

St Aldhelm's VA Church Primary School



Pupil Premium Policy

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, distinctively 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 considered to be 'socially disadvantaged' is valued, respected and entitled to develop to his/her full potential, irrespective of need.

Background

The pupil premium is a Government initiative that targets extra money at pupils from deprived backgrounds; research has shown these pupils are likely to underachieve compared to their non-deprived peers. The premium is provided in order to support these pupils in reaching their potential.

The Government has used pupils entitled to Free School meals as an indicator for deprivation, and has deployed a fixed amount of money to schools per pupil, based on the number of pupils registered for Free School meals.

The Government does not dictate how schools should spend this money, but is 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 are held accountable for narrowing the gap, and school performance tables include measures that show the attainment of pupils for whom the school receives the pupil premium compared with their peers.

Provision

In order to meet the above requirements, the Governing Body of St. Aldhelm's will ensure that provision is made which secures the teaching and learning opportunities

that meet the needs of all pupils. Our priority, as identified in our School Development plan 2015-2018, is to ensure attainment is raised across the school, and that the gap is narrowed for all identified vulnerable groups, including children who receive free school meals, children with SEND, and higher attainers.

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 evaluated through termly Pupil Progress meetings. 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. 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.

The range of provision

- Facilitating pupils' access to education
- Facilitating pupils access to the curriculum
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities
- Alternative support and intervention, arranged through a pupil's parents, where funds are available after securing the school's own programme

The Headteacher and Senior Leadership team (SLT), which includes the SENCO, will maintain an ongoing programme of support for socially disadvantaged pupils, which will be subject to the oversight of the Governors' Teaching, Learning and School Improvement Committee.

Measuring Impact and Accountability

It will be the responsibility of the Headteacher and SLT, to produce a termly report for the Governor's Teaching, Learning and School Improvement 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.

It will be the responsibility of the main Governing Body to ensure an outline of the school's progress towards 'narrowing the gap' for socially disadvantaged pupils is given to the school's Governors on a termly basis.

The Governing Body will consider the information provided from the Teaching, Learning and School Improvement Committee, showing the comparison between pupils at St. Aldhelm's who are eligible for the pupil premium, pupils at St. Aldhelm's who are not eligible for the Pupil Premium, and pupils nationally.

The Governors of St. Aldhelm's will ensure that there is made available to parents, via the school website, and in line with statutory guidance:

- an annual report on the planned expenditure of the pupil premium grant the school receives, including costings, timescales and intended outcomes/impact
- an annual review of previous year's expenditure, including an evaluation of interventions for efficacy in terms of progress towards narrowing the gap, and improvements in individual pupil outcomes

Success Criteria

The evaluation of the effectiveness of this policy is based on how successfully the school can 'narrow the gap' between socially disadvantaged pupils and their peers. Targets will be identified and evaluated annually and included in the School Development Plan.

The success criteria for 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.
- Creating a positive school atmosphere in which pupils' differences are recognised and valued as full members of the school community;
- developing confident and successful learners.

Any parental request for a variation in the disposition of the pupil premium funding should be made by writing to the Chair of the Governing Body.

This policy was reviewed and updated September 2015.

Agreed by the Teaching, Learning and School Improvement Committee: 30/09/2015

Agreed by the Full Governing Body:

Signed by the Chair:

Date for review: September 2018