

Brampton Abbots and Bridstow Church of England Schools

All references to 'the school' implies both Brampton Abbots and Bridstow Primary Schools

Pupil Premium Policy

1. Context

1.1 The Pupil Premium is a Government initiative is allocated to local authorities and schools with pupils on roll that are known to have been eligible for free school meals (FSM) at any time in the last six years. It targets extra money at pupils from deprived backgrounds who, research shows, underachieve compared to their non-deprived peers. The premium is provided in order to support these pupils in reaching their potential. The premium is not 'ring-fenced' but should be spent on ensuring that those pupils in receipt of FSM have the opportunity to achieve at the same level as their peers.

1.2 The Government have 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. This fixed amount of money will increase every year over the course of this current Parliament. We will be using the indicator of those eligible for Free School meals as our target children to 'narrow the gap' regarding attainment.

1.3 The Government are not dictating how schools should spend this money, but are clear that schools will need to employ the strategies that they know will support their pupils to increase their attainment, and 'narrow the gap'. Schools will be accountable for narrowing 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 compare with their peers.

1.4 Schools have the freedom to spend the Premium, which is additional to the underlying schools budget, in a way they think will best support the raising of attainment for the most vulnerable pupils.

2. Specific guidance on the spending of the Pupil Premium

2.1 The DfE says:

The government believes that the pupil premium ... is the best way to address the current underlying inequalities between children eligible for free school meals (FSM) and their peers by ensuring that funding to tackle disadvantage reaches the pupils who need it most.

2.2 Section 1 of the 'Pupil Premium 2017 to 2018: conditions of grant'

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium-conditions-of-grant-2017-to-2018/>

The grant does not have to be completely spent by schools in the financial year beginning 1 April 2017; some or all of it may be carried forward to future financial years.

2.3 Guidance from the DfE states:

...it is for individual schools to decide whether to transfer the grant into a separate account. The money will not be subject to separate auditing procedures.

2.4 If a parent does enquire about how a school used the pupil premium to support children, the first port of call will be the headteacher. A sub-committee of the Governing Body will monitor how the budget will enable the most effective plan for provision. This committee is therefore best placed to explain how and why decisions on spending were made. (The Key, 2013)

3. Principles

3.1 We ensure that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all of the pupils

3.2 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.

3.3 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. At least 70% of any group will be made up of FSM children.

3.5 Pupil premium funding will be allocated following a needs analysis which will identify priority classes, groups or individuals.

4. Provision

4.1 In order to meet the above requirements, the Governing Body will ensure that provision is made which secures the teaching and learning opportunities that meet the needs of all pupils. Our priority is to ensure that **‘every** pupil will achieve their individual potential’ (extract from our Mission Statement).

4.2 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 adequately assessed and addressed through termly pupil progress monitoring.

4.3 In making provision for socially disadvantaged pupils, the Governors of the school recognise that not all pupils who receive free school meals will be socially disadvantaged.

4.4 The Governors also recognise that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for free school meals. The Governors 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.

5. The range of provision

5.1 The Pupil Premium Grant will be used to:

- Facilitate pupils’ access to education
- Facilitate pupils’ access to the curriculum
- Offer additional teaching and learning opportunities

5.2 The SENCOs, in conjunction with the Headteacher, will maintain an on-going programme of support for socially disadvantaged pupils, which will be subject to the oversight of the Governors’ Sub-Committee.

6. Reporting

6.1 It will be the responsibility of the SENCOs, with the support of the headteacher, to report to the Governor's Sub-Committee on:

- The progress made towards narrowing the gap, by year group, for socially disadvantaged pupils.
- An outline of the provision that was made during the term 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.

6.2 Schools must publish information on their websites on how they have spent the pupil premium. This includes information on the funding received for the current academic year, as well as details of how it will be spent. In addition, details on how the previous academic year's allocation was spent must be included.

6.3 The Headteacher and/or the SENCOs, in conjunction with the Curriculum Committee, will report upon the achievement of socially disadvantaged pupils as part of the Headteacher's Termly Report to the full-governing body.

7. Success Criteria

7.1 The evaluation of this policy is based on how quickly the school can 'narrow the gap' between socially disadvantaged pupils and their peers and how current successes in achieving this can be maintained and improved in the future.

7.2 The aims of the Pupil Premium Policy are:

- Early intervention and support for socially disadvantaged children
- The vast majority of socially disadvantaged children will meet their individual targets.
- Effective parental pupil school support.
- Having an effective system for identifying, assessing and monitoring pupils.
- Having a whole-school approach.
- Create a positive school atmosphere in which pupils' differences are recognised and valued as full members of the school community; developing confident and independent learners.

8. Sub Committees responsible for monitoring Pupil Premium

Brampton Abbots School: Curriculum Committee

Bridstow School: Standards and Pupils' Committee

Policy approved by Governing Body on

Signed _____ position

Policy due for review