



Pupil Premium Policy

Background

The Pupil Premium is a relatively new initiative targeting pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds to ensure that they benefit from the same opportunities as pupils from less deprived families. The general aims of the premium are:

- to address the current underlying inequalities
- to enable pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds to have equal opportunities to higher education
- to achieve a measurable advance in the attainment of disadvantaged pupils
- to reduce the attainment gap between pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds and their peers.

Currently pupils who qualify for free school meals (FSM) or who have received FSM in the last six years are eligible for the pupil premium, worth £900 per pupil (financial year 2013-14). Pupils in care (Looked After Children) also receive £900. Pupils of service families receive £300. Schools are responsible for the allocation of the funding to specific projects and interventions.

Vision

We strongly believe in giving children opportunities access higher education and other activities and experiences that they would not otherwise receive. St. Bernadette's School's purpose is to create a stimulating, secure and caring environment that will provide a broad and balanced education of the highest quality for all. We believe that every child is unique and made in the likeness of God. Therefore, it is our responsibility to address the effects of inequality and provide support to those who are disadvantaged. The targeted and strategic use of Pupil Premium will support us in achieving our vision.

Principles

- We ensure that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all of the pupils
- We 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.
- We believe that careful monitoring and tracking allows us to identify and address slow progress.
- We recognise that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for free school meals. We will allocate the Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil or groups of pupils the school has legitimately identified as being socially disadvantaged. A significant proportion of children receiving interventions or projects funded by the Pupil Premium will be made up of learners eligible for FSM.
- Pupil Premium funding will be allocated to every child who is eligible and its aim will be to raise aspiration and expectation. We recognise that not all Pupil Premium children have low attainment but we will endeavour to enrich their experiences and challenge their perceptions of themselves and their potential.

Provision

Loving, serving and growing together with Jesus

The types of provision currently funded by the Pupil Premium include:

- £100 per year to be spent directly by the family. This can be used for any enrichment club, music tuition or towards the cost of breakfast club or after-school club. For 2013-14, Parents will be contacted individually with information about what clubs are available.
- Parents can choose to spend this £100 on a Learning Resource bag. In 2012-13 this resource 'goodie' bag was given to children who had not accessed clubs or child care. It was so successful that we have decided to offer it as an option for 2013-14. It gives children the opportunity to access basic stationary and equipment which will support their learning. For example, dictionary, calculators, phonics games, pens, crayons, etc.
- An after school homework club (Aspire) run by our Learning Mentor and a teacher which allows the children to complete homework with adult support but also aims to inspire and provide enrichment. Enrichment to the curriculum to support writing consists of trips to the theatre or visiting artists/musicians to the club.
- Quality-first teaching with focused teaching groups in mathematics. An additional teacher is available for Years 3 and 4 and two extra teachers across Years 5 and 6.
- High quality phonics teaching in small groups from Foundation through to the end of Year 1 using two higher level teaching assistants.
- Targeted interventions for pupils who may be making slow progress in maths or English.
- Learning Mentors to work directly with Pupil Premium children who have emotional or social well-being barriers to their learning.
- Contribution to the costs of a Family Worker to work with identified families re. attendance and support at home.
- Counselling for identified pupils if required.
- Additional classroom support from teaching assistants with some 1-1 support and interventions if required.
- Additional teaching to small groups in mathematics in Year 6. This may include children who are not Pupil Premium.
- Recognised performance management systems for all support staff to ensure their continued professional development matches the needs of the school, sometimes with specific reference to pupil premium pupils.

Reporting and Evaluation

It will be the responsibility of the Headteacher, or a delegated member of staff, to report to the Governing Body on:

- the progress made towards narrowing the gap, by year group, for socially disadvantaged pupils
- an outline of the provision that was made since the last meeting
- an evaluation of the impact, in terms of the progress made by the pupils in maths and English receiving a particular provision.
- An evaluation of any well-being initiatives using recognised well-being measures
- Any reports from outside agencies or providers where Pupil Premium has been used, e.g. counselling, music tuition etc.

It will be the responsibility of the Chair of Governors to ensure that this information is shared with the full governing body. The Governors of the school 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 information will be published on the school's web site.