



Tomlinscote School

September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re. Pupil Premium funding

The Pupil Premium is an additional source of funding to help schools close the progress gap between students who are considered to be disadvantaged and their peers. This is based on research showing that these children can perform less well at school. The Government believes that the Pupil Premium is the best way to address the current inequalities between eligible students and their peers as it is intended to directly benefit the children who are eligible, helping to narrow the gap between them and their classmates.

Tomlinscote receives funding for students eligible for Free School Meals (FSM), or who have been eligible at any time over the last six years (known as 'Ever 6 FSM'), students who are in care, adopted from care or otherwise 'looked after'. Your child / children meet at least one of these criteria and are therefore eligible for Pupil Premium funding support.

It is for schools to decide how the Pupil Premium allocated to schools is spent, since the Government deems that they are best placed to assess what additional provision should be made for the individual students within their responsibility. Our focus for students at Tomlinscote is on ensuring everyone has the opportunity to reach their potential regardless of background or circumstances and as such, a portion of our PP allowance is used to support high quality learning and teaching and to fund our iPad scheme for eligible students.

However, the funding is also used to support students and their families more directly and it is this provision we want to highlight to ensure all our PP families are aware of the support available through the school.

Uniform:

- We will reimburse families 75% of the cost of branded school items from Brenda's or Trutex (kilt, jumper, summer polo, tie, black trousers and shorts, PE top, PE sweatshirt, PE shorts / skort). To claim this reimbursement at any stage in the school year please send your account number, sort code and a photo of the receipt from Brenda's or Trutex to the email address below.
- We will reimburse families £20 towards each pair of shoes needed for school, namely school shoes, PE trainers, 3G boots. As before, this reimbursement can be claimed at any time during the school year by sending bank account details and a photo of the receipt to the email address below.

Curriculum resources:

- Students will be provided with curriculum resources free of charge as follows:
 - o Subject revision guides
 - o Texts for English Literature
 - o Technology project resources
 - o Art and Photography (KS4 only) resources
- Standard school equipment can be provided on a case-by-case basis, including pens, rulers, pencils – students can see me or ask at student reception.

- A calculator and a geometry kit can be provided if required, however we will only be able to provide one set per student during KS3 and one set per student during KS4. Please email me directly to request this equipment.

Trips and visits:

- Compulsory curriculum trips will be fully funded e.g. Geography field trip.
- Financial support will be provided for students wanting to attend optional curriculum trips.
- Duke of Edinburgh Award costs are heavily subsidised.
- Financial support is provided for Year 11 Prom tickets and the yearbook.
- Social events through school such as theatre trips are funded
- One school photograph is purchased for families in Years 7, 9 and 11

Trip letters will clearly state if the trips are funded for PP students or the level of financial support available.

Extra-curricular:

- Music lessons are funded for PP students.
- Clubs are all free of charge (timetable attached).
- Support is available for any additional equipment needed for a specific club e.g. gum shields for rugby.

If you have any queries regarding the Pupil Premium funding or would like to request resources for your child at any time throughout the school year, please contact me via email (nhammond@tomlinscoteschool.com) or alternatively, students are very welcome to speak to me directly in school.

In addition to the existing provision, we are looking to use the Pupil Premium funding in even more effective and creative ways and welcome any ideas you may have. Whilst you will understand that we cannot promise to respond to every request owing to funding limits and a need to report to the Government on how strategies have practically made a measurable difference, we believe that Parents/Carers should be able to have an input as they know the children best. May we therefore request that you make contact with me via email with any suggestion to support your child during their time at Tomlinscote, or with any queries relating to the Pupil Premium funding.

May we also take this opportunity to welcome our new Pupil Premium students and their families to our Tomlinscote community.

Yours sincerely,

Dr N Hammond
Assistant Principal

