ST JAMES
INFANT AND PRE-SCHOOL

A guide for parents and carers

InMAT

Pupil Premium at St James

Extra support to help your child shine.

Everyone is welcome here.

A quick eligibility check could unlock extra support

All Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children can have a free lunch. Pupil premium needs a separate eligibility check. **Please complete the check even if your child already has a free lunch or brings a packed lunch.**

What is pupil premium?

Extra funding paid to school helps eligible children learn well and take part fully. Support starts with each child's strengths and needs, including children already doing well. This is school funding, rather than a personal cash allowance.

What support can look like

Strong teaching
High-quality teaching comes first. Skilled adults model learning, check understanding and adapt teaching.

Extra learning support
Phonics, reading, language, writing or maths support matched to assessed needs.

Wellbeing and belonging
Help with attendance, confidence and relationships. School trips and experience days are fully funded for pupil premium children.

Could your child qualify?

Targeted free school meals
Qualifying benefits, including Universal Credit with annual household net earnings of £7,400 or less, excluding benefits. Eligibility must be verified.

Ever 6
Recorded qualifying meal eligibility can continue to attract pupil premium for six years, even if circumstances improve.

Expanded free school meals
Universal Credit households above the targeted earnings threshold receive free meals only. This route alone does not bring pupil premium.

Care and service families
Tell us about care, adoption from care, special guardianship or child arrangements orders following care, or armed forces links. Different funding rules apply.

How to get checked

Ask the school office.
We collect details when your child joins; you can ask for a check at any time.

We may need your child's details
and the claimant parent's name, date of birth and National Insurance number, where applicable.

No NI number or unsure?
Ask us about alternative evidence and language support.

Share sensitive information securely
with the office, not through ClassDojo.

How we work together

1. **Listen**
Your child's strengths, starting points and views, together with your knowledge, help shape support.

2. **Plan**
Every pupil premium child has a written plan with clear targets and agreed support.

3. **Practise at home**
Books, phonics cards, words, writing materials or maths games are sent home to support individual targets.

4. **Review**
Targeted learning is reviewed at least every three weeks. Home resources are refreshed half-termly; targets are shared each term.

Poppies pre-school

Early years pupil premium is separate for eligible children using funded early education. A fresh check is needed when your child starts Reception.

We are here to help

Ask the office about eligibility or your class teacher about support. Mrs Stephanie Cooney is our pupil premium lead. Tell us if circumstances change or resources are difficult to use.

RESPECT • KINDNESS • INCLUSION • TEAMWORK

At St James we SHINE together

Based on St James Pupil Premium Policy 2026-2027. Eligibility guidance checked 30 October 2026.