

Living and Learning in Spirit and in Truth

# **St Nicholas Catholic Primary School**



**Policy – 7.18  
Pupil Premium Policy  
Reviewed Summer 2022**

## St Nicholas Catholic Primary School

### Pupil Premium Policy

#### **School Mission Statement:**

We believe that our school, underpinned by Christian values, is a wonderful place to grow, with the teachings of Jesus at the very heart of all we say and do. It is an exciting and loving community in which to learn, teach and explore, with high expectations of social and academic excellence. By understanding ourselves, our skills, our talents and one another, we can make a difference to the world now and in the future.

#### **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 Catholic 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, which research shows underachieve compared to their non-deprived peers. Historically, pupils receiving free meals make slower progress and achieve lower results than those children who do not receive free school meals. The premium is provided in order to support these pupils in reaching their potential. Additional money is also allocated to children from service families and to 'looked after' children.

Pupil Premium is allocated to local authorities and schools with pupils on roll that are known to have been eligible for free school meals (FSM) either currently or at any time in the last six years. Schools have the freedom to spend the Pupil Premium Grant, 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.

The targeted and strategic use of pupil premium will support us in achieving our vision. The Government have used pupils entitled to Free School meals as an

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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.

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' and at St Nicholas Catholic Primary School we will be using the indicator of those eligible for pupil premium as our target children to 'narrow the gap' regarding attainment. 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.

### **Principles**

Every child in our school has a right to be supported in their learning and to achieve the best that they are capable of.

- We ensure that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all of 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 pupil premium 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
- 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

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 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.

### **Provision**

In order to meet the above requirements, the Governing Body of St Nicholas Catholic Primary School will ensure that provision is made which secures the teaching and learning opportunities that meet the needs of all pupils.

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 tracking resulting in appropriate intervention or support.

### **The range of provision**

Expectations are high for all pupils. We do not equate deprivation and challenge with low ability. Staff at Priory promote an inclusive and collaborative ethos in their classrooms which enables pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds to thrive.

It is recognised that the biggest impact on pupil progress is quality first teaching and therefore a significant amount of the budget will support this.

All our work through the pupil premium will be aimed at accelerating progress moving children to at least age related expectations. Initially this will be in communication, english and maths. The range of provision the Governors may consider making could include:

- Facilitating pupils' access to education and to the curriculum
- Facilitating pupils' access to residential or extra-curricular activities through lessening or dis-applying any voluntary charges
  - Additional teaching and learning opportunities or interventions provided by the school
  - Alternative support and intervention, arranged through a pupil's parents, where funds are available after securing the school's own programme
- Providing small group work focused on overcoming gaps in learning
- 1-1 support
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities provided through learning mentors, trained TAs or external agencies
  - Pupil premium resources may also be used to target able children to achieve Greater Depth in their learning.

The SENCO and the Headteacher, will maintain an on-going programme of support for pupil premium pupils, which will be subject to the oversight of the Designated Governor for Pupil Premium children and the ESM.

### **Reporting**

It will be the responsibility of the SENCO and the headteacher, to produce a termly report for Governor's on:

- The progress made towards narrowing the gap, by year group, for pupil premium 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 intervention or provision, when compared with other forms of support.

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It will be the responsibility of the Designated Governor for Pupil Premium to ensure an outline of the school's progress towards 'narrowing the gap' for pupil premium pupils is given to the school's Governors on a termly basis.

The governing body will consider the information provided in the light of the data relating to the progress of the school's pupil premium pupils in conjunction with the revised schools' league tables.

The Governors of St Nicholas Catholic Primary School, with the support of the SENCO and the headteacher, will ensure that there is an annual statement to the parents and Plymouth CAST 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 Officer as necessary.

### **Success Criteria**

The evaluation of this policy is based on how quickly the school can 'narrow the gap' between pupil premium pupils and their peers. Targets will be identified and evaluated annually and included in the School Improvement Plan.

The success criteria for the Pupil Premium Policy are:

- Early intervention and support for PP children
- The vast majority of PP 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
- Maintaining a positive school atmosphere in which pupils' differences are recognised and valued and where all children can achieve as full members of the school community; developing into confident and independent learners.

### **Appeals**

Any appeal in connection with the disposition of the pupil premium funding will be dealt with through the Governors' appeals panel.

Signed:

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Head teacher

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Date

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