

Pupil Premium Policy

Reviewed 9th July 2018

Signed
John Ward, Chair of Governors

Next Review Date: Summer 2019

Introduction

In the St. Mary Federation we believe that all our children have an equal entitlement, and should have an equal opportunity to:

- Develop imagination and creativity
- Acquire skills and abilities
- Have a love of learning

The Federation receives funding from the Government to support it in trying to meet this aspiration. This is known as the Pupil Premium.

Pupil Premium is additional funding, from the government, provided to schools for supporting more pupils from low income families to ensure they benefit from the same opportunities as all other children. There are three categories of children that qualify for pupil premium:

- Children who are eligible for free school meals (FSM)
- Looked after children
- Armed forces children

It is for the Federation to decide how the Pupil Premium is spent, since they are best placed to assess what additional provision should be made for the individual pupils for whom they are responsible. The Pupil Premium is allocated to schools with pupils on roll in January 2014 that are known to have been eligible for free school meals (FSM) at any time in the last six years. Each of these pupils will attract £1320. Schools have the freedom to spend the Premium, which is additional to the underlying schools budget, in a way they think will best support the raising of attainment for the most vulnerable pupils.

In the Federation, a proportion of children are eligible for Pupil Premium.

All our staff and governors accept responsibility for 'socially disadvantaged' pupils and are committed to meeting their pastoral, social, emotional and academic needs within a caring environment to raise self-esteem and aspirations in order to positively affect learning and narrow the gaps between pupils. The targeted and strategic use of Pupil Premium will support us in achieving our vision.

Principles

- We seek to ensure that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all of the pupils;
- We seek to ensure that appropriate provision is made for pupils who belong to vulnerable groups, this includes ensuring that the needs of socially disadvantaged pupils are adequately assessed and addressed;
- In making provision for socially disadvantaged pupils, we recognise that not all pupils who receive free school meals will be socially disadvantaged;
- We also recognise that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for free school meals.

- We reserve the right to allocate the Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil or groups of pupils the school has legitimately identified as being in need of intervention and support;
- Pupil Premium funding will be allocated following a needs analysis which will identify priority classes, groups or individuals.

Provision

The range of provision the staff and Governors consider making for this group include:

- Providing 1-1 and small group work with an experienced teacher or TA focused on overcoming gaps in learning;
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities provided through learning mentors, trained TAs or external agencies;
- The majority of our work through the Pupil Premium will be aimed at accelerating progress moving children to at least age related expectations. Initially this will be in communication, English and Mathematics;
- In addition, the school recognise that the wider curriculum supports and enriches children's development in communication, English and maths, and therefore funding will also be allocated to enable children to participate fully and actively in wider and extra-curricular activities;
- Pupil Premium resources may also be used to target able children on Free School Meals to achieve Greater Depth/Mastery;

Reporting

The Senior Management Team will report to the Governors on the progress made towards narrowing the gap for socially disadvantaged pupils, an outline of the provision that was made since the last meeting and an evaluation of the cost effectiveness and impact of the provision in terms of the progress made by the pupils receiving a particular provision.

Parents will receive information as to the progress of pupils through personal information sent home on individual education plans and through reporting of assessment results at the end of the academic year.

The Governors of the Federation will ensure that there is an annual statement to parents on how the Pupil Premium funding has been used to address the issue of 'narrowing the gap', for socially disadvantaged pupils. This task will be carried out within the requirements published by the Department for Education and will appear on our school website.

Measuring Impact

Pupils receiving support and interventions funded by the Pupil Premium Grant are tracked and their progress is measured at appropriate times. Teachers and TAs regularly discuss the provision being allocated in order for a specific targeted approach to be delivered to raise attainment of all children's learning.