

# **St Bernard's Primary School**

## **Pupil Premium Policy**



**St Bernard's Primary School**  
**Approved by Governors: Autumn 2013**  
**Review date: Autumn 2014**

## Pupil Premium Funding at St Bernard's Catholic Primary School

### Background

Pupil Premium is an allocation of additional funding provided to schools to support specific groups of children who are vulnerable to underachievement. These include pupils who are entitled to free school meals, those looked after by the local authority and children of armed service personnel. The intended effect of this funding is to accelerate progress and raise attainment of these groups. From 2012-13, it has been expanded to include all children who have been eligible for FSM within the last 6 years.

### 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'.

### Principles

Through our mission and vision, we believe we can maximise the impact of our pupil premium spending to 'close' and 'eradicate' the gap for Pupil Premium children.

#### **At St Bernard's we 'strive for excellence' and provide a culture where:**

- We believe in the unseen potential of **all** children
- **All** staff adopt a 'solution-orientated' approach to overcoming barriers
- **All** staff support children to develop 'growth mindsets' towards lifelong learning

#### **When analysing data and identifying pupils, we ensure that:**

- **All** teaching staff and learning coaches 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 under-performing
- We use research (Such as the Sutton Trust Toolkit) to support us in determining the strategies that will be most effective

### 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 learning coaches and class teachers communicate regularly, maximising the use of Google.

- Matching the skills of the learning coaches to the interventions they provide -
- Working with other agencies to bring in additional expertise
- Providing extensive support for parents (to develop their own skills to support their children's learning within the curriculum)

### **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 half 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 maintains an overview of pupil premium spending (Mr Jevons - Head of School)
- A governor (Mrs Letissier - Chair of governors) is given responsibility for pupil premium

### **Reporting**

When reporting about Pupil Premium funding we will include:

- Information about the context of the school
- An overview of spending
- A summary of the impact of Pupil Premium
  - Performance of disadvantaged pupils (compared to non-pupil premium children)
  - Other evidence of impact e.g. Ofsted, Accreditations
  - Case studies (pastoral support, individualised interventions)
  - Implications for pupil premium spending the following year

The Governing Body will consider the information provided and will ensure that there is an annual statement to the parents 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.

**For more information on the Pupil Premium, please visit:**  
**<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/premium>**