



Saint William's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Pupil Premium Policy

Aims

At Saint William's Catholic Primary School, we have high aspirations and ambitions for our children and we believe that no child should be left behind. We strongly believe that it is not about where you come from but your passion and thirst for knowledge, and your dedication and commitment to learning that make the difference between success and failure, and we are determined to ensure that our children are given every chance to realise their full potential. Pupil premium funding represents a significant proportion of our budget and this policy outlines how we will ensure it is spent to maximum effect.

Background

The pupil premium is a government initiative that targets extra money at pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds. Research shows that pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds underachieve compared to their peers. The premium is provided to enable these pupils to be supported to reach their potential.

The Government has used pupils entitled to free school meals (FSM), looked after children and service children as indicators of deprivation, and have provided a fixed amount of money for schools per pupil based on the number of pupils registered for FSM over a rolling six-year period. This fixed amount of money is expected to increase every year for the course of this current Parliament.

At Saint William's Catholic Primary School, we will be using the indicator of those eligible for FSM as well as identified vulnerable groups as our target children to 'close the gap' regarding attainment.

Context

When making decisions about using pupil premium funding it is important to consider the context of the school and the subsequent challenges faced. Common barriers for FSM children **can be** less support at home, weak language and communication skills, lack of confidence, more frequent behaviour difficulties, and attendance and punctuality issues. There may also be complex family situations that prevent children from flourishing. The challenges are varied and there is no "one size fits all".

Key Principles

By following the key principles below, we believe we can maximise the impact of our pupil premium spending.

Building Belief

We will provide a culture where:

- staff believe in ALL children
- there are “no excuses” made for underperformance
- staff adopt a “solution-focused” approach to overcoming barriers

Analysing Data

We will ensure that:

- All staff are involved in the analysis of data so that they are fully aware of strengths and weaknesses across the school

Identification of Pupils

We will ensure that:

- ALL teaching staff and support staff are involved in the analysis of data and identification of pupils
- ALL staff are aware of who pupil premium and vulnerable children are
- ALL pupil premium children benefit from the funding, not just those who are underperforming
- Underachievement at all levels is targeted (not just lower attaining pupils)
- Children’s individual needs are considered carefully so that we provide support for those children who could be doing “even better if...”

Improving Day to Day Teaching

We will continue to ensure that **all** children across the school receive good teaching, with increasing percentages of outstanding teaching achieved by

- Setting high expectations
- Addressing any within-school variance
- Ensuring consistent implementation of the non-negotiables, e.g. marking and guided reading
- Share good practice within the school and draw on external expertise
- Provide high quality CPD
- Improve assessment through moderation

Individualising support

We will ensure that the additional support we provide is effective by:

- Looking at the individual needs of each child and identifying their barriers to learning
- Ensuring additional support staff and class teachers communicate regularly
- Matching the skills of the support staff to the interventions they provide
- Working with other agencies to bring in additional expertise

- Providing support for parents to develop their own skills
(signposting to available courses)
to support their children's learning within the curriculum
to manage in times of crisis
- Tailoring interventions to the needs of the child
- Recognising and building on children's strengths to further boost confidence

Going the Extra Mile

In our determination to ensure that ALL children succeed we recognise the need for and are committed to providing completely individualised interventions for set periods of time to support children in times of crisis.

Monitoring and Evaluation

We will ensure that:

- A wide range of data is used – achievement data, pupils' work, observations, learning walks, case studies, and staff, parent and pupil voice
- Assessment Data is collected at least termly so that the impact of interventions can be monitored regularly
- Assessments are closely moderated to ensure they are accurate
- Teaching staff and support staff attend and contribute to pupil progress meetings each term and the identification of children is reviewed
- Regular feedback about performance is given to children and parents
- Interventions are adapted or changed if they are not working
- Case studies are used to evaluate the impact of pastoral interventions, such as on attendance and behaviour
- A designated member of the SLT (currently the Headteacher) maintains an overview of pupil premium spending
- A governor is given responsibility for pupil premium

Reporting

When reporting about pupil premium funding we will include:

- objectives for the year
- reasons for decision making
- analysis of data
- nature of support and allocation
- an overview of spending
- a summary of the impact of PPG
- Performance of disadvantaged pupils
- Other evidence of impact e.g. Ofsted, Accreditations

The Governing Body will consider the information provided and will ensure that there is annual information on the school website outlining how the Pupil Premium funding has been used to address the issue of closing the gap for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium. This task will be carried out in line with the requirements published by the Department for Education.

To be reviewed annually

Review date; September 2025

H.Hogarth

Next review date; September 2026