



Pupil Premium Policy

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1. Principles

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

All members of staff and governors 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.

2. Background

The Pupil Premium is a government initiative which targets extra money at pupils from deprived backgrounds who, 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 has used pupils entitled to Free School Meals as an indicator for deprivation, and has allocated a fixed sum of money per pupil to schools, based on the number of pupils registered for Free School Meals. This fixed sum of money will increase every year over the course of the current Parliament. At Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Primary School we will use this indicator, of those eligible for Free School Meals, as our target for children to 'narrow the gap' regarding progress and attainment.

The government is not dictating how schools should spend this money, but is clear that schools will need to employ the strategies which 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 reform to the school performance tables to include measures which show the attainment of pupils who receive the Pupil Premium compared to their peers. In deciding which strategies to employ to enable the gap to be narrowed, consideration will be given to the barriers which are preventing a child from making progress.

3. Provision

In order to meet the above requirements the Local CAST Board of Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Primary School will ensure that provision is made which secures the teaching and learning opportunities which meet the needs of all pupils.

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

In making provision for socially disadvantaged pupils the local CAST Board of the school recognises that not all pupils who receive Free School Meals will be socially disadvantaged.

The local CAST Board also recognises that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered for, or qualify for, Free School Meals. The local CAST Board reserves the right to allocate the Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil, or group of pupils, the school has legitimately identified as being socially disadvantaged.

An annual plan for the use of the Pupil Premium funding is published on the school website and is part of the SIP. A review of the plan is carried out by staff and the local CAST Board and is also published on the website.

The range of provision could include:

- Facilitating pupils' access to education
- Facilitating pupils' access to the curriculum
- 1-1 support
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities provided by teachers, support staff or external agencies
- Additional support for assessments, training and advice from specialists such as speech therapists, educational psychologists et cetera
- Access to therapeutic interventions and advice
- Paying for activities which broaden the curriculum
- Constant staff development and training to ensure that all staff in school are able to provide for each individual child
- A broad and varied extra-curricular programme to offer experiences outside of the classroom to all children
- Individual mentoring and support programmes such as pupil counselling
- Financial support to ensure that children do not miss educational opportunities due to financial hardship i.e. educational visits, residential visits and after school clubs
- Providing in-school support for children with particular educational needs
- Family Learning opportunities to raise aspirations of families and children

The Head Teacher, together with the Designated Governor for Pupil premium, will maintain an ongoing programme of support for socially disadvantaged pupils which will be subject to the oversight of the Local Governing Body.

4. Reporting

It will be the responsibility of the Head Teacher to produce a termly report for the Local CAST Board on:

- The progress made towards narrowing the gap, by year group, for socially disadvantaged pupils
- An outline of the provision that was made during the term since the last meeting
- 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

It will be the responsibility of the Local CAST Board to ensure that governors receive an outline of the school's progress towards 'narrowing the gap' for socially disadvantaged pupils on a termly basis.

The Local CAST Board will consider the information provided in the light of data relating to the progress of the school's socially disadvantaged pupils in conjunction with the school's league tables.

The Local CAST Board of Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Primary School will ensure that there is an annual statement to the parents detailing how the Pupil premium funding has been used to address the issue of 'narrowing the gap' for socially disadvantaged pupils. This will be published on the school website and will show the impact of how the funds have been spent.

5. 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:

- All pupils receive timely intervention and additional support.
- Most pupils will meet their individual targets.
- Parental-pupil-school support is effective.
- An effective whole school approach for identifying, assessing and monitoring pupil progress is in place.
- There is a positive school atmosphere in which pupils' differences are recognised and all are valued as full members of the school community.
- All learners are confident and independent
- Attendance of the group is in line with national averages for all pupils.

6. Appeals

Any appeal in connection with the disposition of the Pupil Premium funding will be dealt with through the Governing Body Appeals Committee.