

## THOMAS A' BECKET INFANT SCHOOL



### PUPIL PREMIUM POLICY

#### **Thomas A'Becket Infant School Pupil Premium statement of intent:**

The Pupil Premium is grant funding and is allocated in addition to the School's Delegated Budget. It is allocated to children from low-income families (who are registered for free school meals or have been within the last 6 years, (Ever 6), children who are Looked After (LAC) children who are adopted and children of parents serving in the Armed Forces (service children). Our aim is to utilise this funding as effectively as possible; to raise attainment, promote social skills, independent learning and foster positive behaviour and attitudes to learning in order to increase and accelerate pupil progress and improve outcomes.

In 2024-25, funding is £1480 for every child who is eligible for Free School Meals (or Ever 6 pupils). A smaller amount is allocated for children of service families (in 2024-25 this is £340).

Funding for Looked-after children (LAC) by the local authority for one day or more is pooled under the stewardship of the West Sussex Virtual School for Looked After Children (VSLAC) and allocations to schools are made termly, based on individual needs identified at Personal Education Plan (PEP) meetings.

Schools will also receive Pupil Premium Plus of £ £2570 for each child recorded on the March 2024 census who was 'looked after' immediately before being adopted on or after 30<sup>th</sup> December 2005 or was placed on a Special Guardianship or Residence Order immediately after being looked after (known as post-CLA). A child will be recorded when a parent or guardian of a child has informed the school that the child has been adopted from care or has left care under a Special Guardianship or Residence Order.

The Government believes that the Pupil Premium is the best way to address the current disadvantage between children eligible for FSM, CLA and post CLA and their peers, through ensuring that funding to tackle disadvantage reaches the pupils who need it most.

It is for the School to decide how the Pupil Premium is spent, since we are best placed to assess what additional provision should be made for the individual pupils in order to increase attainment, 'narrow the gap' between these children and their non-FSM peers and address wider issues. However, the School is to be held accountable for how we have used the additional funding to support pupils eligible for all types of pupil premium.

From September 2012, the information regarding how we are spending our pupil premium and the impact it is having must be published on the School website.

#### **Guiding Principles**

- We will ensure that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all of the pupils.

- We will ensure that appropriate provision is made for pupils who belong to vulnerable groups. This will include ensuring that the needs of socially disadvantaged pupils are adequately assessed and addressed.
- We also recognise that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for free school meals (FSM).
- We reserve the right to allocate some Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil or groups of pupils the school has legitimately identified as being socially disadvantaged.
- Pupil Premium funding will be allocated following a needs analysis, which will identify priority classes, groups or individuals. Limited funding and resources means that not all children eligible for pupil premium will receive interventions at all times. We will endeavour to make sure that intervention and support for each child happens at the right time for them.
- We have considered the research on the impact of interventions and recognise that high quality teaching and effective feedback as well as marking has the greatest impact on narrowing the gap.
- We are constantly striving for excellence in classroom practice to support this.

### **Provision**

- As part of our assessment and monitoring arrangements, all children are tracked every half term to ensure they are making at least expected progress and that we are accelerating progress where possible to meet our challenging targets.
- The needs of socially disadvantaged children are closely and rigorously monitored, alongside the needs of other vulnerable groups. The School has an action plan for narrowing the gap between the attainment of FSM children and their non-FSM peers and published in line with DfE guidelines. This may be by differentiating learning in the classroom, the identification to specific barriers to learning and/or intervention support.
- Regular reviews of progress are carried out with evidence of the impact of our interventions.
- Pupil Premium funding that is received by the School is used in a variety of ways in order to improve pupil attainment and to help overcome barriers to learning. We have utilised strategies from “Narrowing the gap” and the Sutton Trust EEF toolkit, which has been researched and analysed extensively, to inform us of the best ways to use this money. The list of planned interventions is published on our website.

### **Recording and Reporting**

- Pupil Progress meetings focus on sharing information and good practice in order to overcome the children’s barriers to learning and reflect upon the impact of provision that has been used to accelerate learning.
- All our work through Pupil Premium will be aimed at accelerating progress to move children to at least age related expectations (ARE) in Reading, Writing and Maths. We will carefully consider the needs of each child to ensure that there is a balanced approach to the intervention groups that they are attending in one term.
- Initiatives and interventions will be monitored at least every half term to ensure that the best approach for each child is used to accelerate their learning. These initiatives or interventions will fall into 3 categories: attainment and progress; attendance; and behaviour and emotional wellbeing.
- Pupil Premium pupils identified as being more able children will receive provision in line with other more able pupils throughout the school.
- It is the responsibility of all class teachers, curriculum leaders and key members of the leadership team to report on using:
  - the progress made towards narrowing the gap, by year group, for socially disadvantaged pupils and identified groups;
  - an outline of the provision that has been made since the last meeting; and

- 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.
- The Governing Body of the School will ensure that there is an annual statement and a three year projection to 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 and is published on the School website.

### **Appeal**

Any appeals against this policy will be through the Governor's complaints procedure.

Version	Approved By	Date	Review by
1.0	Lucy Doherty Policy Governor	17/10/24	End of September 2025