



St Mary's
Catholic Primary School and Nursery

THE PUPIL PREMIUM POLICY 2017/2018

INTRODUCTION

Since April 2011, the Government has used data for pupils presently eligible for Free School Meals or who have been eligible for Free School Meals at any point in the last six years, as an indicator for deprivation. The Government provides extra funding to support these eligible pupils in reaching their full potential and narrow the gap in comparison to their peers.

The Pupil Premium funding is a fixed amount of per pupil funding, paid by means of a specific grant and based on the spring school census figures for eligible pupils from Reception to Year 11. It is additional funding to the main school funding and will be used to address any underlying inequalities amongst eligible children.

The Government do not dictate how schools should spend the Pupil Premium funding, but are clear that schools need to employ strategies which will support their pupils to increase their attainment and 'narrow the gap'. Schools will be accountable for 'narrowing the gap' and the school performance tables include new measures which show the attainment of pupils who receive the Pupil Premium compared to their peers.

For looked after children, the Pupil Premium is calculated using the Children Looked After data returns. A premium has also been introduced for children whose parents are currently serving in the armed forces. This service premium is designed to address the emotional and social well-being of these pupils.

PRINCIPLES

Every child with his/her individual needs and gifts is unique, special and made in the image of God.

All members of staff and the governing body of St Mary's Catholic Primary School & Nursery accept responsibility for 'socially disadvantaged' pupils and are committed to meeting their pastoral, social and academic needs within a caring, Christian environment.

As with every child in our care, a child who is considered to be 'socially disadvantaged' is valued, respected and entitled to develop to his/her full potential, irrespective of need.

RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Human rights are a set of basic things that every human being should have, like the right to be free, the right to say what you think, the right to an education and the right to be treated with dignity and respect.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is a human rights treaty (agreement) that was agreed by the United Nations in 1989. It gives children and young people all over the world over 40 major rights.

These rights include the right to a family life, the right to be protected from all types of violence, the right to be healthy, the right to have a say and to be taken seriously, and the right to have an education that helps you grow as a person. The UNCRC gives extra rights to children living in very difficult circumstances, including children in trouble with the law, and refugee and asylum-seeking children.

At St Mary's we aim to honour and fulfil The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. This guidance refers directly to the articles.

OBJECTIVES

1. To provide additional educational support to improve the progress and raise the standard of achievement for eligible pupils.
2. To narrow the gap between the achievement of these pupils and their peers.
3. To address any underlying inequalities between children eligible for Pupil Premium and others, as far as the school's powers allow.
4. To enable the schools and families to work together to improve these pupils' progress.

IMPLEMENTATION

The Governing Body of St Mary's Catholic Primary School & Nursery will ensure that provision is made which secures the teaching and learning opportunities that meet the needs of all pupils.

Our priority in the academic year 2017/2018 will continue to focus on 'narrowing the gap' between the Pupil Premium children and their peers.

As part of the additional provision made for pupils who belong to vulnerable groups, the Governor Body will ensure that the needs of socially disadvantaged pupils are adequately assessed by:

1. Ensuring the Pupil Premium children, including intervention strategies, progress and attainment are discussed at the teaching staff termly pupil progress meetings
2. The Pupil Premium expenditure is clearly identifiable within the school's budget and through the provision map.
3. The Head teacher and Deputy Head teacher, in consultation with the governors, staff and parents/carers, will decide how the Pupil Premium is spent for the benefit of the pupils concerned.
4. St Mary's will seek to develop further strategies and interventions which can improve the progress and attainment of eligible pupils as part of the Strategic School Improvement Plan (SSIP).

The range of provision includes, but is not limited to, the following activities:

- providing small group work with experienced teaching and support staff focusing on overcoming gaps in learning
- 1-1 support
- the Reading Recovery programme
- additional teaching and learning opportunities provided by trained staff or external agencies to improve attainment
- subsidised residential trips in years 4 and 6

- provision of SATs and workbooks at no cost
- access to an onsite counselling support service
- interventions with our Learning Mentor to improve inclusion and to enable eligible pupils to participate in school life
- speech and language therapy
- individual music tuition
- peer mentoring
- access to the Primary Respect course
- working with families to support engagement in learning
- improving pupils' capacity to engage in learning and the school community through a range of activities including nutrition, life skills, play, out of hours activities, trips and residential trips

All our work through the pupil premium funding will be aimed at accelerating progress and moving pupils to at least age related expectations.

The Pupil Premium funding may also be used to target able pupils entitled to this funding to achieve beyond age related expectations.

REPORTING

It will be the responsibility of the Head teacher and Deputy Head teacher, to produce termly reports for the Governing Body detailing:

- an outline of the provision that was made since the last meeting
- the progress made towards narrowing the gap, by year group, for socially disadvantaged pupils
- an evaluation of the cost effectiveness, in terms of the progress made by the pupils receiving a particular provision, when compared with other forms of support
- how effective any interventions have been in achieving the objectives in this policy

The Governing Body will ensure that an annual statement detailing how the Pupil Premium funding has been used to address the issue of 'narrowing the gap' for socially disadvantaged pupils is included on the school website. The statement will include information on the intervention strategies used, the expenditure and the progress and attainment of the groups of pupils covered by the Pupil Premium funding. This task will be carried out within the requirements published by the Department for Education and will appear on our school website.

SUCCESS CRITERIA

The evaluation of this policy is based on how quickly the school can 'narrow the gap' between socially disadvantaged pupils and their peers.

The success criteria for the Pupil Premium Policy are:

- early intervention and support for socially disadvantaged children
- socially disadvantaged children meeting their individual targets
- maintaining an effective system for identifying, assessing and monitoring pupils

- maintaining a whole-school approach
- creating a positive school atmosphere in which pupils' differences are recognised and valued as full members of the school community
- developing confident and independent learners
- that the attainment gap between the Pupil Premium children and their Peers continues to narrow.

Reviewed, approved and updated Autumn term 2017