

Pupil Premium Plus – Adopted from care

Was your adopted child formally in care?

You may be aware that schools receive additional funding for children in receipt of Free School Meals called Pupil Premium Funding. These children are automatically identified to the school through the Local Authority. The government also provide additional income for schools to support children who have been adopted from care. This funding is called Pupil Premium Plus and is currently £1900 per year per child.

Unfortunately, unlike Free School Meals eligibility, the school is not given information on whether or not students have ever been in care. We therefore need parents to let us know that they have adopted children from care so that the school can claim the funding available for the next financial year.

Because this is a sensitive issue the school have decided to provide details of the funding to allow you to make the choice whether or not this information is disclosed to the school. All information received will be treated in strictest confidence.

This additional funding is currently available for students who:

- Ceased to be looked after through a child arrangements or residence order
- Ceased to be looked after through a special guardianship order (SGO)
- Ceased to be looked after through adoption

If your child fits into any of the above categories and you are willing to let the school know that this is the case, please contact the school and ask to speak to or e-mail ssharpe@greatouse.beds.sch.uk giving the name of the student concerned. You will then be asked to provide supporting evidence, i.e. the Adoption (Court) Order. Sensitive information may be crossed through (e.g. the name of the birth parents) if you wish.

Pupil Premium Plus funding is not ring-fenced, and is not for individual children. It is designed to provide specific support to raise attainment and address the wider needs of children in this vulnerable group. Children who have spent time “in care” have usually experienced grief and loss, many have had traumatic experiences in their early lives caused by abuse or neglect and this can have a lasting impact even after many years of adoption in a loving home. National statistics show that children 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.

There is no obligation for you to share this information with us, but doing so will help both your child and the school benefit from this substantial additional funding. If you would like a confidential conversation about how this information will be held in school, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Sharpe.