



# LEAGRAVE PRIMARY SCHOOL

‘Striving for Excellence, learning for life’

## PUPIL PREMIUM POLICY

**Ratified by Governors**

Date: March 2025

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## **STATUTORY**

We have carefully considered and analysed the impact of this policy on equality and the possible implications for pupils with protected characteristics, as part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations

## **Overarching Principles**

At Leagrave Primary School, all members of staff and governors accept responsibility for those pupils recognised as 'disadvantaged' and are committed to meeting their pastoral, social and academic needs.

Every child who is considered to be 'disadvantaged' is valued, respected and entitled to develop to his/her full potential, irrespective of disadvantage.

All pupils can and will succeed at our school. We passionately believe that education plays a powerful and transformative role in improving life chances. We aim to do what it takes to remove any barriers that stand in the way of pupils achieving an outstanding education. As such, our main purpose is to focus on closing the gaps in achievement and attainment that may exist for different groups of pupils in our school.

## **Background to the Pupil Premium**

Introduced in April 2011, the Pupil Premium is a Government initiative that provides additional funding aimed at pupils from deprived backgrounds. Research shows that pupils from deprived backgrounds significantly underachieve compared to their non-deprived peers. The Pupil Premium is provided in order to support these pupils in reaching their potential by accelerating their progress.

Material deprivation can influence educational outcomes by reducing the educational resources that families can provide and by adversely affecting the home environment. Deprivation is also commonly associated with other factors which can influence children's outcomes: ill health, family stress, low levels of parental education and parental involvement in their children's education, low levels of cultural and social capital, language deprivation and low aspirations.

The Government has used pupils entitled to Free School Meals and those who are looked after as an indicator for deprivation. They have given a fixed amount of money to schools per pupil, based on the number of pupils registered for Free School Meals and who are looked after by the local authority. A premium has also been introduced for children whose parents are currently serving in the armed forces. This service premium is designed to address the emotional and social well-being of these pupils. There is a wide gap between the attainment of pupils from deprived backgrounds and others at all educational stages.

## **Overall Objectives:**

The purpose of this policy is to outline how we will ensure that the Pupil Premium allocated to Leagrave Primary School has an impact on narrowing the attainment gaps which currently exist between our disadvantaged children and their peers.

- Our school will ensure that the Pupil Premium funding reaches the groups of pupils for whom it was intended and that it makes a significant impact on their education and lives.
- The Pupil Premium will be used to provide additional educational support to improve the progress and raise the achievement for these pupils.
- The funding will be used to narrow and close the gap between the achievement of these pupils and their peers.

- The school will use the additional funding to address any underlying inequalities between children eligible for Pupil Premium and others.

### **Key Principles**

- Expectations are high for all pupils. We do not equate deprivation and challenge with low ability.
- Not all pupils who qualify for Free School Meals are socially disadvantaged and not all socially disadvantaged pupils qualify or are registered for Free School Meals. We therefore focus on the needs and levels of progress of all pupils.
- All teaching and learning strategies are designed to meet the needs of individuals and groups. Additional support is integrated into the teaching programme.
- Research, trialling and self-evaluation are used in order to allocate the funding to activities that are most likely to have an impact on achievement.
- In providing support we will not socially isolate pupils. Therefore, it is highly likely that all groups receiving additional support will be a mix of Free School Meals and non-Free School Meals pupils.

### **How we will ensure effective use of the Pupil Premium**

- The Pupil Premium will be clearly identifiable within the budget.
- The Headteacher in consultation with the governors and staff will decide how the Pupil Premium is spent for the benefit of the entitled pupils. Funding will be allocated following a needs analysis which will identify priority groups or individuals.
- In making provision for socially disadvantaged pupils, we recognise that not all pupils who receive free school meals will be socially disadvantaged or underachieving. We also recognise that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for free school meals. We therefore reserve the right to allocate the Pupil Premium funding to support any groups of pupils the school has legitimately identified as being socially disadvantaged.
- The school will assess what additional provision should be made for the individual pupils.
- The school will be accountable for how it has used the additional funding to support the achievement of those pupils covered by the Pupil Premium.
- The Headteacher/SLT will report to the Governing Body and parents on how effective the intervention has been in achieving its aims, including publishing online information about how the Premium has been used.
- We will track the impact of the strategies put into place through the funding to ensure that we can show the value that has been added to the education of the entitled children.

- We will monitor evaluate and review the success of the impact of the pupil premium funding.

### **Provision**

We will regularly seek to further develop strategies and interventions which can improve the progress and attainment of these pupils. Examples of the range of provision we may put in place include:

- Providing small group or 1:1 support with an experienced member of staff to focus on overcoming barriers to learning.
- Facilitating pupil's access to education and the curriculum through additional or specialist resources e.g. specialist software or updated resources.
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities provided through extended day, learning mentors, trained TAs or external agencies.

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

We expect all members of our school community, particularly staff and governors to be committed to raising standards and narrowing the attainment gaps for our pupils.

### **The Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team**

The Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team are responsible for implementing this policy. They will ensure that all staff are aware of their responsibilities in narrowing the gaps of our pupils. They will also ensure that staff are given appropriate support and relevant professional development opportunities to accelerate pupil's progress and attainment. Through performance management arrangements, they will make sure narrowing the gaps is a priority area of focus for the school.

The Governing Body will appoint a named governor to ensure this policy is adhered to by effective monitoring and evaluation

### **Reporting Outcomes**

It will be the responsibility of the Headteacher/SLT to produce a report for the Governing Body that will include:

- The progress made towards closing the gap for disadvantaged pupils.
- An outline of the provision made during the term since the last report.
- 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 governors will ensure that there is an annual statement to parents outlining how the Pupil Premium funding has been used to address the issue of closing the gap for socially disadvantaged pupils.

### **Appeal**

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