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Pupil Premium Policy

BACKGROUND

Research has shown that students from deprived backgrounds underachieve, on average, in comparison to their peers. The Pupil Premium Grant was introduced in April 2011 as a Government initiative to provide additional funding so that schools can support their disadvantaged students and close the gap between them and their peers in relation to attainment and progress. This funding is allocated to all schools for those students who have been registered for free school meals at any point in the last six years - known as "Ever 6 FSM". Schools also receive funding for all looked after children, adopted children and children with guardians and also for children of service personnel. (Students who fall into these categories will be referred to in this policy as 'disadvantaged').

The Government believes that Headteachers and school leaders should decide how to use the Pupil Premium Grant as they are best placed to assess what provision should be made for those disadvantaged students within their responsibility. Schools are held to account for the spending of this funding by their Governing Body, by OFSTED, through published performance tables and a published annual report for parents.

Rationale and Objectives

All members of staff and Governors accept the responsibility for disadvantaged students and are committed to meeting their academic, social and pastoral needs within a caring environment, ensuring that a disadvantaged background is not a barrier to their attainment. This is an essential, integral part of the development of the whole school community. As with every child in our care, a child who is considered to be 'disadvantaged' is valued, respected and entitled to develop his/her full potential, irrespective of need.

The overall objective of our spending of Pupil Premium funding is to improve the attainment and progress of students eligible for Pupil Premium funding, relative to those students that are not eligible (both in-school and nationally).

National research and government guidelines are used to guide our budget allocation. Our key objectives for the Pupil Premium funding are to:

- increase the percentage of disadvantaged students making at least expected progress.
- increase the percentage of disadvantaged students making better than expected progress.
- increase the percentage of disadvantaged students gaining at least a C grade in Maths and English.
- increase the 'Progress 8' and Attainment 8' scores of disadvantaged students.

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- reduce the gap between the performance of disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged students for the above measures (in-school and nationally).
- reduce barriers to learning such as issues around attendance, emotional well-being, behaviour

ENSURING EFFECTIVE USE OF THE PUPIL PREMIUM AND REPORTING

The Headteacher, together with school leaders and the Governing Body will be responsible for deciding how the Pupil Premium Grant will be spent – in line with Government guidelines - and for monitoring expenditure and impact.

The Pupil Premium Grant will be clearly identified and reported on within the school budget.

The impact of the strategies put into place through Pupil Premium funding will be monitored, and progress and attainment of disadvantaged students tracked throughout their time at school. A report will be published annually on the school website (the Pupil Premium Strategy Statement) to include:

For the current academic year:

- the Pupil Premium allocation
- summary of the main barriers to educational achievement faced by eligible pupils at the school
- details of spending plans to address those barriers and the rationale behind spending decisions
- how the impact will be measured
- date of next review

For the previous academic year:

- How the Pupil Premium allocation was spent
- The impact of the expenditure on eligible and other students

PROVISION

In order to improve outcomes for disadvantaged students and to close the gaps in performance between these students and their peers we use a variety of strategies. The Pupil Premium Grant may be used to support strategies including:

- A whole school focus on outstanding learning and teaching.
- Enhanced staffing in Maths, English and other curriculum areas in order to reduce class size and allow teachers to focus more closely on strategies for improving the progress of disadvantaged students.
- Additional classroom support from teaching assistants with specialist skills in Maths and English.
- Targeted literacy coaching to improve reading ages of students where this remains a barrier to learning.

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- Small group and 1:1 Maths tuition for students where their performance in Maths requires additional support.
- Pastoral support in order to improve attendance, reduce exclusions and ensure the social and emotional well-being of our disadvantaged students.
- Raising aspirations and increasing motivation for disadvantaged students.
- Removing barriers to learning/involvement in the curriculum through educational related financial support eg equipment, resources etc

APPEALS

Any appeal in connection with the disposition of the Pupil Premium funding will be dealt with through the Governors’ Appeals Panel.

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