

'Be the best that we can be'

Created/ revised & approved by staff	September 2023
Next review date	September 2024

The Pupil Premium is an allocation of additional funding given to schools in order to support specific groups of children who are vulnerable to possible underachievement. The intended effect of this funding is to accelerate progress and raise attainment.

The Pupil Premium is a government initiative that targets extra money at pupils from deprived backgrounds. Research shows that pupils from deprived backgrounds underachieve compared to their non-deprived peers. The Pupil Premium funding is provided to enable these pupils to be supported to reach their potential.

The Government has used pupils entitled to free school meals (FSM), children who are looked after and service children as indicators of deprivation, and has provided a fixed amount of money for schools per pupil based on the number of pupils registered for FSM over a rolling 6 year period. At Whitkirk Primary, we will be using the indicator of this eligibility for FSM, as well as identified vulnerable groups as our target children to 'close the gap' and 'diminish the difference' regarding attainment. The amount of Pupil Premium funding a school receives is calculated according to the number of pupils who meet the eligibility criteria set by the government. At Whitkirk Primary this is approximately 16% of the children. The school is accountable for using this funding to raise the achievement of the less advantaged children in its community.

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 to learning for disadvantaged children can be less support from home, weak language and communication skills, lack of confidence, more frequent behaviour difficulties and attendance and punctuality issues. There may be also complex family situations that prevent children from flourishing, the challenges are varied and there is no 'one size fits all' solution.

We will ensure that all teaching staff are involved in the analysis of data and identification of pupils, so that they are fully aware of strengths and weaknesses across the school.

Principles

- 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 the needs of socially disadvantaged pupils are adequately assessed and addressed
- In making provision for socially disadvantaged 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. We 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
- Pupil Premium funding will be allocated following a needs analysis which will identify priority classes, groups or individuals.

Provision

The range of provision the Governors consider making for this group could include:

- Reducing class sizes thus improving opportunities for effective teaching and accelerating progress
- Providing small group and 1-1 work with an experienced teacher/HLTA/teaching assistant focused on overcoming gaps in learning
- 1-1 support
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities provided through trained teaching assistants or external agencies
- Targeting more able children to achieve above age related expectations
- Pay for curriculum enhancements such as trips, visits, visitors, residential and first hand experiences
- Funding specialist learning software
- Music provision
- Out of hours clubs to enhance learning or for breakfast
- Provide breakfast and milk to all children every day
- Behaviour support
- Pastoral and family support
- Resources for in and outside of school
- Specific training on programmes such as RWI phonics, Lexia or Dynamo Maths
- Speech and Language support

This list is not exhaustive and will change according to the needs and support our socially disadvantaged pupils require.

Reporting

It will be the responsibility of the headteacher or a delegated staff member to produce regular reports for the Governing Board; these will include:

- The progress made towards closing the gap/diminishing the difference, by year groups for socially disadvantaged pupils
- An outline of the provision that was made 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
- The Governors of the school will ensure their annual statement to parents on how the Pupil Premium funding has been used to address the issue of closing the gap for socially disadvantaged pupils. This task will be carried out within the requirements published by the DfE and will appear on our school website. This will be updated at the beginning of each academic year thus allowing accurate data recording to be shared.