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Guidance

Recovery premium funding

Updated 11 July 2022

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This publication is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/recovery-premium-funding/recovery-premium-funding>

Purpose

The recovery premium grant is part of the government's package of funding to support pupils whose education has been impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19).

It is a time-limited grant providing over £300m of additional funding for state-funded schools in the 2021 to 2022 academic year and £1bn across the 2022 to 2023 and 2023 to 2024 academic years.

It is focused on pupil premium eligible pupils and pupils in specialist settings such as special schools, special units and pupil referral units (PRUs). This is because of the additional impact of the pandemic on these students.

However, schools can use it to deliver evidence-based approaches for supporting any pupil based on an assessment of individual need.

Eligible schools

The following types of school will receive an allocation of recovery premium:

- mainstream primary, secondary and all through local authority-maintained schools, academies and free schools serving children aged 4 to 15
- local authority-maintained special schools
- special academies and free schools
- non-maintained special schools
- pupil referral units
- alternative provision academies and free schools
- local authority-maintained hospital schools and academies

We will also provide funding to local authorities for eligible pupils they have placed in independent special schools, where the local authority pays full tuition fees.

Pupil eligibility and funding rates for academic year 2021 to 2022

Pupil eligibility

Recovery premium allocations for all eligible schools will be based on pupil premium eligibility:

- pupils who are eligible for free school meals (FSM), including eligible children of families who have no recourse to public funds (NRPF)
- pupils who have been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years
- children looked after by local authorities - referred to as looked-after children (LAC) and children previously looked after by local authorities - referred to as previously looked-after children (PLAC)

Funding rates

Recovery premium allocations will be calculated on a per pupil basis, based on the following rates:

- £145 per eligible pupil in mainstream education
- £290 per eligible pupil in other types of eligible school and special educational needs units in mainstream schools

We have included a minimum payment that we refer to as a 'floor' to ensure that:

- an eligible primary school will not receive less than £2,000
- an eligible secondary, or all-through school, will not receive less than £6,000

As with pupil premium, funding for looked-after children will be paid to the local authority and should be managed by the [virtual school head](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pupil-premium-virtual-school-heads-responsibilities) (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pupil-premium-virtual-school-heads-responsibilities>) in consultation with the child's school.

See the [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) recovery premium allocations and conditions of grant 2021 to 2022](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-recovery-premium-funding) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-recovery-premium-funding>) for further information.

Pupil eligibility and indicative funding rates for academic year 2022 to 2023

Pupil eligibility

For mainstream schools, pupil eligibility will continue to be based on pupil premium eligibility. See the [2021 to 2022 eligibility information](#) for more details.

For other eligible schools, and special educational needs units in mainstream schools, recovery premium allocations for 2022 to 2023 will be based on all pupils registered at the school.

Funding rates

Recovery premium allocations will be calculated on a per pupil basis, based on the following indicative rates:

Mainstream education:

- £145 per eligible pupil in primary schools
- £276 per eligible pupil in secondary schools

Other eligible schools, and special education units in mainstream schools:

- £290 per pupil in primary education
- £552 per pupil in secondary education

We have included a minimum payment that we refer to as a 'floor' to ensure that:

- an eligible primary school will not receive less than £2,000
- an eligible secondary, or all-through school, will not receive less than £6,000

Funding for looked-after children will be paid to the local authority and should be managed by the [virtual school head \(https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pupil-premium-virtual-school-heads-responsibilities\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pupil-premium-virtual-school-heads-responsibilities) in consultation with the child's school.

See the [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) recovery premium allocations and conditions of grant 2022 to 2023 \(https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-recovery-premium-funding-allocations-and-conditions-of-grant-2022-to-2023\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-recovery-premium-funding-allocations-and-conditions-of-grant-2022-to-2023) for further information.

Payment schedule

The recovery premium for 2021 to 2022 and 2022 to 2023 will be paid in 4 instalments on the following schedule:

Academic year 2021 to 2022

Payments will be sent to local authorities on:

- 30 September 2021
- 31 December 2021
- 29 April 2022
- 30 June 2022

Payments will be sent to academies (and free schools) on:

- 8 October 2021

- 11 January 2022
- 10 May 2022
- 8 July 2022

Academic year 2022 to 2023

Payments will be sent to local authorities on:

- 30 September 2022
- 30 December 2022
- 31 March 2023
- 30 June 2023

Payments will be sent to academies (and free schools) on:

- 10 October 2022
- 10 January 2023
- 12 April 2023
- 10 July 2023

Using recovery premium funding

Schools should spend this premium on evidence-based approaches to support pupils. In line with the [Education Endowment Foundation's pupil premium guide \(https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/pupil-premium-guide/\)](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/pupil-premium-guide/), activities should include those that:

- support the quality of teaching
- provide targeted academic support
- deal with non-academic barriers to success in school, such as attendance, behaviour and social and emotional support

Like the pupil premium, schools can:

- spend the recovery premium on a wider cohort of pupils than those who are eligible for the funding
- direct recovery premium spending where they think the need is greatest

Funding for looked-after children should be managed by the local authority virtual school head. They should work with schools, including the designated teacher, to decide how to use the funding effectively to support looked-after children.

Menu of approaches

As with pupil premium, any activities funded by recovery premium must align with the 'menu of approaches' from the start of the 2022 to 2023 academic year. The menu is designed to help you to spend your funding effectively. It can be found on page 7 of [Using pupil premium: guidance for school leaders \(https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium).

The menu includes tutoring, but recovery premium conditions of grant for the 2022 to 2023 academic year state that schools must not use the grant to meet their portion of the costs of tuition provided through the National Tutoring Programme (NTP). Schools should meet those costs from other sources of funding, including pupil premium. Recovery premium is additional funding to provide further education recovery support on top of the subsidised NTP offer.

Reporting and accountability

Schools must show they are using their recovery premium effectively:

- by reporting on their use of recovery premium as part of their [pupil premium strategy statement \(https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pupil-premium-effective-use-and-accountability#strategy-statements\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pupil-premium-effective-use-and-accountability#strategy-statements)
- through [inspections by Ofsted \(https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/\)](https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/) - inspectors may discuss plans schools have to spend their recovery premium funding
- by declaring that they have spent the funding in line with the conditions of grant (including that it has not been spent on NTP) and can demonstrate this upon request - a tick-box declaration will be added to the 2022 to 2023 year-end statement for NTP

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