



HOWARD OF
EFFINGHAM
SCHOOL

"Bringing out the best"

An Academy & part of
The Howard Partnership Trust

Dear Parents and Carers

Pupil premium for pupils who were in care or have left care

You may be aware that schools are awarded additional funding through the pupil premium grant for pupils who have received Free School Meals at any time within the past six years. These students are identified automatically through the Local Authority. In addition, extra school funding is also available for pupils:

- adopted from care
- who left care to a Special Guardianship Order
- who left care to a Residence Order

The additional funding for schools is £1,900 per child. This is a significant sum which we can use to support the progress of pupils who may previously have experienced barriers to being successful at school.

Unlike Free School Meals eligibility, schools are not given information on whether or not students have ever been in care.

If your child is in one of the three groups above we can request additional school funding by providing your child's status through the School Census in the Autumn. In order for us to do this we will require supporting evidence from you, the Adoption (Court) Order, for example. Sensitive information (e.g. the name of the birth parents) may be redacted if you wish.

Pupil premium funding is not ring-fenced and is not for individual children. It is designed to provide specific support to raise attainment and address the wider needs of children in this potentially vulnerable group. Children who have spent time in care may have experienced grief and loss, many have had traumatic experiences in their early lives caused by abuse or neglect and this can have a lasting impact even after many years of adoption in a loving home. National statistics show that children in care face unique challenges at school and often struggle to keep up with their peers. It is vital that they are given the targeted support they need and the education they deserve to help them get on in life.

Because this is a sensitive issue we have decided to provide details of the funding to allow you to make the choice whether or not to disclose this information to the school. All information received will be treated in strictest confidence; the legal family status of every child is a confidential matter and this information is handled with great sensitivity by schools and government. There is no obligation for you to share this information with us, but doing so will help your child and the school benefit from this substantial additional funding. Information will not be shared with teaching staff or students.

If you wish to do so, please provide the evidence by 1 October so that we may meet the government's deadline.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at school if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Rust
Assistant Headteacher



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