**Pupil Premium Plus - Annual School Census**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to discuss the Pupil Premium Grant for previously looked-after children.

If your child was previously in the care of a local authority in England or Wales, and is now adopted, or living with you under a Special Guardianship or Child Arrangements Order, the school will be able to claim £2570 each year to support the social, emotional and academic needs of this group of children and young people.

# **How can we access this funding?**

If your child meets the criteria and the school is unaware, notifying us could help your child receive the additional support that they are entitled to. The Department for Education requires you to provide evidence of your child’s status and the school would need to see a copy of the relevant legal order by the end of September. In order to keep the strictest confidentiality possible, we will accept notification in the way the parents or guardian feels most comfortable: via phone on (…..), email (…..), in writing or face-to-face.

Please be reassured that such evidence and information will be treated in the strictest confidence and names or details of children are not part of the census.

You must make this declaration each time your child moves to a new school, so if this is your child’s first year with us, we would be grateful if you could let us know. If you have previously made a declaration then you are not required to make it again.

This information is used for funding purposes only. If you wish school staff to know about your child’s status in order to better understand and support them, we would welcome a discussion. [*Name of Designated Teacher*] is our named member of staff with lead responsibility for children who were in Local Authority Care and have been adopted or who are living under a Special Guardianship or Child Arrangements Order.

## **How is the funding used?**

This grant can only be spent to benefit these pupils and must be used to improve the outcomes in the following areas:

* Academic achievement and progress
* Enrichment activities and wider achievement
* Improving and maintaining attendance
* Inclusion and social skills
* Transition to a new key stage or learning provider

It is important to understand that the Pupil Premium Plus is not ring-fenced funding for the child that attracts it. This gives the school flexibility to decide how the additional funding can best be deployed to have the maximum impact. Schools can, for example, decide to train their staff in recognising and responding to attachment-related issues.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us give these children the best support possible. If you wish to discuss the provision for your child, please contact [*Name of Designated Teacher*]. You are also entitled to support, advice and guidance from the Essex Virtual School. For more information please go to: <https://schools.essex.gov.uk/pupil-support-and-wellbeing/essex-virtual-school/previously-looked-after-children-plac>

 Sincerely,

[*name and role*]