

## **The Pupil Premium at St John's CE (VC) Primary School**

Introduced in 2011, the pupil premium is a sum of money given to schools each year by the Government to support your child's education. At St John's we use this extra funding to provide pupils with fair and equal opportunities so that they achieve well in all areas of the school.

***As the community of St John's we aim to create excellence through providing opportunities for individuals to fulfil their educational, spiritual, emotional, social and moral potential, as we continually nurture all at St John's as children of God.***

### **How we use Pupil Premium Funds at St John's:**

Schools can choose how to spend their pupil premium money, as they are best placed to identify what would be of most benefit to the children who are eligible. Here at St John's, we are passionate about the educational and personal development of your child. Pupil Premium funds are used to help the pupils in a lot of ways including academic and non-academic areas. A financial plan lists the different ways in which funds are allocated to support education. These include:

- Funding to help academic progress. This includes: Extra one-to-one or smallgroup support for children within the classroom, employing extra teaching assistants to work with classes and help with pupil progress alongside the firstclass teaching in school. Running interventions sessions, for example for children who need extra help with Maths or English.
- Funding to help with the delivery of literacy and numeracy skills of Pupil Premium pupils in our school.

- Funding with books and stationery, where needed, so that the individual needs of our pupils are met.
- Funding for school educational visits and retreats. This will make sure that pupils have access to opportunities to help their educational and personal development.
- Funding for music lessons and funding to provide extra tuition for able children. This also helps pupils to aspire to fulfil their potential to use their God-given gifts and talents.
- Funding of enrichment opportunities for Pupil Premium pupils. This includes sporting and theatrical events, art experiences and musical opportunities.
- Funding of training and support for teachers so that they can provide outstanding teaching and learning for your child.
- Paying for additional help such as speech and language therapy or support from Educational Psychology to meet a child's specific needs.

- Funding English classes for children who speak another language at home.
- Investing in resources that boost children's learning, such as, Third space Learning tutoring, reading sets, Read, Write Inc resources, laptops or tablets.
- Funding for Attendance monitoring; as attendance is strongly linked with academic progress.

*Please note that Pupil Premium Funding is best used on providing best quality teaching and learning. This may also benefit other groups of pupils. (Pupil Premium Myths EEF Guidance, 2019).*

Often, all of the children in a class will reap some benefit from how the school spends its pupil premium: for example, if the money is used to fund an additional teaching assistant who works across the whole class, rather than providing one-to-one support. But research shows that the fund does help to narrow gaps between pupil premium children and their peers, particularly in English and maths.

If your child gets the Pupil Premium then you will receive a letter telling you about further details of how the funding is used. You can find our financial plan for the year ahead is available on the college website with an evaluation of the financial plan from 2020/21. You will also be invited to a meeting in the autumn and spring term where you will have the opportunity of discussing the use of the Pupil Premium funding with the school's pupil premium lead (Mr D Jewitt) and your child's class teacher.

### **Who can get the Pupil Premium Funds?**

The following Pupils can get the pupil premium:

- Children who have qualified for free school meals at any point in the past six years. The school receives £1345 for each of these children.
- Children who *are* or *have* been looked after under local authority care for more than one day. These children are awarded a premium of £2345.
- Children from service families who receive a child pension from the Ministry of Defence.

They are awarded £310.

In March 2018 the Government announced that free school meals would only be available to children in KS2 whose families have a net income of £7400 or under, effective from 1 April 2018.

If your child was previously entitled to free school meals but is no longer, they will still receive pupil premium based on the 'Ever 6' qualification (a pupil who has ever had free school meals in the past six years).

### **Can you influence how the pupil premium is used?**

There is no obligation for your school to consult you about how they use the money they claim for your child, although some schools may involve parents. However, schools do have to show that they are using their pupil premium fund appropriately. This is measured through Ofsted inspections and annual performance tables showing the progress made by children who are eligible for pupil premium. In addition, they have to publish details online, including how much money they have been allocated, how they intend to spend it, how they spent their previous year's allocation and how it made a difference to the attainment of disadvantaged pupils.

### **Can your Child get the Pupil Premium?**

Prior to April 2018, children qualified for free school meals – and accordingly pupil premium

– if you received any of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income-based jobseekers' allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of state pension credit

- Child tax credit, provided that you are not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of £16,190 or less

These benefits have now been rolled into a single benefit, called Universal Credit.

From April 2018, free school meals and pupil premium will only be allocated to pupils with a family income under £7400 (net) per year.

If you wish to register your child as eligible, please contact the school office or Mr D Jewitt Pupil Premium Lead.

Since September 2014, all children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 have qualified for **free school meals**, regardless of their family income, but only the children who would qualify for free meals under the above income-based criteria will receive the pupil premium.

If your child qualifies for free school meals, it's important that you tell their school – even if they take a packed lunch – as this enables them to claim pupil premium. A link to the pupil premium letter is also on the website.