



West Tyne Federation of Schools

Link Governors with Responsibility for Pupil Premium

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much". Helen Keller

Knowing your schools

- Obtain and become familiar with the school's Pupil Premium policy.
- Know basic Pupil Premium facts for the schools, ie how many pupils attract the premium, how this figure compares with other local and similar schools, and how the money is spent.
- Meet occasionally with the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) and/or other staff responsible for performance data to discuss issues around under-performing groups, including those eligible for Pupil Premium.
- Challenge the allocation of the Pupil Premium grant if there is no clear audit trail evidencing appropriate use of resources.

Monitoring Data

- Understand relevant school pupil performance data that shows progress of different groups over time.
- Monitor spending of the Pupil Premium, ensuring the money is spent in identifiable ways to support target groups of pupils.
- Monitor the attainment of different groups of pupils over time to provide evidence of how Pupil Premium pupils are progressing compared with others.

Governor Body Meetings

- Discuss the allocation and monitoring of the Pupil Premium in Governing Body and/or Committee Meetings when appropriate.
- Report back to the Governing Body on the school's use of the Pupil Premium (Governor Link Visits).

The Link Governor with Responsibility for Pupil Premium should ensure that the schools have published information on their website about Pupil Premium allocation, its spend and impact, and that parents can find this information.

The Link Governor should meet regularly with the Heads of School to discuss how the Pupil Premium is spent, and how the specific actions that it is funding is monitored and evaluated.

Governor Visits - some questions that **could** be asked:

- How effective is the school's Pupil Premium Policy in supporting the target groups?
- How confident are you that the Pupil Premium grant is spent appropriately on the intended target groups?

- Is the Pupil Premium funding kept separate from general school resources so it can be specifically and identifiably used as intended?
- How is the allocation of the Pupil Premium decided?
- What is the Pupil Premium used for?
- How is the progress of different groups of pupils monitored so that the school can identify any under-performing groups?
- Are there groups of pupils whose attainment falls behind others?
- What would you say are the main challenges in the use of Pupil Premium, and how is the school working to overcome them?
- What benefits can you see from the allocation of the Pupil Premium?
- Is there anything that the Governing Body should be aware of that could help the school gain the maximum advantage from the Premium?
- What does the school do to advertise access to the Pupil Premium and eligibility criteria?
- What records are kept of the services that the Pupil Premium is spent on, or what the children have access to with the funding?
- How does the school plan for these income streams and their associated requirements?

Governor Visits

The Link Governor should make note of some actions highlighted during the visit, ie benchmarking against other local schools in the Partnership, looking at how interventions are implemented and monitored. These actions will form the basis of the next meeting.