

William Cassidi Church of England Primary School

Pupil Premium Policy Statement

'Life in all Fullness'
(John 10:10)



As a school, we want to provide children with the very best education. To let them experience life in all its fullness and living with all their heart. Our main core value of love underpins all that we do. Our school is Christ-centred and our core Christian values of love, respect, courage, service and resilience flow through every aspect of school life. It is on this bedrock that we provide an excellent education for the children who attend our school. We want every child to be the very best that they can be and to recognise that they are precious, loved and valued.

Principles:

Every child with his/her individual needs and gifts is a unique gift from God. The Governing Body and all members of staff accept responsibility for 'socially disadvantaged' pupils and are committed to meeting the personal, social, health, economic, citizenship and academic needs within a caring Christian environment. 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.

Pupil Premium:

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. The premium is provided in order to support these pupils in reaching their potential.

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.

The Government do not dictate 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, new measures will show the attainment of pupils who receive the pupil premium compared with their peers.

Provision:

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. The school monitors the progress and attainment of all vulnerable groups within the school and needs are addressed within termly pupil progress meetings.

We recognise that not all pupils who receive free school meals will be socially disadvantaged and that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for free school meals. The allocation of Pupil Premium funding will therefore be used to support any pupil or groups of pupils the school has legitimately identified as being socially disadvantaged.

The Principles of Provision:

Pupil Premium will be utilised to enrich the curriculum; provide targeted support and extended school support so:

- Facilitating children's access to education and the curriculum
- Providing additional teaching and learning opportunities and
- Providing additional support and intervention

Reporting:

It will be the responsibility of the Head Teacher / SENDCO to monitor the progress and attainment of pupil premium and other vulnerable groups. This evaluation will be presented to governors during governing body meetings.

- The progress made towards narrowing the gap, by year group
- An outline of the provision that was made
- 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 will ensure that there is an annual statement to the parents on how the Pupil Premium funding has been used. This will be carried out within the requirements published by the Department for Education. This statement will be available on the school's website.

Success Criteria:

The school aims to 'narrow the gap' between Pupil Premium pupils and their peers. 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.
- 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.

Appeals:

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

Policy approved by the Governing Body: March 2025
Date for review: March 2026