the pupil premium to develop our phonics, guide reading, shared and guided writing approaches through working with a literacy consultant. She will continue to monitor our progress in this over the year.

- Our lunchtime intervention programmes are for children identified through termly pupil progress meetings and half termly class team meetings. Each programme runs for six weeks (one weekly session per programme) with clear learning outcomes. Not only are they designed to give children extra support but also to challenge our gifted children. The pupil premium has meant we can employ extra playground staff to free up teaching assistants to deliver these programmes. It also means that children do not miss any of their class times.
- We have also employed two high level teaching assistants to deliver interventions and to provide support in class for targeted groups.
- Early intervention in the foundation stage is vital for children to be ready for transition and so they are not continually trying to 'catch up'. We have found that there are lengthy waiting lists once a child has been referred for a speech and language programme. Therefore, we have employed our own part time speech and language worker to ensure that children get support early on.

**Total pupil premium amount for 2013 – 2014: £99,000.00**

• Music	10,110.00	
• School Journey to Wrotham	7000.00	
• Gilwell Park	2000.00	
• Paris	3000.00	
• Athletics	628.00	
• HLTA's x 2	29,500.00	
• Counselling (Claire)	1750.00	
• Consultant (literacy)	1400.00	
• Consultant (maths)	2000.00	
• Consultant (FSU)	1650.00	
• ICT Consultant (MR)	11,700.00	
• Speech & Language	2,500.00	
• Lunchtime interventions	15,762.00	
• Breakfast/After school clubs	10,000.00	includes cycling & swimming for 1 term

**Total £99,000.00**

The impact of the pupil premium is evaluated at the end of each academic year through the analysis of data for children on free school meals.

The evaluation for 2012 – 2013 can be found on the website under 'learning'.