



Rowner Junior School

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18th December 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

RE: Service Pupil Premium Eligibility Data Update

The Government requires schools to keep all records of student information up to date, with any changes made annually. This year, we are required specifically to update our students across the organisation who are eligible to receive Service Pupil Premium.

Please note your child will be eligible to receive the Service Pupil Premium grant if the following applies;

- one of their parents they are living with 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

Please find attached a document of frequently asked questions regarding Service Pupil Premium. If you have any further queries then please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Sharpe. If you believe your child is eligible for Service Pupil Premium based on this information, please complete the form below by **Wednesday 8th January 2020**.

RE: Service Pupil Premium Eligibility Data Update

Students name: _____ Class: _____

I believe that my child is eligible for Service Pupil Premium: (please tick if yes)

Reason for why you believe you are eligible:

For further information or any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact either Mrs Sharpe or Lesley Ure GFM Service Children Coordinator Lesley Ure via email. lure@gfmat.org

For further information please see the following links: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-service-pupil-premium/service-pupil-premium-what-you-need-to-know>

Yours Sincerely

Kerry Sharpe
Assistant Head
Pupil Premium Lead

Lesley Ure
GFM Service Children & Families Coordinator



Frequently asked questions:

What is the Service Pupil Premium? As part of the Department for Education's recognition of the specific challenges that children from Service families face and as part of the commitment to delivering the Armed Forces Covenant, schools receive a Service Pupil Premium, which is currently worth £300 per service child.

How do I know if I am eligible for the Service Pupil Premium? Pupils attract this Service Pupil Premium if they meet the following criteria: - One of their parents is currently serving in the 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 pupils receive a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme or the War Pensions Scheme; - One of their parents left the Armed Forces in the past six years, this includes if they have left due to injury; - Pupils with a parent who is on full commitment as part of the full time reserve service are class as service children.

In some incidences, pupils may be eligible for both Service Pupil Premium and Pupil Premium. If you think you may be eligible for Pupil Premium, please see Mrs Vinall or Mrs Sharpe

I am now divorced/separated from the parent who is in the Armed Forces, are they still eligible for Service Pupil Premium? If the child is still living permanently with the service parent following a divorce the school should continue to record them as a service child on the school roll. If the child no longer lives with the Service parent following a divorce, the school should still receive Service Pupil Premium, provided the child has been recorded as a service child in any January census from 2015 up until the time of the divorce. They will be counted as the 'Ever 6 measure' for up to 6 years or until the end of year 11, whichever comes first.

Is the child still eligible if they live with a step-parent who is in the Armed Forces? Step children of serving personnel are eligible to receive Service Pupil Premium. A child must live with their service parent to be eligible for Service Pupil Premium. A child, where the service parent is the main carer and even if they are not the biological parent, is also eligible. As long as the service person has parental responsibility within the terms of the Children Act 1989 for a child(ren), and satisfies all of the conditions of the PStat 2 category, schools will be able to claim Service Pupil Premium for the child.

What is the purpose of Service Pupil Premium? The purpose of the Service Pupil Premium is that eligible schools are able to offer mainly pastoral support during challenging times and to help mitigate the negative impact of family mobility or parental deployment. Deployment includes being away for 6 to 9 month tour of duty, a training course away from home for a period of time or on an exercise which could last for a few weeks or more.

Who decides how the Service Pupil Premium is spent? As a school, we have the flexibility to decide how to use the Service Pupil Premium. For further information on how we spend Service Pupil Premium at Rowner Junior School, please see our website where our current document is located.

To assist us in ensuring that our records of Service Children is up to date, we kindly request you to fill in the form attached if you meet the eligibility criteria as indicated above. The deadline for this form is Wednesday 8th January 2020. This is to coincide with the January census that schools must complete. If you have not returned the form to the school by that date your child will not be eligible for the funding. It is down to the individuals to declare service status to the school. If you declare that your child is eligible for Service Pupil Premium funding, we may request to see identification that supports this.

Many thanks for your support in this matter. If you should have any further queries, please do not hesitate in contacting myself.

Kind regards

Kerry Sharpe Assistant Headteacher Pupil Premium Lead