



The Service Premium at Mortimer St John's Infants and St Mary's Juniors

The service premium is not part of the pupil premium as the rules to attract the service pupil premium are different.

Pupils attract the SPP if they meet the following criteria:

- one of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces.
- they have been registered as a 'service child' on the January school census at any point since 2015.
- one of their parents died whilst serving in the armed forces and the pupil receives a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme or the War Pensions Scheme.
- pupils with a parent who is on full commitment as part of the full time reserve service are classed as service children.

Eligible schools receive the SPP so that they can offer mainly pastoral support during challenging times and to help mitigate the negative impact on service children of family mobility or parental deployment.

In order to support the pastoral needs of service children, schools have flexibility over how they use the SPP, as they are best placed to understand and respond to the specific needs of those pupils for whom the funding has been allocated. The funding could be spent on providing a variety of means of support including counselling provision, nurture groups, etc. Schools might also consider how to improve the level of and means of communication between the child and their deployed parents.

SPP should not be used to subsidise routine school activity (trips, music lessons etc.), however, schools may choose to fund school trips just for service children, to help them enjoy their time at school and build a sense of a wider community and understanding of the role their service parent plays (e.g. with military specific trips) to help them cope with the potential strains of service life.

Schools are held to account for the spending of this funding through the focus in Ofsted inspections on the progress and attainment of their wider Pupil Premium eligible pupil cohort.

For more information on the Pupil Premium, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-service-pupil-premium/service-pupil-premium-what-you-need-to-know>

Principles at Mortimer St John's and St Mary's:

- We support that the pastoral needs of all pupils.
- We ensure that appropriate provision is made for pupils who belong to vulnerable groups, this includes ensuring that the needs of SPP are adequately assessed and addressed.