



14 September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Pupil Premium

You may be aware that the government has introduced a direct grant to schools for every student in receipt of free school meals (FSM) called the Pupil Premium. The school currently receives £935 for each student eligible for FSM. This funding, however, is also available for any student who has received FSM in the last six years (known as the ever6). A further grant of £2300 is received for students who are 'Looked After Children'.

Your child has been identified as being eligible for the Pupil Premium and therefore the purpose of this letter is to inform you of the way in which the school plans to spend the Pupil Premium funding. You may have heard of the recent government budget cuts to schools and it is with this in mind that we have chosen, where possible, to protect our average class sizes. We feel it is imperative to the development of our students to keep class sizes down and therefore a significant part of the funding will be used in order to ensure this is maintained. Extra support will also continue with tutoring across all year groups for students who are identified as needing it the most. Teachers completing the tuition will contact you directly to organise.

Any individual requests from parents will still be considered and should be directed in writing to me. The best method of contact is via email at: sfernandez@st-martins.essex.sch.uk. All requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Examples of areas in which funding has been spent during the academic year 2017-18:

- Tuition in English, mathematics and science
- Lesson equipment and resources
- Text books and study guides
- Laptops (where students do not already have access to a computer at home)
- Instrumental music lessons
- Assistance with uniform costs
- School trips: Please return the completed forms to finance with 'Pupil Premium' written at the top. These will then be passed to me for approval and I will contact you to let you know the outcome.

Whilst I am happy to receive requests, the final decision on how the budget is spent rests ultimately with the school. When Pupil Premium money is used for school trips, it may be possible to completely fund smaller trips, or partly fund larger trips. Despite this, it may be required for the parent to pay some of the deposit to secure their child's place and show commitment to the trip.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Fernandez
Pupil Premium Co-ordinator