

 **Westdale Junior School**
Westdale Lane
Mapperley
Nottingham
NG3 6ET

 +44 (0) 1159 534707
 www.westdalejuniors.co.uk
 office@westdalejuniors.co.uk
 @WestdaleJunior

Head Teacher
Ruth Kyle *BA (Hons), PGCE, MCCT*

Executive Head Teacher
Celia Smith *BEd (Hons)*



Wednesday 25th July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Changes to our Pupil Premium Strategy

Most of you will be aware that there is a small amount of additional funding available for those children who are in receipt of the Pupil Premium grant. Each year, as a school, we have to plan a strategy for how this money will be spent. This year, along with CPD for staff, we have prioritised these children for tuition and small-group interventions and provided some financial support with payment for trips and visits, fully-funded music lessons and discounted after school clubs.

Each year, we have to review how our strategy has worked and make adjustments to this based on the current needs of our children and the wider context of the school and our school improvement priorities. There are some necessary changes that we need to make to our strategy next year. I will try to outline the main ones below:

- The majority of our PP funding has been and will continue to be invested heavily in the training and coaching of teacher and support staff in Quality First Teaching and carefully targeted interventions. Research tells us that this investment in ensuring that all teachers and teaching are as effective as possible has the largest impact on children with SEND and those in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant. Attainment matters for all of our children and we want to ensure that our children in receipt of Pupil Premium Grant make as much progress as their peers. Focusing our funding on these two priorities is the most efficient and effective method of trying to ensure that this this happens.
- We will continue to fully fund 1-2-1 music lessons through Rattle and Roll for all children in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant.
- There will be a wider range of FREE after school clubs available that will be run by school staff, for which children in receipt of Pupil Premium will be prioritised.
- Residentials (Castleton and Bushcraft) will continue to be subsidised by 50% for those children in receipt of Pupil Premium.

Unfortunately, that does mean that other school trips and visits and Rattle and Roll after school clubs will no longer be automatically subsidised.

We do want to ensure that none of our children miss out on the wider range of opportunities on offer in school which is why our newly appointed Assistant Headteacher, Vanessa McGill, will be making sure that the free after school and lunch time extra-curricular opportunities are varied and of a high quality.

If you have any questions about these changes, please do contact us at the start of next year.

Kind regards,

Ruth Kyle
Headteacher