

Astrea Academy Trust: Grants Link Member (PP / PE & Sports)

Overview and Purpose

This link role is concerned with three funding Premiums, available to schools in England; namely the Pupil Premium (and Early Years Pupil Premium), the PE and Sport Premium for primary schools and the Catch-up Premium.

The Pupil Premium was introduced in April 2011 to provide additional support to looked-after children and those from low income families. The extra funding is made available to schools to help them narrow the attainment gap that still exists between pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds and their peers. It is based on eligibility for Free School Meals (FSM) at any point in the preceding six years.

Primary schools also receive a PE and Sports Grant to promote physical activity as part of the Government's childhood obesity strategy. The funding is based on the number of pupils in years 1 to 6 and must be used to fund improvements in the provision of PE and sport-based activities.

The Catch-up Premium was introduced in June 2020 to ensure that schools have the support they need to help children and young people to catch up on missed learning caused by COVID-19. This is particularly important for the most vulnerable pupils and pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds as these groups are known to have been most affected.

The chair of the committee should take responsibility for ensuring that a link member is appointed each academic year.

Local Committee's Responsibilities

- To ensure the grants are being used for the purposes intended by Parliament, e.g. to boost the attainment and progress of disadvantaged pupils (PP), to promote physical activity and a healthy lifestyle (PE/Sport Premium) and to help pupils make up for lost learning during the pandemic.
- To maintain high expectations and aspirations for disadvantaged children and ensure the relevant grants are being used effectively to support children in achieving their potential.
- Ensure the school publishes an account of their premium spending on the school website each year.
- LGCs/TMBs should receive an annual report and strategy for the use of each premium during the Autumn or Spring Term.

Link Member's Responsibilities

- To act as a champion for children eligible for the Pupil Premium and to promote physical activity as part of the curriculum.
- To understand the main barriers for learning faced by disadvantaged pupils at the school.
- To undertake focussed and purposeful visits to the school to monitor how the Grants are being spent, their effectiveness and how their impact is measured.
- To ensure there is regular discussion and scrutiny by the committee around the attainment gap and the ways in which it is being addressed by the PP strategy.

More information on these Grants can be found here:

<https://astreaacademytrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Premium-Reporting-Guidance-Sept-21.pdf>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pe-and-sport-premium-conditions-of-grant-2021-to-2022/pe-and-sport-premium-conditions-of-grant-2021-to-2022-academies>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/catch-up-premium-coronavirus-covid-19/catch-up-premium>