

SPECIALIST EDUCATION SERVICES

How the Pupil Premium is used at Avocet House and Turnstone House

The 'Pupil Premium' was introduced in April 2011. It was allocated to schools to support children from low income families – identified as those in receipt of free school meals and children who had been 'Looked After' by a Local Authority continuously for more than six months.

In 2019/2020 the amount per young person is £935 per pupil (£1320 for pupils in reception to Year 6). The allocation for Looked After Children is £2,300 per child.

It is the school's decision as to how this money is best spent, however the overriding aim is to help bridge the gap between children from lower-income families and their peers, as evidence suggests that children from disadvantaged backgrounds often do not do as well as others.

Both Avocet House and Turnstone House only have 8 children each. As can be seen from our website they are highly specialised settings, taking the most complex children needing 52 week placement and as such (in comparison to other schools) the pupil premium is only a minor percentage relative to cost of placement. Nevertheless the funding enables us to supplement and support our personalised programmes for young people within our settings.

Thus, in line with the ethos of SES, funds where received through the Pupil Premium are allocated at a personalised level. Funding is employed for each young person in line with their key needs and individual targets for progress. A central element of our philosophy is partnership working and a high value is given to the 'Voice of the Child'; for this reason, Pupil Premium funds are expended following a number of collaborative processes (learning meetings/subject reviews) between each young person and their immediate key team of adults.

Some specific examples of the use of Pupil Premium funding include; additional therapeutic interventions, foreign travel, personalised curriculum materials, regular enrichment activities; e.g. horse riding, music tuition, art workshops; additional extra curricular learning opportunities.

Each establishment has documented evidence of impact against reason for referral.