

**St John's C of E Primary School**



**Policy**  
**For**  
**Pupil Premium**

The Pupil Premium is an additional amount of money allocated to schools on a per pupil basis for any child who has been eligible for free school meals at any time during the preceding six years- known as Ever 6. It also applies to Looked After Children and at a reduced rate, to the children of service families.

At St John's we have always had a philosophy of every child matters which is why we spend our pupil premium finding to ensure every child, regardless of their social background has the opportunity to reach their full potential. Pupil premium policy sits at the heart of our whole school policy and therefore responsibility lies with every member of school staff who all fully understand the importance of their role. In addition to this, we have a Pupil Premium Champion in place to help monitor and coordinate effective allocation of funding.

**Some of the roles of the Pupil Premium Champion may be to:**

- Monitor the progress and achievement data of all pupil premium children.
- Work alongside team leaders and the SENDCO to plan additional academic, behaviour, social or emotional support where necessary.
- Track attendance and punctuality data of pupil premium children and intervene where necessary.
- Report regularly to governors on initiatives in school and the impact of these on progress.
- Liaise closely with the named pupil premium governor.
- Monitor the budget to ensure funding is well allocated and focused.
- Advocate for pupil premium children within the school including SLT and governors meetings.
- Manage liaison between school and home where needed.
- Monitor and promote access to extra-curricular activities for pupil premium children.
- Ensure that pupil premium children have full access to school trips and a wide range of experiences in order to enhance their understanding of the curriculum.

The support offered and strategies used by St John's are driven by evidence informed and regularly reviewed. The Education Endowment Foundation Toolkit and other sources have been accessed by all staff and governors in order to influence our use of resources. This research, coupled with knowledge of our pupils and staff influence how our funding is allocated. EEF states that *Evidence-informed teachers and leaders combine findings from research with professional expertise to make decisions.*

Our Pupil Premium approach is a tiered approach as recommended by EEF

**Tier 1: Quality First Teaching**

EEF states that *Good teaching is the most important lever schools have to improve outcomes for disadvantaged pupils. Using the Pupil Premium to improve teaching quality benefits all students and has a particularly positive effect on children eligible for the Pupil Premium.* Consistent, quality first teaching has the biggest impact on the progress and attainment of all

our pupils. All children, including those in receipt of pupil premium funding have a right to this and maintaining outstanding teaching is a high priority for our school. However there may be a need to plan interventions if necessary. There is no requirement for these groups to be entirely made up of pupils in receipt of pupil premium.

### **Professional Development**

It is our aim that all staff have an empathetic understanding of the reasons for pupil premium funding and the way that it is allocated at St John's. Professional development in this area is mostly ongoing through our regular staff meetings. Where additional and relevant training is available it will be attended by key staff and cascaded.

### **Tier 2: Targeted academic support**

The EEF states that *Evidence consistently shows the positive impact that targeted academic support can have, including on those who are not making good progress across the spectrum of achievement. Considering how classroom teachers and teaching assistants can provide targeted academic support, including how to link structured one-to-one or small group intervention to classroom teaching, is likely to be a key component of an effective Pupil Premium strategy.*

At St John's all staff are responsive to the needs of all individual pupils. Targeted academic support is offered in a wide range of subjects to children of all abilities. However, our primary focus is on phonics, reading and maths. These interventions are put in place following analysis of data collection.

### **Reading and Phonics**

Our reading manager alongside our HLTA for reading regularly analyse the data for phonics and reading across school and have a wide menu of interventions and strategies to choose from in order to close gaps when they arise. RWI is our main phonics scheme and these books along with RWI phonics books are used to support quality first teaching for phonics. This is also the scheme we use to deliver one to one or small group phonics interventions.

### **Tier 3: Wider strategies**

#### **Parents**

Research has shown the positive impact of parental involvement on the attainment and progress of pupil premium children. We welcome parental involvement particularly in helping us to understand what barriers their child may be facing. Class teachers are encouraged to engage with parents and help them to understand their next steps. As a minimum this will be through our termly parents' meetings. Class DoJo is our primary tool to communicate with parents in addition to Parentmail and telephone calls alongside face to face conversations at the end of the school day.

#### **Barriers to Learning**

We aim to use funding to remove barriers to learning for pupil premium and all other children. These barriers may be linked to acquisition of basic skills, application to learning, attendance, behaviour, social and emotional needs or health and welfare. The needs of individual children are assessed and a team of professionals who may include our attendance staff, HLTAs, class teachers or senior leaders are put in place to remove these barriers for individual children.

### **Health and Wellbeing**

The physical and mental health of all our children is extremely important to us. We use our pupil premium funding to extend the school fruit and vegetable scheme throughout Key Stage 2 to provide a healthy snack for all children at break time. Our pupil premium funding links closely with our policy for sport and PE. Our sports coach supports and monitors the physical needs of individual children where necessary.

### **Extra-curricular Activities**

Our aim is for all of our pupil premium children to be accessing an extra-curricular club either in or out of school. We recognise the value of clubs in broadening experiences and raising aspiration and supports physical and mental wellbeing. Where a charge is made for a club and this is restrictive to a child attending, the school may contribute part of the cost. The costs allocated will be at the discretion of the Pupil Premium Champion.

### **Educational Visits and Special Experiences**

Our visits/experiences are carefully planned to enhance the curriculum therefore we wish every child to participate. We encourage parents who are finding it difficult to meet the cost of trip to speak to us and arrange a suitable contribution. In some circumstance the school will contribute part of the cost at the discretion of the Pupil Premium Champion and the Head Teacher.

For higher cost residential visits, parents will be supported in applying to Walsall's Fishley Trust for financial assistance.

### **Monitoring and Governance**

The impact of the pupil premium funding will be monitored by a team throughout school including Pupil Premium Champion, assessment lead, reading and phonics lead, subject leaders, governors and Head Teacher. This monitoring may include lesson observations to monitor pupil engagement or questionnaires to gain pupil voice but will also focus on the impact of pupil progress and achievement data. We will use this data to compare our pupil premium children to all other children both within school and against national expectation we will also use this data to plan interventions or to change strategies where necessary.

There is a named link governor for pupil premium: Mrs Jane Clarke. The Pupil Premium Champion will meet with the link governor to ensure that they know how the pupil premium allocated funding is being used by the school. The link governor will be offered relevant training and opportunities to visit the school.

