St John's Catholic Infant School

Pupil Premium Policy



"Loving, Learning and Laughter Together with God"

Article 3: "The best interests of the child must be top priority in all actions concerning children"

"Our children will know more, can remember more and apply more"

Overview

Pupil premium is funding to improve education outcomes for disadvantaged children in schools in England. Evidence shows that disadvantaged children generally face additional challenges in reaching their potential at school and often do not perform as well as other children. Funding should be used to improve attainment, drawing on evidence of effective practice. Pupil premium is not a personal budget for individual children and schools are not required to spend all of the allocated grant on eligible children. It is for school leaders to decide how to spend the pupil premium, within the requirements of the conditions of grant.

Evidence suggests that pupil premium spending is most effective when used across 3 areas.

- 1. High-quality teaching, such as staff professional development.
- 2. Targeted academic support, such as tutoring.
- 3. Wider strategies to address non-academic barriers to success in schools, such as attendance, behaviour and social and emotional support.

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) recommend that schools particularly focus their pupil premium on supporting high-quality teaching.

Schools do not have to spend pupil premium so it solely benefits <u>eligible pupils</u>. They can use it wherever they identify the greatest need. For example, they might spend it on children who do not get free school meals but:

- have or have had a social worker
- act as a carer

Using pupil premium funding to improve teaching quality is the most effective way to improve outcomes for disadvantaged pupils. By doing so, schools will inevitably benefit non-eligible pupils as well.

Schools must show how they're using their pupil premium funding:

- by publishing a statement on their website about how they use their funding and the impact it has on the attainment of disadvantaged pupils
- through <u>inspections by Ofsted</u>
- through published performance tables

Eligibility

Allocations are provided on a financial year basis, based on the following pupil eligibility rates:

- Pupils who are eligible for free school meals, or have been eligible in the past 6 years (including eligible children of families with no recourse to public funds)
- > Pupils who have been adopted from care or have left care
- ➤ Children who are looked after by the local authority

<u>Service pupil premium</u> is additional funding for schools, but it is not based on disadvantage. It has been combined into pupil premium payments to make it easier for schools to manage their spending. Schools get it for every child with a parent who is serving in HM Forces or has retired on a pension from the Ministry of Defence. This funding is primarily to help with pastoral support. It can also be used to help improve the academic progress of eligible children if schools deem this to be a priority

Allocations to schools

For mainstream schools, Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) will allocate PPG as follows:

- £1,385 per pupil who are eligible for free school meals, or have been eligible in the past 6 years (including eligible children of families with no recourse to public funds)
- £2,410 per pupil who have been adopted from care or have left care and children who are looked after by the local authority
- £320 for each pupil £320 in 2022 to 2023 for every pupil with a parent who is serving in HM Forces or has retired on a pension from the Ministry of Defence

IMPLEMENTATION

The Pupil Premium is additional to main school funding and it will be used to address any underlying inequalities between children eligible for free school meals (FSM) and children who have been looked after continuously for more than six months and others by ensuring that funding reaches the children who need it most.

From academic year 2021 to 2022, schools must demonstrate how their spending decisions are informed by research evidence, making reference to a range of sources including the Education Endowment Foundation's toolkit. In line with the EEF's pupil premium guide, activities should include those that:

- > support the quality of teaching, such as staff professional development;
- provide targeted academic support, such as tutoring; and
- > tackle non-academic barriers to success in school, such as attendance, behaviour and social and emotional support.

Schools are free to spend the Pupil Premium as they see fit. However, they will be held accountable for how they have used the additional funding to support children from low income families. All schools must use the templates available on GOV.UK to publish their pupil premium strategy.

Objectives:

- 1. The additional funding will be used to address any underlying inequalities between children eligible for Pupil Premium and others
- 2. We will ensure that the additional funding reaches the children who need it most and that it makes a significant impact on their education and lives.
- 3. The Pupil Premium will be used to provide additional educational support to improve the progress and raise the standard of achievement for these children
- 4. The funding will be used to close the gap between achievement of these children and their peers.

Strategies:

- 1. Pupil Premium will be clearly identifiable within the budget
- 2. The head teacher, in consultation with the governors and staff, will decide how the Pupil Premium is spent for the benefit of entitled children
- 3. The school will assess what additional provision should be made for the individual children.

- 4. The school will be accountable for how it has used the additional funding to support the achievement of those children covered by the Pupil Premium and the Headteacher will report to the Governing Body and parents on how effective the intervention has been in achieving its aims.
- 5. Each year, we will publish online information about how we have used the Premium.
- 6. We will ensure that parents and others are made fully aware of the attainment of children covered by the Premium.
- 7. We will seek to further develop strategies and interventions which can improve the progress and attainment of these children.
- 8. We will track the impact of the strategies put into place through the funding to ensure that we can show the value that has been added to the education of the entitled children.
- 9. We will monitor, evaluate and review the success of the impact of the pupil premium funding.

IMPACT

Outcomes:

This policy will play an important part in the educational development of the individual children who are entitled to the Pupil Premium. We will ensure that these children are treated equally and as favourably as others and that the additional funding is used well to address the challenges they face. The school will use the additional funding to promote the achievement and progress of all entitled children. Through wise use of this additional funding we are fully committed to ensuring that the individual needs of each entitled child are met. As a result of the additional funding, these children will make better progress and achieve higher standards that would have been likely without it.

This policy will be reviewed at least every year or sooner if necessary

The governing body have wider responsibilities under the Equalities Act 2010 and will ensure that all our school policies take account of the nine protected characteristics. We strive to do the best for all of the children and staff irrespective of age, disability, educational needs, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, pregnancy, maternity, sex, gender reassignment, religion/belief, marriage/civil partnership or sexual orientation or whether they are looked after children.

We have carefully considered and analysed the impact of our policies on equality and the possible implications for pupils with these protected characteristics, as part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

| Agreed by Governors on: | Reviewed on: | 12th November 2020 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 10 th November 2016 | 3 rd November 2022 | 7 th November 2019 |
| | 24 th June 2021 | 8 th November 2018 |
| | | 9th November 2017 |