

Item No.	Classification: Open	Date: Date/Month/year e.g. 6 March 2013	Meeting Name: Education, Children's Services and Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Report title:		Overview of Pupil Premium	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
Cabinet Member:		Cabinet Member for Children's Services	

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation

That Education, Children's Services and Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee note the briefing provided below.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- The Pupil Premium was introduced in April 2011 and is additional funding paid to schools in respect of their disadvantaged pupils and looked after pupils.
- In 2013-14, there are four categories of Pupil Premium, these are:
 - Deprivation (pupils eligible for free school meals at any point in the previous six years, please refer to paragraph 6 below);
 - Looked after Children (pupils in care who have continuously looked after for more than six months by the Local Authority);
 - Service Child (where one or more parents is currently in the British armed forces).
- Over the last 3 years the total funding allocated nationally has tripled, with total funding of £2.5 billion expected in 2014-15. A summary of the rates for deprivation Pupil Premium and national funding is outlined below.

Financial Year	Rate per eligible pupil £	Rate increase compared to 2011-12 %	Pupil Premium Funding nationally
2011-12	£488	-	£625 million
2012-13	£623	28%	£1.25 billion
2013-14	£900	84%	£1.875 billion

- Deprivation Pupil Premium funding is allocated to schools based on the number of pupils eligible for free school meals. From 2012-13, coverage was extended to those eligible for free school meals at any point in the last six years, known as the "Ever 6 FSM" measure. This means that funding will be allocated to pupil on roll in January who have been recorded as eligible for free meals on any of the previous six years school

termly census returns.

5. A pupil can be recorded as eligible for free school meals by the school on their termly census return if they are in receipt of certain support payments such as income support, income-based jobseekers allowance, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, child tax credit or working tax credit. Whether or not a pupil actually takes up a free school meal does not impact on their eligibility.
6. The Pupil Premium individual school allocations are published on the DfE website. However, although Southwark has recently received notification of individual school allocations for 2013-14, this information has not yet been published on their website.

Southwark Funding

7. A summary of the Pupil Premium funding allocated to Southwark by year is outlined in the table below:

	Maintained Schools	Academies	Service Children	LAC	Total
2011-12	£3,845,589	£1,796,867	£0	£150,792	£5,793,048
2012-13	£7,878,084	£3,372,548	£250	£185,654	£11,437,288
2013-14	£9,481,500	£5,739,300	£900	£268,200	£15,490,200

8. In 2012-13, the percentage of pupils nationally eligible for the Pupil Premium was 27%. The percentage in London Local Authorities is significantly higher than the national average; 37% average across all London LA's and 51% across the 14 inner London LA's. In comparison, the percentage in Southwark was 54%.

Individual School Allocations

9. The DfE collates the number of pupils recorded as eligible for free school meals (as a result of family economic position) at a national level; the DfE then inform the LA of individual school allocations based on the Ever6 data. Indicative allocations are published on the DfE website at the beginning of the financial year based on the previous year data. Final allocations are expected to be confirmed each year in the summer by the DfE.
10. The LA provides schools with the indicative allocations as part of their main budget information in March. The LA then communicates to schools the final allocations when they are announced.
11. For maintained schools this funding is passported to the schools via the LA; for academies this funding is paid direct by the Education Funding Agency.
12. The DfE have also recently provided individual schools with a listing of the pupils that have attracted the Pupil Premium this year. Schools can access this data through the national Keys to Success website.
13. Southwark schools (maintained schools, free schools and academies)

have been allocated deprivation pupil premium funding of £15 million in 2013-14. A summary of the minimum, maximum and average allocations by type of school is provided below.

School Type		Min	Max	Average
Primary	Maintained	20,700	290,700	128,538
Primary	Academy/Free school	11,700	172,800	84,900
Secondary	Maintained	278,550	301,500	293,250
Secondary	Academy/Free school	48,600	749,250	400,846
Special	Maintained	-	60,300	29,160
Special	Academy/Free school	32,400	32,400	32,400

Accountability

14. Pupil Premium funding is additional funding allocated to schools to support their disadvantaged pupils and close the attainment gap between children from economically disadvantaged families and those from more economically affluent families.
15. Schools are free to decide how to spend their funding as the government believes that head teachers and school leaders are best placed to decide how to use this funding. Schools are held to account through the following national arrangements:
 - Performance tables;
 - New Ofsted inspection framework; and
 - Reports for parents on the use of the Pupil Premium, that schools are required to publish on their website.
16. Schools are not required to report back to the LA on how they have spent their Pupil Premium. However, for 2011-12 and 2012-13, the Southwark Schools Finance Team asked schools to complete an annual return explaining how they had deployed the Pupil Premium.

