

St John's Church of England VA Primary School



Pupil Premium Policy

Agreed by FGB

on: May 2025

Review: May 2027

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Sharing joy and hope in the community

When considering matters of Pupil Premium it is important for all the school community to reflect, considering our vision statement, 'Sharing joy and hope in the community'; along with the school values Respect, Compassion, Friendship, Service and Endurance. Through this we will ensure we are guided into good decisions to support all those in the St John's community.

Pupil Premium Policy

The Pupil Premium is an allocation of additional funding given to schools in order to support specific groups of children who are vulnerable to possible underachievement. The intended effect of this funding is to accelerate progress and raise attainment.

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 funding is provided to enable these pupils to be supported to reach their potential.

The Government has used pupils entitled to free school meals (FSM), looked after children and service children as indicators of deprivation and has provided a fixed amount of money for schools per pupil based on the number of pupils registered for FSM over a rolling six-year period. At St John's C of E Primary School, we will be using the indicator of those eligible for FSM, as well as identified vulnerable groups as our target children to 'close the gap' regarding attainment. The amount of Pupil Premium funding a school receives is calculated according to the number of pupils who meet the eligibility criteria set by the government. At St John's C of E Primary School, this is approximately 32% of the children. The school is accountable for using this funding to raise the achievement of the less advantaged children in its community.

Context

When making decisions about using Pupil Premium funding it is important to consider the context of the school and the subsequent challenges faced. Common barriers to learning for disadvantaged children can be less support at home, weak language and communication skills, lack of confidence, more frequent behaviour difficulties 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'.

We will ensure that all teaching staff are involved in the analysis of data and identification of pupils, so that they are fully aware of strengths and weaknesses across the school.

Principles:

- We ensure that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all 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.
- In making provision for socially disadvantaged pupils, we recognise that not all pupils who receive free school meals will be socially disadvantaged.
- We also recognise that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for free school meals. We reserve the right to allocate the Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil or groups of pupils the school has legitimately identified as being socially disadvantaged.
- Pupil Premium funding will be allocated following a needs analysis which will identify priority classes, groups or individuals. Limited funding and resources means that not all children receiving free school meals will be in receipt of pupil premium interventions at one time.

Provision

The range of provision the Governors consider making for this group could include but would not be limited to:

- Reducing class sizes thus improving opportunities for effective teaching and accelerating progress
- Providing small group work with an experienced teacher/teaching assistant focussed on overcoming gaps in learning support.
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities provided through trained LSAs or external agencies.
- All our work through the pupil premium will be aimed at accelerating progress, moving children to at least age-related expectations.
- Pupil premium resources may also be used to target able children on Free School Meals to achieve Age Related Expectations.
- Transition from primary to secondary.
- Additional learning support.
- Support payment for all activities, educational visits and residentials, ensuring children have first-hand experiences to use in their learning in the classroom.
- Support the funding of specialist learning software.

- PE provision.
- Music provision

- Behaviour support

This list is not exhaustive and will change according to the needs and support our socially disadvantaged pupils require.

Reporting

It will be the responsibility of the Headteacher, or a delegated member of staff, to produce regular reports for the Governing Board, which will include:

- 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 cost effectiveness, in terms of the progress made by the pupils receiving a particular provision, when compared with other forms of support.
- 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 task will be carried out within the requirements published by the Department for Education and will appear on our school website.

Governing Board:

Pupil Premium named Governor: Rachael Horan