



*Journey together,
guided by God,
to do the best we can.*

Background and Rationale

The Pupil Premium was introduced by the Coalition Government in April 2011 to provide additional support for children who had been looked after continuously for more than six months and for children from low income families who were known to be eligible for free school meals (FSM).

From 2012-13, eligibility for the Pupil Premium was extended to pupils who have been eligible for FSM at any point in the last six years (known as the Ever 6 FSM measure). Schools now also receive funding for children who have been looked after continuously for more than six months, are children of service personnel or who are adopted.

In addition, from April 2015 the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) enables 3-4 year olds, who are eligible, to claim this extra funding.

The extra funding is made available to schools so that they can close the attainment gap that still exists between pupils from disadvantaged and more affluent backgrounds. Schools do not need to spend an equal amount on each pupil and are free to spend the funding as they see fit as long as the performance of the pupils for whom the grant was allocated is demonstrably improving. For example, the school may decide that some interventions for a wider group of pupils will have a significant impact on the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and direct the Pupil Premium accordingly. This could mean using part of the Pupil Premium grant towards the cost of employing a Teaching Assistant who would support a number of children in a class. Alternatively, the Pupil Premium could be used for 1:1 tuition.

Key principles

- The school's mission statement is, 'Journey together, guided by God, to do the best we can.' The targeted and strategic use of Pupil Premium funding will support us in achieving our mission statement.
- We ensure that all teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all of our children.
- We ensure that appropriate provision is made for pupils who belong to vulnerable groups. We acknowledge that not all children who are disadvantaged receive Pupil Premium funding and therefore we use our funding to support any child that the school has identified as being disadvantaged.
- In making provision for disadvantaged children, we acknowledge that not all children who receive Pupil Premium funding are disadvantaged.
- Pupil Premium funding will be allocated following a needs analysis which will identify priority classes, groups or individuals and therefore the school will not equally distribute the funding on eligible pupils.

Maximising the impact of the Pupil Premium Grant

In order to ensure that we use the Pupil Premium funding to successfully improve achievement, our school will:

- Carefully ringfence the funding so that we always spend it on the target group of pupils.
- Never confuse eligibility for the Pupil Premium with low ability.
- Support the more able children who are eligible for Pupil Premium to achieve the highest levels.
- Thoroughly analyse which pupils are underachieving and why.
- Draw upon research evidence and evidence from our own and others' experience to allocate the funding to the activities that are most likely to have an impact upon achievement.
- Ensure that daily teaching meets the needs of each learner, rather than solely relying on interventions to improve attainment.
- Analyse achievement data frequently to ensure that interventions or techniques are making an impact.
- Ensure that senior leaders have a clear overview of how the funding is allocated and the difference it is making to the outcomes for pupils.
- Ensure that class teachers and TAs know which pupils are eligible for the funding.
- Have a clear policy on spending Pupil Premium which is agreed by governors and available to parents/carers.
- Provide well-targeted support to improve attendance, behaviour or links with families where these are barriers to a pupil's learning.
- Ensure governors are involved in discussions about the use of Pupil Premium funding and are kept informed of the impact of the funding.

Reporting

When reporting about Pupil Premium funding, we will include:

- Information about the context of the school and our school's Pupil Premium grant allocation amount.
- A summary of the main barriers to educational achievement faced by eligible pupils at the school.
- How the school will spend the Pupil Premium to address those barriers and the reasons for that approach.
- How the school will measure the impact of the Pupil Premium.
- The date of the next review of the school's Pupil Premium strategy.

For the previous academic year, we will include:

- How the school spent the Pupil Premium allocation.
- The impact of the expenditure on pupils.

Governors monitor how Pupil Premium is spent but are not told the names of individual pupils. Governors have a duty to ensure that Pupil Premium is used to close any attainment gap and they will carefully consider the information provided by the school. They will ensure that there is an annual statement to the parents/carers on the school website outlining how the Pupil Premium funding has been used to address the issue of closing the gap for disadvantaged children.

The school governor Helen Harvey is our Pupil Premium Champion.

Schools must publish information on their website on how they have spent the Pupil Premium and its impact. Parents and carers are free to enquire about how the Pupil Premium is spent but it is entirely up to the Head Teacher to decide how much information is practical to share.

Policy review

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of the school community and any statutory requirements.