

19th September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Service Pupil Premium

Service pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils up to the end of Year 11 by supporting them to adjust to a new school as a result of relocation and/or when a parent is deployed. It's provided for pupils where:

- 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 in the past six years
- 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
- one of their parents is in the armed forces of another nation and is stationed in England

At The Royal Grammar School, we get an extra £310 for every eligible pupil who is registered for Service pupil premium. This extra money could make a real difference to the pastoral support we offer to these students.

FAQs

What if the parent/carer leaves the armed forces?

Ex Service personnel should tell the school if they left the armed forces within the last six years. Under the DfE's ever measure, schools will continue to receive SPP for up to six years for children whose parent(s) left the armed forces, provided the children were recorded as Service children in a school census (prior to their parent(s) leaving the forces).

Can step children receive Service pupil premium?

Yes, but the child must live with that step parent. 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 SPP for the child

What about the children of divorced parents?

If the child is still living permanently with the service parent following a divorce, the school should continue to record the child as a service child on the school roll to claim SPP.

If the child is no longer living with the service parent following a divorce, the school will still receive SPP provided the child had been recorded as a service child in any school census from 2016 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.

When a child has not been recorded as a service child in any school census from 2016 prior to a divorce, and the child no longer lives with the service parent, the school cannot claim SPP for that child even if the parent is still serving.

I am the legal guardian of a child to whom I am not the biological parent, can I still apply?

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 SPP for the child.

How do I register?

You only need to register once at the school and we will need to see your military ID to confirm eligibility. If you believe your son may be eligible for Service pupil premium, please contact Mrs Iacofano at dji@rgshw.com

Yours sincerely,

Grant Sheehan

Assistant Head