

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING
BY DEPUTY I. GARDINER OF ST. HELIER NORTH
QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2024
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER 2024**

Question

“In relation to the Jersey Premium schools and colleges funding programme, will the Minister advise –

- (a) how many pupils were in receipt of funding for each of the last five years, broken down into –
 - (i) pupils living in eligible Income Support households;
 - (ii) pupils living in eligible ‘Registered’ households who have lived in the Island for less than five years who would otherwise be eligible for Income Support;
 - (iii) pupils who are or have ever been Looked After Children;
 - (iv) pupils with a parent/guardian serving in the Jersey Field Squadron; and
 - (v) pupils eligible under exceptional circumstances;
- (b) how many pupils are expected to receive funding this year;
- (c) the amount of funding allocated per pupil for each of the last five years;
- (d) whether the total funding allocated to Jersey Premium increases annually with inflation; and
- (e) what plans, if any, he has to uplift the Jersey Premium allocation in 2025, in addition to any inflation increase.

Will he further advise how many pupils in receipt of Jersey Premium are eligible for free school meals and how many receive free school meals?”

Answer

- (a) Jersey Premium pupil numbers are provided below.

Academic year	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024
Pupils in receipt of Jersey Premium funding	2843	3239	3259	3223	3171

Numbers within each category have been rounded up to the nearest ten to avoid disclosing identifiable information, as the dataset includes some small numbers.

JP Category	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024
Pupils living in eligible Income Support households	2670	3060	3080	3040	3020
Pupils living in eligible ‘Registered’ households who have lived in the Island for less than five years who would otherwise be eligible for Income Support	70	70	50	30	20
Pupils who are or have ever been Looked After Children;	120	120	130	160	140

Pupils with a parent/guardian serving in the Jersey Field Squadron	0	0	10	10	10
Pupils eligible under exceptional circumstances	0	0	0	0	0

(b) This information is not available until the Education Department have completed the termly pupil census, at which point we will be in a position to confirm which of the eligible pupils attend each setting. Schools receive the funding in January each year.

(c) The rates used since 2017 are provided below with 24/25 UK rates for comparison.

UK 2024/25	Rates	2017 Rates	2018 Rates	2019 Rates	2020 Rates	2021 Rates	2022 Rates	2023 Rates	2024 Rates
1,480	Primary	£985	£750	£1,005	£1,060	£1,150	£1,345	£1,370	£1,490
1,050	Secondary (inc post 16)	£635	£480	£645	£680	£725	£955	£975	£1,060
2,570	CLA	£1,270	£960	£2,000	£2,300	£2,300	£2,345	£2,410	£2,595
2,570	Previously CLA				£1,500	£1,700	£2,345	£2,410	£2,595
340	Service Children						£310	£310	£345

(d) The amount of budget for Jersey Premium increases in line with pay inflation. Approximately 75% of the JP budget is staffing and 25% non-staffing, therefore 75% of the budget is increased. The remaining 25% is increased based on non-pay inflation allocated by Treasury. The 2024 JP Budget is £4,778,000.

(e) For 2025 I will ensure an inflationary uplift as per the inflation process detailed in part (d) and as pay awards for 2025 will be 1% above RPI, I am confident the overall budget will remain sufficient to deliver appropriate benefits.

For 2026 I will be assessing any benefits or disbenefits of transferring the JP budget to Annually Managed Expenditure and if appropriate I will liaise with the Minister for Treasury and Resources to request that Jersey Premium is transferred to AME.

(f) The Department does not hold this data. Jersey Premium is not the criterion for eligibility for Free School Meals.