

## **S31 Pupil Premium Policy**

**Responsible: The Principal**

**Approved by Access Committee:**

**Next Review:**

**May 2017**

**May 2019**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1**

The Pupil Premium was introduced by the government in April 2011 to provide additional funding aimed at students from deprived backgrounds, or those who were living in circumstances which had the propensity to make them 'disadvantaged.' Research shows that students from these backgrounds underachieve compared to their 'non-disadvantaged' peers.

In particular, the funding was designed to address the academic achievement, and the emotional and social well-being of any student within the following categories:

- Any pupil registered as eligible for free school meals (FSM) at any point in the last 6 years (currently funding of £935 for pupils in year 7 to year 11).

Additional Pupil Premium money is allocated (currently at £1900 for any pupil) who is identified as:

- having left local-authority care as a result of one of the following:
  - adoption
  - a special guardianship order
  - a child arrangements order (previously known as a residence order)
- who has been in local-authority care for 1 day or more
- recorded as both eligible for FSM in the last 6 years and as being looked after (or as having left local-authority care)

For the pupils who attract the £1,900 rate, the virtual school head of the local authority that looks after the pupil will manage the funding.

1.3 The Pupil Premium is additional to main school funding and all schools have the freedom to spend the Premium in a way they think will best support the raising of attainment for the most vulnerable students.

1.4 Students at Key Stage 5 are subject to a separate arrangement, as outlined in the academy's 16-19 Bursary Fund Policy.

### **2. OBJECTIVES**

2.1 The Pupil Premium will be used to provide additional educational support to improve the progress and to raise the standard of achievement for these students. Where appropriate, pastoral support will also be provided to improve the emotional well-being of students

- 2.2 The academy will use the additional funding to address any underlying inequalities between students eligible for Pupil Premium and others. The funding will be used to narrow and close the gap between the achievement of these students and their peers.
- 2.3 The academy will ensure that the additional funding reaches the students who need it most and that it makes a significant impact on their education and lives.

### **3. STRATEGIES TO ENSURE THE BEST USE OF THE PUPIL PREMIUM**

- 3.1 The academy will ensure that there is clear transparency in relation to its use of the Pupil Premium:
- Pupil Premium income will be clearly identifiable within the academy's published budget and the academy will accurately account for how it has used the additional funding to support the achievement of those students covered by the Pupil Premium and the Principal will report to the governing body and parents on how effective the intervention has been in achieving its aims.

- From September 2012, the academy has published online information about how we have used the Pupil Premium and will continue to do this each year. Additionally, this Pupil Premium Policy will be published on the academy website and the academy will also publish details of the amount of money it receives for students eligible for Pupil Premium, a breakdown of each intervention and support the money is utilized for and the impact of the strategies on attainment and achievement.

- 3.2 The academy will ensure that there are clearly defined roles and responsibilities for staff in relation to its use of the Pupil Premium:

#### **3.2.1 The Senior Leadership Team**

- The Principal and Vice Principal: Achievement and Standards are responsible for ensuring that this policy is implemented. Working with other members of the Senior Leadership Team, they will ensure that all staff are aware of their responsibilities in narrowing the gaps between disadvantaged students and their peers. They will also ensure that staff are given appropriate support and relevant professional development to enable them to accelerate students' progress and attainment.
- The academy will continue to work collaboratively with external agencies and Virtual Schools to deliver a high quality Personal Education Plan (PEP) for all our students classified as a Child Looked After. This will be directly overseen by the Vice-Principal: Pastoral Care and Safeguarding or, in his absence, another member of the Level 2 Safeguarding Team.
- The academy will continue to operate a regular Progress Focus Group – attended by key staff - which will plan, track and evaluate the provision for Pupil Premium (and other) students, as well as organising additional interventions where required. This group, chaired by the Vice Principal: Achievement and Standards, will work alongside other members of the Senior Leadership Team and subject leaders to ensure that the academy continues to seek to

further develop strategies and interventions throughout the course of the academic year which can improve the progress and attainment of these students.

### 3.2.2 Teaching and Support Staff

- The academy will continue to highlight the importance of Pupil Premium to all members of our academy community – including providing training and professional development opportunities – and will expect teaching staff and subject leaders to be committed to raising standards and narrowing the gap for all our students, particularly by:
  - Maintaining the highest expectations of all students and recognising that students eligible for Pupil Premium are not a homogenous group and cover a wide range of needs; members of staff should, in particular, not equate disadvantage of circumstance with ‘low ability’;
  - Promoting an inclusive and collaborative ethos in their classrooms which enable students from disadvantaged backgrounds to thrive;
  - Planning and delivering curricula and lessons to the highest standards and support the acceleration of progress in learning, so gaps can be narrowed and improvements maintained;
  - Supporting disadvantaged groups of students in their classes through, where necessary, differentiated planning and teaching, especially for those who find aspects of learning difficult and are in danger of falling behind.

## 4. DISSEMINATING THE POLICY

In addition to the information available on the academy’s website, information about Pupil Premium and this policy will be published in the Staff Handbook and will be part of induction for new staff. The academy will also seek, where appropriate, other opportunities to disseminate information to all our stakeholders about Pupil Premium (eg Principal’s Blog, Parent Forum, Consultation Evenings, newsletters).

### **References**

Academy Improvement Plan (AIP) 2016-17

Department for Education (DFE): Pupil Premium Grant 2016-17: Conditions of grant.



