

## ST ANSELM'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

### PUPIL PREMIUM POLICY

*Learning and growing together through prayer, belief and love*

This policy was approved by Curriculum Committee of the Governing Body on **8<sup>th</sup> March 2022** and will be reviewed every three years.



#### INTRODUCTION

This policy incorporates the aims and values of our school vision, which is rooted in our belief that every child is unique and that this is reflected in the desire, commitment and aspirations of our school staff to address and overcome socio-economic factors – or any other external factor – which may hinder pupil progress and attainment, and ultimately affect their life chances. At St Anselm's we recognise that not all pupils who are eligible for pupil premium are underachieving, while some pupils may be underachieving and not eligible for pupil premium funding. It is school policy to plan, adapt and prepare for any individual, or group, in which any area of under-performance is evident.

The DFE had given us the freedom to use the Pupil Premium as we see fit, based upon our knowledge of our pupils needs.

**'It is for schools to decide how the Pupil Premium, allocated to schools per FSM pupil, is spent, since they are best placed to assess what additional provision should be made for the individual pupils within their responsibility.'** However, we are accountable for the use of this additional funding and a detailed breakdown of how this funding is used is available on the school's website and is updated annually.'

#### THE PUPIL PREMIUM

The Pupil Premium is additional funding which is allocated to schools on the basis of the number of pupils who have been eligible for free school meals (FSM) at any point over the last six years (known as 'Ever 6 FSM'). The Pupil Premium is aimed at addressing the current underlying inequalities which exist between children from disadvantaged backgrounds and their more affluent peers. The Pupil Premium also provides funding for looked after children, adopted children and the children of service personnel. (Please refer to the Pupil Premium Strategy Statement which is available on the school website.)

#### Purpose of the Pupil Premium Policy

The purpose of this policy is to outline how we will ensure that the Pupil Premium allocated to us has an impact on narrowing the attainment gaps which currently exist between our disadvantaged pupils and their peers. As a school in receipt of Pupil Premium funding, we are accountable to our parents and the school community for how we are using this additional resource to narrow the achievement gaps of our pupils.

#### ELIGIBLE PUPILS

The Pupil Premium funding is allocated to the school based on the number of eligible pupils in Reception class through to Year 6.

Eligible pupils fall into the categories explained below:

### **Ever 6 Free School meals**

Pupils recorded in the most recent January school census who are known to have been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years (as determined by the DfE's latest conditions of grant guidance)

This includes pupils first known to be eligible for free school meals in the most recent January census. It does not include pupils who received universal infant free school meals but would not have otherwise received free lunches.

### **Looked After Children**

Pupils who are in the care of, or provided with accommodation by, a local authority in England or Wales.

### **Post Looked After Children**

Pupils recorded in the most recent January census and alternative provision census who were looked after by an English or Welsh local authority immediately before being adopted, or who left local authority care on a special guardianship order or child arrangements order.

### **Ever 6 Service Children**

- Pupils with a parent serving in the regular armed forces.
- Pupils who have been registered as a 'service child' in the school census at any point in the last 6 years (as determined by the DfE's latest conditions of grant guidance), including those first recorded as such in the most recent January census.
- Pupils in receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence because one of their parents died while serving in the armed forces.

**Pupil Premium Plus** is funding to help improve the attainment and narrow the gaps of looked-after children and previously looked-after children. As with pupil premium it is not a personal budget for individual children.

### **Children who are looked after by the local authority**

For looked-after children, pupil premium plus is managed by each local authority's Virtual School Head for the purpose of supporting their educational attainment. Our Pupil Premium lead (Mrs Wright) will work with Virtual School Heads to ensure that pupil premium plus for looked after children in your school is used to meet the needs identified in their personal education plans. Local authorities are expected to release these payments as soon as possible to schools, but they may choose to retain a portion of it to fund activities that will benefit a group, or all, of the authority's looked-after children.

### **Pupils who were previously looked after by the local authority**

Pupil premium plus for previously looked-after children is managed by the child's school, alongside their pupil premium funding. The designated teacher (**Mrs Kelly-Keegan, Deputy Headteacher**) has a key role in ensuring the specific needs of previously looked-after children are reflected in how the school uses its funding to support these children.

## **HOW WE MAKE DECISIONS REGARDING THE USE OF PUPIL PREMIUM ALLOCATIONS**

In making decisions on the use of the Pupil Premium we will:

- Ensure that Pupil Premium funding allocated to our school is used solely for its intended purpose.
- Use the latest evidence-based research on proven strategies which work to narrow the attainment gaps and adapt these as necessary to meet the needs of our pupils.

