

In God's love we believe and achieve



St. Michael's

Catholic Primary School

Pupil Premium Policy

Pupil Premium Policy

Principles

Every child with his/her individual needs and gifts is a unique gift from God.

All members of staff, governors and teaching assistants accept responsibility for 'socially disadvantaged' pupils and are committed to meeting their pastoral, social and academic needs within a caring Catholic environment. This is an essential, integral part of the spiritual development of the whole school community.

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.

Background

The Pupil Premium was introduced in April 2011, and paid by means of a specific grant based on school census figures for pupils registered as eligible for FSM. This service premium is designed to address the emotional and social well-being of these pupils.

The Pupil Premium is additional to main school funding and it will be used by the school to address any underlying inequalities between children eligible by ensuring that funding reaches the pupils who need it most.

The pupil premium is a Government initiative that targets extra money at pupils from deprived backgrounds, which research shows underachieve compared to their non-deprived peers. The premium is provided in order to support these pupils in reaching their potential.

The Government have used pupils entitled to Free School meals as an indicator for deprivation, and have deployed a fixed amount of money to schools per pupil, based on the number of pupils registered for Free School meals. This fixed amount of money will increase every year during the term of the current Parliament. At St Michael's Catholic Primary School we will be using the indicator of those eligible for Free School meals as our target children to 'narrow the gap' regarding attainment.

The Government are not dictating how schools should spend this money, but are clear that schools will need to employ the strategies that they know will support their pupils to increase their attainment, and 'narrow the gap'. Schools will be accountable for narrowing the gap, and there is a planned reform to the school performance tables to include new measures that compares the attainment of pupils who receive the pupil premium compare with their peers.

Objectives

1. The Pupil Premium will be used to provide additional education support to improve the progress and to raise the standard of achievement for these pupils
2. The funding will be used to narrow and close the gap between the achievement of these pupils and their peers

3. As far as its powers allow the school will use the additional funding to address any underlying inequalities between children eligible for Pupil Premium and others
4. We will ensure that the additional funding reaches the pupils who need it most and that it makes a significant impact on their education and lives

Strategies

- Pupil Premium will be clearly identifiable within the budget
- The Headteacher, in consultation with the governors and staff, will decide how the Pupil Premium is spent for the benefit of entitled pupils
- The school will assess what additional provision should be made for the individual pupils
- The school will be accountable for how it has used the additional funding to support the achievement of those pupils covered by the Pupil Premium
- We will publish online information about how we have used the Premium
- We will seek to further develop strategies and interventions which can improve the progress and attainment of these pupils
- 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

Reporting

It will be the responsibility of the main Governing body to ensure and outline the school's progress towards 'narrowing the gap' for socially disadvantaged pupils. This will be reviewed on a termly basis.

The Governors of St Michael's will ensure that there is an annual statement on the website 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.

Success Criteria

The evaluation of this policy is ongoing. Targets will be identified and evaluated annually and included in the School Development Plan.

The success criteria for the Pupil Premium Policy are:

- Early intervention and support for socially disadvantaged children
- Narrowing the gap to ensure that those children on FSM reach the appropriate targets

- To ensure the vast majority of socially disadvantaged children will meet their individual targets
- Effective parental pupil school support
- Having an effective system for identifying, assessing and monitoring pupils
- Having a whole-school approach
- Enrichment of the curriculum for our vulnerable children and providing them with opportunities that they would not perhaps have
- 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

Outcomes

We will ensure that these pupils 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 pupils.

Appeals

Any appeal in connection with the disposition of the pupil premium funding will be dealt with through the Governors' appeals panel.

Provision

In order to meet the above requirements, the Governing Body of St Michael's will ensure that provision is made which secures the teaching and learning opportunities that meet the needs of all pupils. One of our priorities is to focus upon enriching the curriculum and providing children with opportunities to extend their learning experiences. This in turn will enhance children's academic abilities. Pupil premium will also focus on 'narrowing the gap' for those pupils not on track to achieve their expected level as well as providing challenging opportunities for those who are able to achieve greater depth at the end of Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

As part of the additional provision made for pupils who belong to vulnerable groups, the Governors of the school will ensure that the needs of socially disadvantaged pupils are adequately assessed and addressed through termly pupil progress meetings.

In making provision for socially disadvantaged pupils, the Governors of the school recognise that not all pupils who receive free school meals will be socially disadvantaged.

The Governors reserve the right to allocate the Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil or groups of pupils the school has legitimately identified as being socially disadvantaged.

The Range of Provision

- Facilitating pupils' access to education
- Facilitating pupils access to the curriculum
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities

- Employment of additional staff to reduce class sizes
- Opportunity for the Deputy Headteacher to be non-class based to monitor interventions and ensure that children who are in receipt of Free School Meals are monitored and part of the intervention groups
- Purchase of new reading scheme particularly aimed at boys to improve boys reading as well as other resources to enrich and extend children's learning
- Intervention programmes including ECC, Read Write Inc, Talk Boost etc
- Opportunities for children to take part in School Visits (The school will fund some or part of these visits.)
- Music Tuition
- Sports coach provision across the school
- The employment of Teaching Assistants to work with children and to deliver interventions
- School Counsellor and Parent Support Advisor to track attendance of all children and provide targeted support as needed/requested, working closely with their families

The Headteacher will maintain an on-going programme of support for socially disadvantaged pupils, which will be subject to the oversight of the Governors' Curriculum Committee.

Reviewed By Mike Volynchok on behalf of the Governing body in May 2025
Signed copy available from school office