

Gastrells Community Primary School

Pupil Premium Policy

Adopted June 2018

Review June 2019

To be reviewed by Full Governing Body

OUR SCHOOL

In the financial year 2017/18 we will receive £23,480 pupil premium funding.

The DfE has given us the freedom to use the Pupil Premium as we see fit, based upon our knowledge of our pupil needs.

‘It is for schools to decide how the Pupil Premium, allocated to schools per FSM pupil, is spent, since they are best placed to assess what additional provision should be made for the individual pupils within their responsibility.’

However, we are accountable for the use of this additional funding.

THE PUPIL PREMIUM

The Pupil Premium is additional funding which is allocated to schools on the basis of the number of pupils who have been eligible for free school meals (FSM) at any point over the last six years (known as ‘Ever 6 FSM’). The Pupil Premium is aimed at addressing the current underlying inequalities which exist between children from disadvantaged backgrounds and their more affluent peers.

The Pupil Premium also provides funding for children who have been looked after continuously for more than six months and the children of Service personnel. The Pupil Premium was initially introduced in April 2011 when schools received an additional £488 for each of their pupils eligible for free school meals. Pupil premium is now £1320 per child. Children of Service personnel receive a lower amount of £300. The SPP helps schools to support the unique challenges children with parents in the Armed Forces can often face.

PURPOSE OF THE PUPIL PREMIUM POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to outline how we will ensure that the Pupil Premium allocated to us has an impact on narrowing the attainment gaps which currently exist between our disadvantaged pupils and their peers.

As a school in receipt of Pupil Premium funding, we are accountable to our parents and school community for how we are using this additional resource to narrow the achievement gaps of our pupils. New measures have been included in the performance tables published annually on a national level. They capture the achievement of disadvantaged pupils covered by the Pupil Premium.

We are aware that under The School Information (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012, Schedule 4 there is specified information which has to be published on a school’s website.

Section 9 of this regulation requires schools to publish ‘The amount of the school’s allocation from the Pupil Premium grant in respect of the current academic year; details of how it is intended that the allocation will be spent; details of how the previous academic year’s allocation was spent, and the effect of this expenditure on the educational attainment of those pupils at the school in respect of whom grant funding was allocated’.

Through this policy we shall publish the above information. In meeting this requirement we will observe our continuing responsibilities under GDPR 2018 , so that individuals or groups of individuals, including children funded through the Service Premium cannot be identified.

HOW WE 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. We also recognise that the Direct Schools Grant (DSG) has an element of deprivation funding included in it to address the attainment of our disadvantaged pupils.
- 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.
- encourage take up of FSM by working proactively with our parents and carers in a sensitive and supportive manner and to remove any potential barriers or stigma attached to claiming FSM. In doing so, we also recognise the vital role that parents and carers play in the lives of their children.
- 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 by the school and governing body to account for the use of the Pupil Premium,.
- recognise the fact that FSM pupils are not an 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 narrow the gaps in attainment in the first instance. We will also use high quality interventions with

proven evidence of impact 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.

LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES AND DOCUMENTATION

Although this policy is the key document outlining our approach to narrowing the gaps in attainment and achievement for our disadvantaged pupils, we will, however ensure that information about our responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 for other pupils for whom narrowing the gap remains an issue but are not covered by the Pupil Premium, are also included in key documents such as our school improvement plan, self evaluation review, the school prospectus, school web site and newsletters.

There will also be references to disadvantaged pupils in our other policies, as well as minutes of meetings involving governors, the whole staff, and the senior leadership team and school council.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

We expect all members of our school community, particularly staff and governors to be committed to raising standards and narrowing the attainment gaps for our pupils.

The Head and Senior Leadership Team

The Head and Deputy Head of the Senior Leadership Team are responsible for implementing this policy. They will ensure that all staff are aware of their responsibilities in narrowing the gaps of our pupils. They will also ensure that staff are given appropriate support and relevant professional development opportunities to accelerate pupil's progress and attainment. Through performance management arrangements, they will make sure narrowing the gaps is a priority area of focus for the school.

It will be the responsibility of the Head to include the following information in the Annual Report for Governors at the Standards Committee:

- the progress made towards narrowing the gap, by year group, for disadvantaged pupils
- an outline of the provision that has been made since the last annual report
- 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.

Headteacher has day to day responsibility for coordinating the implementation of this policy and monitoring outcomes.

The school will monitor the use of the Pupil Premium on a yearly basis to track the allocation and use of Pupil Premium funding . They will also check to see that it is providing value for money.

Teaching and Support Staff will:

- maintain the highest expectations of all pupils and not equate disadvantage of circumstance with 'low ability',
- promote an inclusive and collaborative ethos in their classrooms which enable pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds to thrive,
- plan and deliver curricula and lessons to a high standard and support the acceleration of progress in learning, so that gaps can be narrowed and improvements maintained.
- support disadvantaged groups of pupils in their class through differentiated planning and teaching, especially for those who find aspects of learning difficult and are in danger of falling behind,
- keep up to date with teaching strategies and research, which have proven track record in narrowing the gaps in attainment and achievement.

We will provide opportunities for staff to engage in a range of professional development opportunities suited to their particular needs and role. This will support them in implementing successful strategies to accelerate progress of pupils and narrow the gaps.

Governing Body

Our governing body has an important role in ensuring our school complies with legislation and that this policy, along with its specific stated actions for narrowing the gaps is implemented. The Full Governing Body is responsible for ensuring the implementation of this policy. Our standards committee will at least termly (three times a year), keep our work in narrowing the gaps under review so that they can monitor the use of the Pupil Premium. In monitoring and evaluating the work of the school in relation to the Pupil Premium, the governing body will take into account a range of information, including quantitative (data on progress and attainment) and qualitative (case studies, views, surveys etc.) data as evidence of impact.

At the end of the academic year, our Governors will ensure that there is an annual statement on how the Pupil Premium funding has been used to address the issue of narrowing the gaps in our school and the impact this has had. This will be available

on the website. Should parents require specific information they should ask class teachers in the first instance.

MONITORING AND REVIEWING THE POLICY

Our work in relation to the Pupil Premium will be reviewed on a termly basis to ensure it is having the intended impact in narrowing the gaps. This will allow us to make adjustments if particular strategies are not working well, rather than leaving things to the end of the year.

Our Pupil Premium Policy will be reviewed on an annual basis and adjustments will be made to it according to the impact the school is having in narrowing the gaps. It will also take into consideration the increased funding that becomes available under the Pupil Premium Grant.

APPEALS PROCEDURE

Any appeals against this policy can be made through the governor's complaints procedure.