



# Pupil Premium Policy 2023

## (Supporting the Disadvantaged)

### Our Vision

**We are a Church school and through our distinct Christian values we enrich the lives of our children and create an environment where there is opportunity to "Let Your Light Shine" (Mathew 5:16)**

**Our values are brought to life through our Love of Learning; our Faith; our Respect and our Partnerships.**

**Love of Learning** - We provide an inclusive, meaningful, enjoyable curriculum to inspire and encourage pupils to reach their full potential. We nurture the social and emotional development of all our pupils and teach them how to stay safe and lead healthy lives. We develop their confidence and independence and encourage them to question and reason rationally.

**Faith** - We are proud to be a Church of England School. We promote the values and beliefs of the Christian faith whilst respecting and celebrating the beliefs and cultures of others.

**Respect** - We develop each child's sense of self-worth as well as their sense of responsibility. We encourage children to value diversity and the wonder of creation.

**Partnerships** - We work together with our families, the Church and the local and wider community, valuing their support.

HEADTEACHER: Mr Chris Burman

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS: Mrs Sue Owen

This policy is reviewed two-yearly by the Local Governing Body (LGB).

Policy reviewed by the LGB

November 2023

At Brent Knoll C of E Primary School Academy, we believe that all our children must have an equal entitlement and should have access to all opportunities in order 'to let their light shine', irrespective of their home backgrounds. No child should have their education affected by having to shoulder the issues of their parents and families, whether these issues are economic or social. For this reason, the school intends to make sure that all its practices remove any chance of non-inclusion.

For specific children who are disadvantaged, the school receives funding from the Government to support them: This is known as the Pupil Premium funding. Pupil premium is additional funding, from the government, provided to schools for supporting more pupils from low-income families to ensure they benefit from the same opportunities as all other children. There are three categories of children that qualify for Pupil Premium:

- Children who are eligible for free school meals (FSM) within the last six years.
- Looked after children.
- Armed forces children.

It is for schools to decide how the Pupil Premium is spent, since they are best placed to assess what additional provision should be made for the individual pupils for whom they are responsible. Schools have the freedom to spend the Pupil Premium, which is additional to the underlying school's budget, in a way they think will best support the raising of attainment for the most vulnerable or disadvantaged pupils. At Brent Knoll, we recognise that there are many more children who are disadvantaged than appear in the Pupil Premium register. We therefore wish to support all disadvantaged children, as well as specifically supporting Pupil Premium children.

All our staff and governors accept responsibility for 'socially disadvantaged' pupils and are committed to meeting their pastoral, social and academic needs within a caring environment. The targeted and strategic use of Pupil Premium will support us in achieving our vision.

## **PRINCIPLES**

- We seek to ensure that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all of the pupils.
- We seek to ensure that appropriate provision is made for pupils who belong to vulnerable groups, this includes ensuring that the needs of socially disadvantaged pupils are adequately assessed and addressed.

- In making provision for socially disadvantaged pupils, we recognise that not all pupils who receive free school meals will be socially disadvantaged or struggling academically;
- We also recognise that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged or struggling academically are registered or qualify for free school meals. We reserve the right to allocate the Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil or groups of pupils the School has legitimately identified as being in need of intervention and support;
- Pupil premium funding will be allocated following a needs analysis which will identify priority classes, groups or individuals.

## **PROVISION**

**The range of provision the staff and governors will make for this group will include:**

- Maintaining effective teacher and support-staff to pupil ratios, thus improving opportunities for effective teaching and accelerating progress.
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities provided through trained TAs or external agencies.
- Ensuring all parents are fully informed of what the children are learning so support can be provided at home.
- Providing weekly personal support from a dedicated TA (who can support with learning and maintaining pupil passports), with back up from the head teacher.
- In addition, the School recognises that the wider curriculum supports and enriches children's development in communication, English and maths, and therefore some funding will also be allocated to enable children to participate fully and actively in wider and extra-curricular activities.
- Positive encouragement to attend wraparound (breakfast and after-school) and homework clubs at no cost.
- Ensuring that costs for uniform are kept to the minimum by only requesting a minimum uniform\* and providing regular 'used-uniform' sales, and to reduce the uniform expectation to just one set for the year, with all items - bar the logo'd sweater - being available from multiple stores.
- Ensuring parents have the maximum notice for extra expenditure; that the School provides extra opportunities at the minimum, or no, cost.
- To sign-post parents to Parent Pay, our on-line payment system that allows for payments to be spread over the year.
- To support very good attendance by any suitable means.

- Ensuring no pupil feels obliged to buy basic resources in order to attend lessons or to provide 'extras' such as sweets for birthdays.
- Ensuring no child feels an outsider by providing items, such as school lunches, in the same packaging that other children have.
- To ensure all parents are informed of opportunities in the community, such as use of the public library and holiday sports clubs.

\*Uniform changes to be implemented from Easter 2024 and fully adopted by September 2024

## REPORTING

It will be the responsibility of the Headteacher, or a delegated member of staff, to report to the governors on:

- The progress made towards narrowing the gap, for socially disadvantaged pupils;
- An outline of the provision that was made since the last meeting;
- An evaluation of the cost effectiveness and impact of the provision in terms of the progress made by the pupils receiving a particular provision.

Parents/carers will receive information as to the progress of pupils through parent/carer evening meetings and through reporting of assessment results at the end of the academic year.

Teachers will always be available to meet parents/carers to discuss progress and well-being.

The governors of the School will ensure that there is an annual statement to parents/carers 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 will appear on our School website.

End. Chris Burman