



Sandbach School Pupil Premium Policy

2016/2017

At Sandbach School, all members of staff and governors accept responsibility for 'socially disadvantaged' pupils and are committed to meeting their pastoral, social and academic needs within a caring environment.

Introduction

The pupil premium is designed to challenge the achievement gap between students from low-income families and their peers. After prior attainment, poverty is the single most important factor in predicting a child's future life chances. Currently, within the UK, the chances of a student eligible for free school meals (FSM) achieving five or more GCSE's at A*-C including English and Maths are less than one third those of a non-FSM student.

The Pupil Premium

The Pupil Premium is additional funding which is allocated to schools on the basis of the number of pupils who have been eligible for free school meals (FSM) at any point over the last six years (known as 'Ever 6 FSM').

The Pupil Premium also provides funding for children who have been looked after continuously for more than six months and the children of service personnel. The school receives funding for each pupil between years 7-11 entitled to the funding. Schools also extra funding for each pupils within or recently left local-authority care because of 1 of the following:

- adoption
- a special guardianship order
- a child arrangements order
- a residence order

Principles governing how the money will be used:

The purpose of this policy is to outline how we will ensure that the Pupil Premium allocated to us has an impact on closing the attainment gap which currently exists between our disadvantaged pupils and their peers.

- We will ensure that the pupil premium grant reaches the groups of students for whom it was intended and that it makes a significant impact on their education and lives.
- The pupil premium grant will be used to provide additional educational support to improve progress and raise the attainment for these students.
- The grant will be used to help to close the gap between achievement of these students and their peers.
- The funding will be used to address any underlying inequalities between students eligible for pupil premium and their peers.
- There will be a transparent reporting process outlining how the pupil premium grant has been used, so that all stakeholders are fully aware of how this additional resource has been used to close the gap.
- A robust monitoring and evaluation will account for the use of the pupil premium grant by the school and governing body.
- We recognise the fact that pupil premium students are not a homogeneous group and there is a wide range of needs. As such, the strategies that are deployed to raise attainment will take these individual needs fully into account.
- High quality interventions with proven evidence of impact will be used to assist our pupils who need additional support in a time limited way.
- The pupil premium grant will be used for all year groups not just those taking examinations at the end of the year.
- Pupils with disabilities and special educational needs can suffer from higher rates of disadvantage. Where this is the case, we shall take these additional needs into account when considering the eligibility for pupil premium funding.

Ensuring effective use of the Pupil Premium funding

It is expected that all members of Sandbach School, particularly teaching colleagues, pastoral staff and governors are committed to raising standards and closing the attainment gaps for our pupils. In making provision for economically disadvantaged students, we recognise that not all students who receive the attached funding will be economically disadvantaged or underachieving. We also recognise that not all students who are economically disadvantaged are registered for the additional funding. We therefore reserve the right to allocate pupil premium funding to support any groups of students of students whom the school has legitimately identified as being economically disadvantaged.

The Senior Leadership Team are responsible for implementing this policy. They will ensure that all staff are aware of their responsibilities in closing the achievement gap. They will also ensure that staff are given appropriate support and relevant professional development opportunities to accelerate pupil's progress and attainment. Through performance management arrangements, they will make sure closing the gap is a priority area of focus for the school.

- The school, through the Senior Leadership Team, will assess what additional provision should be made for individual students
- The school will be accountable for how it has used the additional funding to support the achievement of those students included in the pupil premium measure
- We will track the impact of the strategies put into place to ensure that we can demonstrate the value that has been added to the education of the pupil premium students

The following information will be included in the Headteacher's termly report to Governors:

- the progress made towards closing the gap, by year group, for disadvantaged pupils
- an outline of the provision that has been made since the last annual report
- evaluation of the cost effectiveness, in terms of the progress made by the pupils receiving a particular provision.

Teaching and support staff will:

- maintain the highest expectations of all pupils and not equate disadvantage of circumstance with 'low ability',
- promote an inclusive and collaborative ethos in their classrooms which enable pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds to thrive,
- plan and deliver schemes of work to a high standard and support the acceleration of progress in learning, so that gaps can be closed and improvements maintained
- support disadvantaged groups of pupils in their class through differentiated planning and teaching, especially for those who find aspects of learning difficult and are in danger of falling behind,
- keep up-to-date with teaching strategies and research, which have proven track record in closing the gaps in attainment and achievement

Governing Body

The governors of the school will ensure that there is an annual statement to parents/carers on how the pupil premium grant has been used. These details will be available on the school web site showing a particular focus on how funding has been used to address the issue of closing the gap. This task will fulfil the requirements published by the Department for Education and Ofsted's inspection framework.

Monitoring and Reviewing the Policy

Our work in relation to the Pupil Premium will be reviewed on a termly basis to ensure it is having the intended impact in closing the gaps. This will allow us to make adjustments if particular strategies are not working well, rather than leaving things to the end of the year.

Our Pupil Premium Policy will be reviewed on an annual basis and adjustments will be made to it according to the impact the school is having in closing the gaps. It will also take into consideration the increased funding that becomes available under the Pupil Premium Grant.

We recognise the importance of context and will evaluate new strategies as robustly as possible to ensure that the approaches we are using have the desired effect. In order to do this effectively, we will where relevant, undertake ongoing evaluations of the strategies we are utilising but analysing them using the software provided by Ofsted and the Education Endowment Foundation.

Signed: _____
Headteacher

Date: _____

Signed: _____
Governor

Date: _____