- Be transparent in our reporting of how we have used the Pupil Premium, so that our parents, interested stakeholders and Ofsted are fully aware of how this additional resource has been used to make a difference.
- Encourage parents/carers to take up of FSM by working proactively with them in a sensitive and supportive manner and to remove any potential barriers or stigma attached to claiming FSM. In doing so, we also recognise the vital role that parents and carers play in the lives of their children.
- Be mindful of the fact that eligibility and take up of FSM does not equate with pupils being considered to be of 'low ability' because of their social circumstances.
- Ensure there is robust monitoring and evaluation in place to account for the use of the Pupil Premium, by the school and governing body.
- Recognise the fact that FSM pupils are not a homogeneous group and cover a wide range of needs. As such the strategies we use to raise attainment will take these group and individual needs fully into account.
- Use high quality teaching and learning as the preferred way to narrow the gaps in attainment in the first instance. We will also use high quality interventions with proven evidence of impact to assist our pupils who need additional support in a time limited way.

**Some examples of how the school may use the grant include, but are not limited to:**

- Providing extra one-to-one or small group support by either a teacher or a TA.
- Employing extra teaching assistants.
- Homework club
- Subsidising educational trips and music lessons
- Subsidising the cost for afterschool care and clubs
- Access to the school counsellor and learning mentor

## **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

We expect all members of our school community, particularly teaching staff and governors to be committed to raising standards and narrowing the attainment gaps for our pupils.

### **The Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team**

The Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team are responsible for:

- Keeping this policy up to date, and ensuring that it is implemented across the school.
- Ensuring that all school staff are aware of their role in raising the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and supporting pupils with parents in the armed forces.
- Planning pupil premium spending and keeping this under constant review, using an evidence-based approach.
- Monitoring the attainment and progress of pupils eligible for the pupil premium to assess the impact of the school's use of the funding.
- Reporting on the impact of pupil premium spending to the governing body on an ongoing basis.
- Publishing the school's pupil premium strategy on the school website each academic year, as required by the DfE.
- Providing relevant training for staff, as necessary, on supporting disadvantaged pupils and raising attainment

The Deputy Headteacher (Mrs Kelly-Keegan) and The Assistant Headteacher (Mrs Marotta) together have responsibility for standards across the school are responsible for implementing this policy and

tracking outcomes. The School Business Manager will monitor the use of Pupil Premium funding on a termly basis to track the allocation and use of the funding and to provide information to the Senior Leadership team to enable evaluation and measurement of the benefits derived from the funding.

#### **Teachers and Support Staff will:**

- Maintain the highest expectations of all pupils and not equate disadvantage of circumstance with 'low ability'.
- Promote an inclusive and collaborative ethos in their classrooms which enable pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds to thrive.
- Plan and deliver the curriculum and lessons to the highest standard and support the acceleration of progress in learning, so that gaps can be narrowed and improvements maintained.
- Support disadvantaged groups of pupils in their class through differentiated planning and teaching, especially for those who find aspects of learning difficult and are in danger of falling behind.
- Keep up to date with teaching strategies and research, which have proven track record in narrowing the gaps in attainment and achievement.

#### **Governing Body**

Our Governing body has an important role in ensuring our school complies with legislation and ensuring that the school is using the Pupil Premium funding appropriately and that this policy, along with its specific stated actions for narrowing the gaps is implemented. The Chair of Governors is responsible for ensuring the implementation of this policy. The governing body will keep under review the work in narrowing the performance and attainment gaps and the benefits of the Pupil Premium provision will be monitored each term. In monitoring and evaluating the work of the school in relation to the Pupil Premium, the governing body will consider a range of information, including quantitative (data on progress and attainment) and qualitative (case studies, views, surveys etc.) data as evidence of impact.

#### **MONITORING**

Our work in relation to the Pupil Premium will be reviewed on a termly basis as part of our ongoing data analysis cycle to ensure it is having the intended impact in narrowing the gaps. This will allow us to adjust if particular strategies are not working well, rather than leaving things to the end of the year. The Pupil Premium Policy will be reviewed on an annual basis and adjustments will be made according to the impact the school is having on narrowing the gaps. Increased funding that becomes available under the Pupil Premium Grant will be considered in the annual review.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the [Pupil Premium Strategy Statement 2021-2022](#).