

SPECIALIST EDUCATION SERVICES

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

The Pupil Premium was introduced in April 2011 to provide additional funding to schools in support of children from low-income families. This includes pupils eligible for free school meals and those who have been in the care of a Local Authority continuously for more than six months.

For the academic year 2025/2026, the funding allocations are as follows:

- **£1,075** per secondary-aged pupil
- **£1,515** per primary-aged pupil
- **£2,630** per Looked After Child

Although schools have discretion over how this funding is used, its core purpose is to help close the attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers. Research consistently shows that children from disadvantaged backgrounds often face additional barriers to academic success.

At **Avocet House** (maximum of 8 pupils) and **Turnstone House** (maximum of 10 pupils), the Pupil Premium represents a relatively small proportion of the overall cost of placement due to the highly specialised nature of our provision. Both settings cater to children with complex needs requiring 52-week placements, as detailed on our website.

Despite its proportionally modest contribution, the Pupil Premium can play a valuable role in enhancing our personalised programmes. In alignment with the ethos of SES, all Pupil Premium funding, where received, is allocated on an individual basis, tailored to each young person's specific needs and progress targets.

A central tenet of our approach is collaborative decision-making, with a strong emphasis on the Voice of the Child. Funding decisions are made through structured processes such as PAN meetings and subject reviews, involving the young person and their immediate support team.

Examples of how Pupil Premium funding has or could be used include:

- Additional therapeutic interventions
- Personalised curriculum resources
- Foreign travel experiences
- Enrichment activities such as horse riding, music tuition, and art workshops
- Extra-curricular learning opportunities

Each establishment maintains documented evidence of the impact of Pupil Premium funding, linked directly to the reasons for each young person's referral.