

St Edmund's RC Primary School Pupil Premium Policy

Mission Statement:

"A learning community, celebrating Christ in all, building a kingdom of love, hope and joy."

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 Christian 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 'socially disadvantaged' is valued, respected, and entitled to develop to his/her full potential, irrespective of need.
- We will continue to ensure that all children across the school receive Quality First Teaching.

Background

The Pupil Premium is a government initiative that targets extra money at pupils from deprived backgrounds. Research shows that pupils from deprived backgrounds underachieve compared to their non-deprived peers. The Pupil Premium grant is provided to support these pupils in reaching their potential. The Government has used pupils entitled to Free School Meals as an indicator for deprivation and deploy 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. Eligibility for the Pupil Premium includes pupils who have been eligible for Free School Meals at any point in the last six years (known as the Ever 6 Free School Meals Measure). At St Edmund's 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 does not instruct schools as to how they should spend the Pupil Premium money; schools 'are free to spend the Pupil Premium as they see fit' DfE (Department for Education) 2011. The Government is, however, 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 are increasingly accountable for closing the gap, and school performance tables show the attainment of pupils who receive the Pupil Premium compared with their peers.

Context

When making decisions about using Pupil Premium funding it is important to consider the individual children and the challenges they face. Common barriers for children from deprived backgrounds can include factors such as: weak language and communication skills, lack of confidence, less support at home, and attendance and punctuality issues. There may also be complex family situations that prevent children from flourishing. The challenges are varied and there is no "one size fits all."

Success Criteria

The evaluation of this policy is based on how the school can close the gap between socially disadvantaged pupils and their peers. Targets are identified and included in the three-year Pupil Premium Strategy which is published on the school website and evaluated annually.

The success criteria for our Pupil Premium Policy are:

- That the progress of Pupil Premium Pupils matches or is higher than the national average.
- That the attainment of Pupil Premium Pupils matches or is higher than the national average.
- That the progress of Pupil Premium Pupils is equal to non-Pupil Premium Pupils at St Edmund's in all year groups.
- That the attainment of Pupil Premium Pupils is equal to non-Pupil Premium Pupils at St Edmund's in all year groups.
- That attendance and punctuality for Pupil Premium Pupils is equal to non-Pupil Premium Pupils at St Edmund's in all year groups.

Provision

The Governing Body of St Edmund's School 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 Governors of the school will ensure that the needs of socially disadvantaged pupils are assessed and addressed through termly pupil progress meetings. In making provision for Pupil Premium Pupils, the Governors of the school recognise that not all pupils who receive free school meals will be socially disadvantaged.

The Range of Provision

The range of provision varies from year to year according to the needs of individual children. It may include:

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

In particular:

- Small group support and individual support from a range of staff.
- Support the funding of enrichment activities and educational visits.

Further details of provision provided each year, and the impact of this provision is provided in the Pupil Premium Strategy which is available on the school website.

Reporting

It will be the responsibility of the Head teacher, to report to the Governing Body about:

- The progress made towards narrowing the gap, by year group, for Pupil Premium Pupils.
- An outline of the provision that is being provided
- 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.

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 which will be published on the school website in the form of the Pupil Premium Strategy. This task will be carried out within the requirements published by the Department for Education.

The active involvement of Governors

- Governors will be fully involved in deciding on the way in which the Pupil Premium funding will be best allocated to close the gaps in attainment between Pupil Premium Pupils and Non-Pupil Premium Pupils.
- Governors require a clear policy to be written about the Pupil Premium and will contribute to its content.
- Governors are committed to ensuring that every pupil irrespective of starting point or background, achieve their potential, and they will use this principle to drive every discussion about the Pupil Premium.
- Governors ask challenging questions about how effective each action funded by the Pupil Premium is in improving achievement. Governors will tell parents via the Pupil Premium Strategy on the school website what the Pupil Premium is being spent on, and how well this is working.
- Governors have a named Teaching and Learning governor responsible for Pupil Premium, Fiona Rooney.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The policy will be monitored and reviewed in line with our policy review procedure.

Policy written **September 2015**

Policy reviewed: **January 2019**

Policy reviewed: **March 2022**

Next review date: **March 2025**