

Highfield St Matthew's CE Primary School



*As Jesus tells us, 'Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven'
(Matthew 5:13).*

Pupil Premium Policy

September 2020

Agreed by Local Governing Body: 17/1/20

Our School Vision

'Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven' (Matthew 5:13). Our vision inspires and challenges the community we serve to achieve excellence in all they do, and to learn about life in all its fullness, within a welcoming Christian family.

School Aims – How we will Let Our Light Shine

- Every child feels valued, safe and cared for, and makes a positive contribution to their own development and the life of the school, with Christ at its centre
- Our bespoke SHINE curriculum, based on excellence and high expectations, provides rich experiences which motivates, challenges, develops resilience and meets the needs of all children
- Every child achieves their potential and develops their talents and creativity, preparing them for a role in a global society with a lifelong love for learning
- Children & families develop understanding of a faith and Christian values that can guide their lives; knowing Jesus, and putting into action what they are coming to believe and value
- The whole school family flourishes and serves the local Church and community

Aims

This policy aims to:

- Provide background information about the pupil premium grant so that all members of the school community understand its purpose and which pupils are eligible
- Set out how the school will make decisions on pupil premium spending
- Summarise the roles and responsibilities of those involved in managing the pupil premium in school

2. Purpose of the grant

The pupil premium grant is additional funding allocated to publicly funded schools to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and support pupils with parents in the armed forces.

The school will use the grant to support these groups, which comprise of pupils with a range of different abilities, to narrow any achievement gaps between them and their peers.

We also recognise that not all pupils eligible for pupil premium funding will have lower attainment than their peers. In such cases, the grant will be used to help improve pupils' progress and attainment so that they can reach their full potential.

3. Use of the grant

Disadvantage and vulnerability are barriers to progress that we acknowledge, understand and overcome at St Matthew's. Many of our PP children enter Nursery working below Age Related Expectations. Particular identified areas of need include Communication and Language and Personal, Social and Emotional Development. Amongst our most vulnerable families we see delays in Speech and Language Development and also Social and Communication Difficulties which have potential to negatively impact on learning and behaviour for learning.

Some parents may have a limited personal experience of school and other challenges such as low levels of Literacy or Numeracy. There may be a lack of understanding of the importance of attendance and the need

for parental involvement regarding their child's education. We recognise that this is key to supporting child development. Poor attendance is also a major barrier to learning.

We use a Tiered approach to Pupil Premium spending. This is a key principle in the Education Endowment Foundation's guide to the Pupil Premium. We use evidence based research and resources from this guide to inform our decisions on spending. Tier 1 focuses on Quality First Teaching for all. We recognise that the most effective way to close the attainment gap for disadvantaged children is good teaching. The priority is to ensure that there is an effective teacher in every class. Funding is used to support professional development, training and recruitment of staff. Tier 2 is targeted academic support. We carefully monitor and track interventions to ensure all pupils make progress. Wider non-academic strategies come under Tier 3. We aim to use pupil premium funding to address the most significant non-academic barriers to success in school. Examples of these include attendance, behaviour and social and emotional support for vulnerable children and their families. We publish our Pupil Premium Strategy on the school website. This gives detailed information on the way funding is used to support disadvantaged children.

4. Eligible pupils

The pupil premium is allocated to the school based on the number of eligible pupils between Reception and Year 6. Eligible pupils fall into the categories explained below.

4.1 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.

4.2 Looked after children

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

4.3 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.

4.4 Ever 6 service children

Pupils:

- With a parent serving in the regular armed forces
- 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
- In receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence because one of their parents died while serving in the armed forces

5. Roles and responsibilities

5.1 Headteacher and senior leadership team

The headteacher and 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 and working with virtual school heads where appropriate
- 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 board 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

5.2 Governors and LDST monitoring board

The MAT and governing board is responsible for:

- Holding the headteacher to account for the implementation of this policy
- Ensuring the school is using pupil premium funding appropriately, in line with the rules set out in the conditions of grant
- Monitoring the attainment and progress of pupils eligible for the pupil premium, in conjunction with the headteacher, to assess the impact and effectiveness of the school's use of the funding
- Monitoring whether the school is ensuring value for money in its use of the pupil premium
- Challenging the headteacher to use the pupil premium in the most effective way
- Setting the school's ethos and values around supporting disadvantaged members of the school community

5.3 Other school staff

All school staff are responsible for:

- Implementing this policy on a day-to-day basis
- Setting high expectations for all pupils, including those eligible for the pupil premium
- Identifying pupils whose attainment is not improving in response to interventions funded by the pupil premium, and highlighting these individuals to the senior leadership team
- Sharing insights into effective practice with other school staff

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed termly by the Pupil Premium Lead and the SLT. At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing board.