

Dear young person or carer,

We are LINX – Lancashire’s Children in Care Council. We meet up regularly to talk about things that affect children in care and one of the things we have talked about a lot lately is the pupil premium. This is important to us and we want all looked after children and young people in Lancashire to know about it.

The pupil premium is funding given to schools to help with the education of all children looked after by Lancashire County Council. This money is given out to schools by the Virtual School Head teacher, in Lancashire this is Sue Parr and Sue can give this funding to your school to help with your education. This money can be spent on lots of different things such as laptops, learning aids, educational trips, books and extra tuition.

We have written this letter as we have found that many LINX members didn’t know pupil premium existed and we think it is really important to inform all looked after children and young people in Lancashire that this resource is available. Our LINX members say:

‘I want other people to know about it because I didn’t get any of it and it would have been helpful, I might have got better grades’. Kat, 17

‘This letter is really important, don’t be shy to prompt people in meetings and ask about how much you have left, don’t hint, you need to fully ask about it’.  
Georgina, 15

We also wanted to let you know that every school has a designated teacher for looked after children. This is the teacher who is there to support all looked after children in the school. If you don’t know who yours is, ask at school and find out.

We are always looking for new members to join LINX; we have primary and secondary aged groups for looked after children and care leavers. If you want to come along or want more information contact one of our workers on 01772 629470.

## **Additional Information**

### **Educational Attainment of Young People Achieving A\* - C including Maths and English**

	<b>Previous Performance</b>		<b>Current Performance</b>
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
<b>CLA Lancs</b>	11.9%	12.9%	<b>12.9%</b>
<b>All CYP Lancs</b>	60.1%	59.9%	<b>61.2%</b>
<b>CLA England</b>	13.6%	15.0%	<b>15.3%</b>
<b>All CYP England</b>	59%	59.4%	<b>59.2%</b>

### **Recommendations from LINX to schools:**

- Schools to show a spending breakdown of pupil premium on their website
- LINX to be able to view examples of receipts or invoices where pupil premium money has been spent
- Schools to show how they let young people know how they can access resources
- Evidence of extra lessons that young people have attended or educational trips
- A letter to young people letting them know they are entitled to pupil premium
- Evidence that young people have been informed about their pupil premium and given options and limitations on how to spend it
- Evidence of how young people are informed about who to speak to regarding their pupil premium