

St Joseph's College

PUPIL PREMIUM POLICY

THIS POLICY LINKS WITH:

- CURRICULUM POLICY
- EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY
- CHILDREN IN CARE POLICY

Date of Latest Review:	September 2016
Next Review Date:	September 2017
Policy Available for Staff at:	VLE
Policy Available for Parents at:	Website
Headteacher:	Ms M Roberts

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 is a Government initiative that targets extra funding at pupils from deprived backgrounds. Research shows that pupils from deprived backgrounds 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 have deployed a fixed amount of money to schools per pupil, based on the number of pupils registered for Free School meals over a rolling six year period. At St Joseph's College we will be using the indicator of those eligible for free school meals as well as identified vulnerable groups as our target children to 'close the gap' regarding attainment.

The Government is not instructing schools how they should spend this money; it is not ring-fenced and schools 'are free to spend the pupil premium as they see fit' DfE 2011. The Government however is clear that schools will need to employ the strategies that they know will support their pupils to increase their attainment, and 'close the gap'. Schools will be accountable for closing the gap, and there is a planned reform to the school performance tables to include new measures that show the attainment of pupils who receive the pupil premium compared with their peers.

The Pupil Premium also provides funding for children who have been looked after continuously for more than six months or have been adopted from care and also the children of service personnel

Provision

Current levels of funding:

- Yrs 7-11 FSM/Ever6 - £935
- Yrs rec-11 Service / Ever5 - £300
- LAC - Adopted from care - £1900

In order to meet the above requirements, the Governing Body of St Joseph's College will ensure that provision is made which secures the teaching and learning opportunities that meet the needs of all pupils.

As part of the additional provision made for pupils who belong to vulnerable groups, the school will ensure that the needs of socially disadvantaged pupils are adequately assessed and addressed through robust monitoring and intervention systems.

In making provision for socially disadvantaged pupils, St Joseph's College recognises that not all pupils who receive free school meals will be socially disadvantaged. The school also recognises that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for free school meals. The school, therefore, reserves the right to allocate the Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil or groups of pupils the school has identified may benefit.

The range of provision

- Facilitating pupils' access to education.
- Facilitating pupils' access to the curriculum.
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities.
- Alternative support and intervention.

HOW WE WILL MAKE DECISIONS REGARDING THE USE OF THE PUPIL PREMIUM

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.
- 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 close the gaps in attainment in the first instance. We will also use high quality interventions to assist our pupils who need additional support in a time limited way.
- Use the Pupil Premium for all year groups not just those taking examinations at the end of the year.

Reporting

It will be the responsibility of the Deputy Headteacher, Mrs C Slattery to produce a termly report for the Governing Body as an attachment to the Headteacher's Report, to include:

- The progress made towards narrowing the gap, for Pupil Premium students.
- An outline of the provision that was made during the term since the last meeting.
- An evaluation of the effectiveness, in terms of the progress made by the pupils receiving a particular provision.
- The attendance monitoring of the pupil premium cohort in comparison to the rest of the school.

The Governors will ensure that there is an annual statement to parents outlining how the Pupil Premium funding has been used to address the issue of closing the gap for socially disadvantaged pupils. This is available on the school's website.

Success Criteria

The evaluation of this policy is based on:

- The effectiveness in closing of the academic and social gap between pupil premium students and their peers.
- Early intervention and support for Pupil Premium children.
- All Pupil Premium children meeting their individual targets.
- Effective parental, pupil, school support, including effective transition.
- 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.