2012-13	Expenditure (£)*	% of Pupil Premium Expenditure (%)	No. Schools selecting this option**
Education Resources	247,239	3.2	38
Extended School Activities	245,008	3.2	48
Learning Support Assistants	1,875,841	24.1	57
Parent Support Activities	109,871	1.4	15
Teaching Staff	1,970,902	25.3	65
Behaviour Support	326,621	4.2	29
Other	539,941	7.0	43
Carried forward to 2013-14*	2,460,989	31.6	40
Total	7,776,412	100	-

17. In Southwark 72% of the pupil premium actually spent was on staffing; either Learning Support Assistants or Teaching Staff. Examples of the types of expenditure on teaching staff provided by schools included intervention, 1:1, booster, target underachievers, extra English and Mathematics and music provision. Examples of the types of expenditure on learning support assistants

included support with literacy, learning mentors, literacy and numeracy support and additional staffing in early years.

Looked After Children Pupil Premium

18. Children who have been looked after continuously for more than six months also attract Pupil Premium funding. In 2013-14, this was based on £900 per eligible child; the 2013-14 allocation was £268k, based on 298 eligible children.
19. For mainstream schools, the Looked After Children Virtual School Head discusses how the Pupil Premium is to be used by the school in accordance with the child's Personal Education Plan (PEP).
20. From April 2014-15, local authorities will receive £1,900 of government funding annually for every looked-after child they are responsible for to invest in additional education support, such as specialist tuition or one-to-one coaching. This "pupil premium plus" will see the funding allocated for looked-after children more than double from the current annual rate of £900 per child, the standard pupil premium amount allocated to disadvantaged children in school. In addition, looked-after children will be eligible to receive the funding as soon as they enter care, allowing councils to put support in place immediately, as opposed to having to wait six months or more before doing so.

Further information and guidance

21. Further information and guidance is available of the DfE website using the following links:
<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/premium>

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

22. The Pupil Premium, based on Ever6, now attracts a significant budget allocation for individual schools. Therefore, it is imperative that schools submit accurate termly school census returns for the number of children that are entitled to Free School meals (because of their family economic situation). Since the beginning of this year the Officers have increased the focus in ensuring that schools accurately record the number of pupils entitled to Free School Meals (resulting from their family economic position) and those receiving meals as a result of the Free Healthy School meal pledge.
23. There have been some issues with schools' management information systems, which are used by schools to record information on individual pupils such as a date of birth, address, date of entry, FSM entitlement and attainment data. Some systems did not distinguish between benefits-entitled free school meals and a free healthy school meal funded by the council, leading to some schools with significantly overstated FSME numbers. The department's data team completed a major cleansing exercise of pupil-level data with schools to ensure that this data is accurately recorded.
24. Conversely, some schools have reported that fewer parents are applying for FSME and felt this was linked to the introduction of free healthy school meals. Nationally it is reported that around 10% of parents entitled to FSM do not apply, representing a funding risk to schools. The council has produced promotional material for schools to encourage parents to apply, and in September this year

introduced a streamlined application form that schools are encouraging all parents to complete. This work has been developed in partnership with headteachers.

25. Please note, that the annual FSME data cannot be readily compared to the Ever6 data. The Ever6 data is produced by the DfE, and includes for example, the historical information on children moving in/out of the Borough, which would not be held by the Southwark Data Team.

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Southwark Primaries FSM summary

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Kerry Crichlow, Director Strategy and Commissioning, Children and Adults' Services	
Report Author	Fay Hammond, Departmental Finance Manager	
Version	Draft	
Dated	11 October 2013	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / EXECUTIVE MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Strategic Director for Legal and Democratic Services	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Scrutiny Team	14 October 2013	