**Pupil Premium**

**Background**

There are significant differences in how well pupils from deprived backgrounds do in school compared to their more affluent peers.  These differences persist through all stages of education, including entry into higher education.  The highest early achievers from deprived backgrounds are overtaken by lower achieving children from advantaged backgrounds by age seven.  The gap widens further during secondary education and persists into higher education.  The likelihood of a pupil eligible for free school meals (FSM) achieving five or more GCSEs at A\*-C (including English and Maths), is less than one third of a non-FSM pupil.  A pupil from a non-deprived background is more than twice as likely to go on to study at university as their deprived peer.  The DfE therefore provides additional funding to schools to support these specific groups of pupils.

**Allocation**

Pupil Premium funding is allocated according to the number of pupils 'on roll' who are eligible for FSM, the number of children of armed forces parents, and an allocation for each pupil who has been ‘Looked After’ (in care) from 2014 for 1 day or more.  In 2012, funding was extended to include pupils who have been eligible for FSM within the last 6 years whether they continue to claim or not.