

ASHTON GATE PRIMARY SCHOOL



PUPIL PREMIUM POLICY

Intent:

At Ashton Gate Primary, we have high aspirations and ambitions for our children and we believe that no child should be left behind. We strongly believe that it is not about where you come from but your passion and thirst for knowledge, and your dedication and commitment to learning that make the difference between success and failure, and we are determined to ensure that our children are given every chance to realise their full potential.

At Ashton Gate Primary 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. As with every child in our care, it is our intention that a child who is considered to be 'socially disadvantaged' is valued, respected and entitled to develop to their full potential, irrespective of need. Our intent is to increase the rates of attainment and progress of those pupils entitled to Pupil Premium to ensure the gap is closing between them and with their peers nationally and locally. We intend to develop social capital by providing enrichment opportunities for Pupil Premium pupils who may otherwise have little or no access to such activity. We will provide behavioural, emotional and social support through a targeted nurture programme for those pupils who will benefit from such support.

Background

The pupil premium is a government initiative that targets extra money at pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds. Research shows that pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds underachieve compared to their non-disadvantaged peers. The pupil premium is provided to enable these pupils to be supported to reach their potential.

The Government has used pupils entitled to free school meals (FSM), looked after children, children adopted from care and service children as indicators of deprivation. It has provided a fixed amount of money for schools per pupil based on the number of pupils registered for FSM over a rolling six year period. At Ashton Gate Primary we will be using the indicator of those eligible for FSM as well as identified vulnerable groups as our target children to 'diminish the difference' regarding opportunity, progress and attainment.

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".

Service Pupil Premium

Service Pupil Premium is additional funding, from the government, provided to schools for supporting pupils with parents serving in the regular armed forces. There are three categories of children that qualify for service premium:

- Children with a parent serving in the regular armed forces
- Children with a parent who has served in the regular armed forces in the last 3 years
- Children with a parent who has died while serving in the regular armed forces and the pupil is in receipt of a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme and the War Pensions Scheme
- one of their parents is in the armed forces of another nation and is stationed in England

Key Principles

By following the key principles below, we believe we can maximise the impact of our pupil premium spending.

Building Belief

We will provide a culture where:

- staff believe in ALL children;
- there are “no excuses” made for underperformance;
- staff adopt a “solution-focused” approach to overcoming barriers;
- staff adopt a “research based” approach to reducing the attainment gap;
- staff support children to develop “growth mind sets” towards learning.

Analysing Data

We will ensure that:

- All staff are involved in the analysis of data so that they are fully aware of strengths and areas for development across the school;
- We use research (such as the Education Endowment Foundation) to support us in determining the strategies that will be most effective.

Identification of Pupils

We will ensure that:

- ALL teaching staff and support staff 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 and service pupil premium children benefit from the funding, not just those who are underperforming;
- Underachievement at all levels is targeted (not just lower attaining pupils);
- Children’s individual needs are considered carefully so that we provide support for those children who could be doing “even better if....”
- We have a Pupil Premium Champion to monitor and support all of the above.

Improving Day to Day Teaching

We will continue to ensure that **all** children across the school receive good teaching, with increasing percentages of outstanding teaching achieved by using our team leaders to:

- Set high expectations;
- Address any within-school variance;
- Ensure consistent implementation of the non-negotiables, e.g. marking and guided reading;
- Share good practice within the school and draw on external expertise;
- Provide high quality CPD;

- Improve assessment a programme of moderation.

Increasing learning time

We will maximise the time children have to “catch up” through:

- Improving attendance and punctuality;
- Providing earlier intervention (KS1 and EYFS).

Individualising support

“There’s no stigma attached to being in an intervention in this school. Everyone needs something, whatever that might be, and so they’re all getting something somewhere.”

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 support staff and class teachers communicate regularly;
- Using team leaders to provide high quality interventions across their phases;
- Matching the skills of the support staff to the interventions they provide;
- Working with third parties to bring in additional expertise, such as:
 - External sports coaching
 - 1:1 Maths Tuition
 - Volunteer readers
- Tailoring interventions to the needs of the child;
- Recognising and building on children’s strengths to further boost confidence.

Going the Extra Mile

In our determination to ensure that ALL children succeed we recognise the need for and are committed to providing completely individualised interventions for set periods of time to support children in times of crisis.

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 termly so that the impact of interventions can be monitored regularly;
- Interventions are closely moderated to ensure they are accurate;
- Teaching 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;
- The Significant Groups lead maintains an overview of pupil premium and service pupil premium spending;

Reporting

When reporting about pupil premium and service pupil premium funding we will include:

- information about the context of the school;
- objectives for the year:
 - reasons for decision making
 - analysis of data
 - use of research
- nature of support and allocation:

- Learning in the curriculum
- Social, emotional and behavioural issues
- Enrichment beyond the curriculum
- Families and community
- an overview of spending
 - Total PPG (pupil premium grant) received
 - Total PPG spent
 - Total PPG remaining
- a summary of the impact of PPG
 - 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

For the purposes of reporting, children eligible for Service Pupil Premium will be included with the Pupil Premium children to maintain anonymity of data.

The Governing Body will consider the information provided and will ensure that there is an annual report to the parents on the school website outlining how the Pupil Premium and the Service Pupil Premium funding has been used to address the issue of closing the gap for eligible pupils. This task will be carried out in line with the requirements published by the Department for Education.

Date: September 2025
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