



Use of Pupil Development Grant (PDG) 2023-2024

What is the Pupil Development Grant (PDG)?

The PDG is one of the Welsh Government's flagship education policies and aims to **tackle the impact of deprivation and disadvantage on educational outcomes**.

The grant provides additional money to schools based on the number of pupils eligible for free school meals (eFSM) on their roll. The grant was first introduced in 2012-13 for pupils in years 1-11. In 2015-16, the PDG was extended to Early Years (3-5 year-olds, up to and including Reception year). PDG funding runs from one financial year to the next i.e. from April to the end of March.

How much PDG does George Street primary receive?

- For 2023-24 the total number of pupils on our school roll (WG Attendance Data Collection) is 407.
- The proportion of pupils eligible for free school meals (3-year average) is about 30%. This is considerably higher than the national average.
- The total allocation of PDG, which includes Early Years PDG, to this school for April 2023 to March 2024 is £155,250.

How do leaders use the school's PDG funding?

- The school's use of its PDG is carefully planned by the senior leadership team and is regularly scrutinised by the school's governing body and challenge adviser (appointed by the Education Achievement Service, EAS).
- Expenditure of the grant is monitored by the local authority.
- In 2023-24 the school will use its PDG funding in order to assist pupils facing the challenges of poverty and deprivation by:
 - Providing resources to support pupils in the early years & foundation phase to develop their understanding of how to eat healthily and to develop and use their physical, social and literacy/numeracy skills in worthwhile practical activities. For example, through regular cookery / woodwork / outdoor learning sessions.
 - Enhancing parental engagement and communication between school and families. For example, through the work of the home-school liaison officer, use of the school text message service, twitter, well-being calls and parent consultations.
 - Providing professional development and resourcing to support staff and pupils across the school to develop their ICT skills effectively.
 - Providing small group and individual withdrawal sessions and in-class support to identified pupils to improve their literacy & numeracy skills and enhance their wellbeing.

For instance, through regular Read, Write Inc, number recovery, Lego therapy and Thrive intervention sessions and small-group teaching in classes.

- Providing regular Forest School and Coastal School activities and visits to support the development of pupils' social, physical and communication skills and to improve their knowledge and understanding of the environment.
 - Subsidising the cost of transport and enrichment activities to broaden pupils' experience. For example to fund visits and visitors into school and to reduce the cost of residential visits.
 - Developing the use of the school grounds to support outdoor learning. For example, through the continued development of a school vegetable garden.
- Each year school leaders review the use of the PDG to evaluate the impact of spending decisions and ensure value for money.