

# GREAT OAKS SCHOOL

## PUPIL PREMIUM POLICY

JANUARY 2018



### Principles

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 special school environment. This is an essential, integral part of the supportive ethos of the whole school community.

As with every child in our care, a child who is considered to be 'socially disadvantaged' is valued, respected and entitled to develop to his/her full potential, irrespective of need.

### Background

The pupil premium is a Government initiative that targets extra money at pupils from deprived backgrounds, which research shows underachieve compared to their non-deprived peers. The premium is provided in order to support these pupils in reaching their potential. It is in addition to any funding the pupil may receive to support their special educational needs.

The Government have used pupils entitled to Free School meals as an indicator for deprivation, and have deployed a fixed amount of money to schools per pupil, based on the number of pupils registered for Free School meals. In addition the school receives pupil premium for pupils who are looked after and those adopted from care. At Great Oaks school we will be using the indicator of those eligible for Free School meals / looked after children as our target children to 'narrow the gap' regarding attainment.

The Government are not dictating how schools should spend this money, but are clear that schools will need to employ the strategies that they know will support their pupils to increase their attainment, and 'narrow the gap'. Schools will be accountable for narrowing the gap, and there is a planned reform to the school performance tables to include new measures that show the attainment of pupils who receive the pupil premium compare with their peers. This expectation applies to special schools where there is a focus on expected rates of progress in comparison to national data sets. (ie through Progression Guidance)

### Provision

In order to meet the above requirements, the Governing Body of Great Oaks School will ensure that provision is made which secures the teaching and learning opportunities that meet the needs of all pupils.

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- 1) 'narrowing the gap' for those pupils not on track to achieve median or Upper quartile progress on progression guidance in Maths and English.
- 2) Improving attendance for Pupils on Pupil Premium
- 3) Enabling all pupils including those eligible for pupil premium to achieve all 13 aims in the Great Oaks Guarantee

As part of the additional provision made for pupils who belong to vulnerable groups, the Governors of the school will ensure that the needs of socially disadvantaged pupils are adequately assessed and addressed through termly assessment weeks, and planned and recorded intervention strategies.

In making provision for socially disadvantaged pupils, the Governors of the school recognise that not all pupils who receive free school meals will be socially disadvantaged and that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for free school meals. The Governors 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 or vulnerable pupils.

### **The range of provision**

- Facilitating pupils' access to education, particularly Maths and English
- Facilitating pupils' access to broader curriculum opportunities
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities
- Personalised learning opportunities
- Additional resources to assist learning at school and home eg ipads, switches

The Deputy Headteacher, in conjunction with the Headteacher, will maintain an ongoing programme of support for socially disadvantaged or vulnerable pupils, which will be monitored by the Governors' Curriculum Committee.

### **Reporting**

It will be the responsibility of the Head or Deputy Head, to produce an annual report for the Curriculum committee on

- The progress made towards narrowing the gap, by year group, for socially disadvantaged pupils. This information will also be published on the website.
- 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.
- A spreadsheet is produced outlining the additional provision made for each individual pupil in receipt of the pupil premium. An anonymised version of this is available for Governors

It will be the responsibility of the curriculum committee to ensure an outline of the school's progress towards 'narrowing the gap' for socially disadvantaged/ vulnerable pupils is given to the school's Governors on a termly basis.

The Governors of Great Oaks School will ensure that there is an annual statement to the parents on how the Pupil Premium funding has been used to address the issue of 'narrowing the gap', for socially disadvantaged pupils. This task will be carried out within the requirements published by the Department for Education.

### **Success Criteria**

The evaluation of this policy is based on how quickly the school can 'narrow the gap' between socially disadvantaged pupils and their peers. Targets will be identified and evaluated annually and included in the School Development Plan.

The success criteria for the Pupil Premium Policy are:

- Early intervention and support for socially disadvantaged children
- The vast majority of socially disadvantaged children will meet their individual targets.
- Effective parental pupil school support.
- Having an effective system for identifying, assessing and monitoring pupils.
- Having a whole-school approach.
- Create a positive school atmosphere in which pupils' differences are recognised and valued as full members of the school community; developing confident and independent learners.

### **Appeals**

Any appeal in connection with the disposition of the pupil premium funding will be dealt with through the Governors' appeals panel.

Policy Approved:                      Governors January 18

Signed and dated:

Policy to be reviewed:              January 2019