



Ocean Academy Poole

an Aspirations Academy

Dear Parent/Carer

Did you know that registering your child for the 'Pupil Premium Grant' (PPG) means that Ocean Academy is able to claim funding to provide extra resources and support for your child and this funding can then benefit all children at Ocean Academy?

The 'Pupil Premium Grant' is additional funding that is paid directly to the school from the government for every child who meets any of the following criteria:

- Pupils eligible for a **Free School Meal***
- Children adopted from care, along with children who left care under a Residence Order on or after 14 October 1991, and those that left care under a Special Guardianship Order on or after 30th December 2005
- Pupils whose reside with parents who are in the armed forces or have been in the last five years.

***Do you qualify for free school meals?**

You can register your child for free school meals if you are in receipt of any of these benefits:

- Income Support
- Jobseeker's Allowance (income-based)
- Employment and Support Allowance (income-based)
- Child Tax Credit based on income below £16,190
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Asylum Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' (this is the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

The government has not dictated how schools should spend the money, but we believe this funding can make a big difference to your child's education. In 2017-18, each school will receive an extra £1,320 for each child eligible for free school meals, £1,900 for each child who is adopted or who has left care and £300 for each child who resides with a parent / parents who serve (or have served) in the armed forces within the last 5 years.

With this funding we can provide extra resources for all children within our school. In the past year, we have been able to offer the following which would not have been possible without Pupil Premium funding:

- Additional English and maths support.
- ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant)
- Pastoral Care
- Additional teaching assistants in each year group
- Teacher led interventions
- Speech and Language specialist support

This list is not exhaustive but gives a flavour of what we are able to achieve through use of the Pupil Premium funding (Please see the school website for more details within our 'Pupil Premium Strategy'). A great number of children in our school can be supported using the PPG funded resources.

How does it work?

1. First, check if you qualify using the information on the previous page. If you are unsure about Free School Meals, please log onto <https://www.poole.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/> for further information.

You can still provide a packed lunch for your child if you prefer, but if you qualify within the identified criteria, please complete the application form to ensure Ocean Academy receives the appropriate funding.

2. Registering is really quick and easy – if you think you qualify, please complete the application form and return it to the address on the bottom of the application form . Alternatively apply via the Borough of Poole website. <https://www.poole.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/> The school office will also be happy to assist you with completing the form.

3. The application form can also be requested from the school office or downloaded from the school website.

4. The Pupil Premium Grant can be applied for **whenever** you meet the above criteria – please remember to apply for funding should your circumstances change. Once in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant, the school your child attends will receive funding for as long as you meet the above criteria. Even if your circumstances change and you no longer meet the criteria for funding, the school will continue to receive funding to support your child's learning for the following 6 years (this becomes known as '**Ever 6**' funding).

Registration is confidential and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming. Your child and their peers will be unaware that this funding is in place and any support put in place will be purposeful and within the usual parameters of effective teaching and learning at Ocean Academy.

If you need any help completing the application form, please ask at the school office and if you are unsure of any of the information in this letter, please talk to us about registering your child.