

23 June 2025

Important Changes to Our Pupil Premium Support

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are writing to let you know about some important changes we will be making to our Pupil Premium Strategy and how we use this funding. As a family receiving Pupil Premium support, we want to ensure you're fully informed.

The Pupil Premium Grant provides schools with vital funding to improve educational outcomes for disadvantaged students. We have the flexibility to use these funds in various ways, always aiming to support young people effectively based on our school's specific context and challenges. Schools are also required to publish and annually update their Pupil Premium Plans. You can find more details about our strategy and how we support students by visiting our website.

Reviewing Our Pupil Premium Plan

Over the past year, we have carefully reviewed our plan and how we use this funding to maximise its educational impact and support better outcomes for all students. As part of this process, we have closely examined how families access funds for items like uniform, PE kit, and equipment, as well as opportunities for enrichment experiences linked to the curriculum.

While we recognise this support has been incredibly helpful – and, in some cases, essential – we unfortunately cannot continue this scheme in the same way as in previous years. To maintain a sustainable program of support for all students and families involved, we need to make some significant changes moving forward.

What This Means Going Forward

We are committed to providing a range of assistance to help families purchase equipment and uniform in advance of the new academic year. Here's how we'll be doing this:

• Uniform Exchange Scheme: Working with our fantastic PTA, we will be offering opportunities for families to acquire donated or exchanged uniform items. This will be available for all families free of charge. Look out for specific times over the summer when you can come and find items. We also encourage you to bring outgrown uniform items to exchange for better-fitting ones.

'Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools' Partnership'



- Specialist Equipment & Exam Preparation Materials Support: For students who need to access specialist equipment and revision materials we will be setting up a long term loan scheme. We will continue to subsidise and support the purchase of food to assist in Design & Technology lessons in both key stages.
- Application for Financial Assistance: We will continue to provide financial assistance to families experiencing significant challenges to help with the purchase of key items of uniform. This will be a one-off payment of up to £70 per student. Applications for this financial support will only be available from June until the start of the academic year. The application form is available on our designated Pupil Premium website page. We kindly ask families to apply for this support before purchasing items. All applications will be reviewed promptly upon receipt and confirmation provided swiftly.
- **Uniform Hub:** We will still provide individual students with items on a temporary basis, in discussion with parents/carers. Students will be expected to return these items within an agreed timeframe.

These changes are designed to help us continue providing valuable, sustainable support to our Pupil Premium families. We understand these adjustments might affect how families acquire uniform and equipment before the new school term. Please be assured that we will offer the most appropriate support for each individual situation. Do not hesitate to contact us if you need assistance or have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Balkwill Headteacher