

How Service Pupil Premium Differs From The Pupil Premium.

The SSP is there for schools mainly to provide pastoral support. The pupil premium was introduced to raise attainment and accelerate progress within disadvantaged groups.

However, all children who need support with progress and attainment within school will receive support that is tailored to meet their needs, including service children.

Service personnel with children (reception to year 11) in state schools in England should notify schools of their children's service status to ensure they are recorded prior to the next autumn census (first Thursday in October) in order to qualify for Service pupil premium.

Service Pupil Premium

- all you need to know



What is the Service Pupil Premium?

The Department for Education (DfE) introduced the Service pupil premium (SPP) in April 2011 in recognition of the specific challenges children from service families face and as part of the commitment to delivering the armed forces covenant.

State schools, academies and free schools in England, which have children of service families in school years reception to year 11, can receive the SPP funding. It is designed to assist the school in providing the additional support that these children may need and is currently worth £310 per service child who meets the eligibility criteria.

How to qualify for SPP

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Eligibility criteria

Pupils attract SPP if they meet one of the following criteria:

- one of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces (including pupils with a parent who is on full commitment as part of the full time reserve service)
- they have been registered as a 'service child' on a school census since 2016, see note on the **DfE's ever 6 service child measure**
- 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

The purpose of the Service pupil premium

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.

Mobility is when a service family is posted from one location to another, including overseas and within the UK.

Deployment is when a service person is serving away from home for a period of time. This could be a 6 to 9-month tour of duty, a training course or an exercise which could last for a few weeks.

How might schools use the funding?

In order to support the pastoral needs of service children, schools have flexibility over how they use the SPP. The funding could be spent on providing a variety of means of support including:

- Counselling provision or TIS trained staff to support the pastoral needs of the child
- Learning mentor support to work with individuals to build social skills, self-esteem and develop positive attitudes to learning thus raising academic attainment
- Providing means of communication between the child and their deployed parents.
- Staff(induction tutor) to support the needs of service children when they join a new school as a result of a posting or when a parent is deployed
- extra-curricular activities to enable service children to take part in certain activities that may not have been available to them due to the absence of one of their key adults.
- Bespoke social events or clubs

