

Name of School	St Edward's Catholic Primary School
Policy review date	September 2025
Date of next review	September 2026
Who reviewed this policy?	Senior Leadership Team

Rationale

Every child with his/her individual needs and gifts is a unique gift from God.

All members of staff, governors and teaching assistants accept responsibility for 'socially disadvantaged' pupils and are committed to meeting their pastoral, social and academic needs within a caring Catholic environment. This is an essential, integral part of the spiritual development of the whole school community.

As with every child in our care, a child who is considered to be 'socially disadvantaged' is valued, respected and entitled to develop to his/her full potential, irrespective of need.

Background

Pupil Premium was introduced in April 2011 and is allocated to pupils who are one of the following: Pupils Looked After, pupils who are currently eligible for Free School Meals, pupils who are within a service family, those pupils who have received Free School Meals in the last six years (Ever 6 children). Since April 2014, Pupil Premium Plus has come into effect whereby children adopted from care, or those children who have left care under Special Guardianship order since December 2005, also now receive funds. We also note that Pupil Premium children are also referred to as 'disadvantaged' pupils in some government documents. In developing this policy, we have taken into account our statutory responsibilities in meeting the requirements of the Equality Act 2010. The Equality Act 2010 requires us as a public organisation to comply with the Public-Sector Equality Duty (PSED) and two specific duties. Further information is available in our school's Equality Statement and Objectives.

The pupil premium is a Government initiative that targets extra money at pupils from deprived backgrounds. Research shows that pupils from deprived backgrounds underachieve compared to their non-deprived peers. The premium is provided in order to support these pupils in reaching their potential.

The Government has used pupils entitled to Free School meals as an indicator for deprivation and have deployed a fixed amount of money to schools per pupil, based on the number of pupils registered for Free School meals over a rolling six year period. This fixed amount of money is expected to increase every year of the course of this current Parliament. At St Edward's, we use the indicator of those eligible for free school meals as well as identified vulnerable groups as our target children to "close the gap" regarding attainment.

The Government has not instructed schools how they should spend this money; it is not ring-fenced and schools 'are free to spend the pupil premium as they see fit' DfE 2011. The Government however is clear that schools will need to employ the strategies that they know will support their pupils to increase their attainment, and "close the gap". Schools will be accountable for closing the gap, and the school performance tables to include measures that show the attainment of pupils who receive the pupil premium compared with their peers.

The take-up of provision within the London Borough of Newham is complicated by the borough-wide free school meals programme, therefore some parents are reluctant to apply for free-school meal funding as they receive free school meals regardless. At St Edward's we have to be proactive in making parents aware of the

need for them to apply for free-school meal funding. Parents' evenings and other opportunities have to be used to make parents aware of the need to apply.

Eligibility for the Pupil Premium for 2012-13 was extended to pupils who have been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last six years (known as the Ever 6 Free School Meals Measure).

Provision

St Edward's has a Pupil Premium Register whereby all children are identified on entry to the school and this clearly demonstrates the areas they fulfil the PP criteria and other vulnerable group data. This register is given to every member of staff, including all learning support staff, to ensure everyone is fully aware of whom their PP children are. No one child is the same and thus this is reflected in the wide variety of ways pupil premium is utilised. The provision provided encompasses both direct approaches to 'diminishing the difference' and other more creative interventions, which subsequently influence academic achievement and very importantly enhance their social and emotional well-being. We believe that pupil premium should be used to impact the wider school, but it is also pertinent that the pupil premium is specifically tailored to meet the needs of individual pupil premium pupils, in addition to and in different ways from our other intervention programmes. Interventions for each pupil are decided on an individual, needs-led basis thus enabling the children to benefit from more than one intervention which are directly matched to their needs.

The Range of Provision

- Facilitating pupils' access to education.
- Preferential access and subsidy to workshops from outside providers and school field trips such as the trip to Rome.
- Facilitating pupils' access to the curriculum through enrichment provision planned into teachers' planning.
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities
- Availability and preferential access to extra-curricular activities, after-school and breakfast clubs.
- Alternative support and intervention for additional need not covered by SEND
- Booster literacy and mathematics provision for Year 6
- Full time reading and mathematics focus groups with TA support in KS1

Teaching and Support Staff

- maintain the highest expectations of all pupils and not equate disadvantage of circumstance with 'low ability',
- promote an inclusive and collaborative ethos in their classrooms which enable pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds to thrive,
 - plan and deliver curricula and lessons to a high standard and support the acceleration of progress in learning, so that gaps can be narrowed, and improvements maintained.
- support disadvantaged groups of pupils in their class through differentiated planning and teaching, especially for those who find aspects of learning difficult and are in danger of falling behind,

- keep up to date with teaching strategies and research, which have proven track record in narrowing the gaps in attainment and achievement.

We will provide opportunities for staff to engage in a range of professional development opportunities suited to their particular needs and role. This will support them in implementing successful strategies to accelerate progress of pupils and narrow the gaps.

Governing Body

St Edward's Governors will be responsible for:

- Ensuring our school complies with legislation and that this policy, along with its other specific stated actions for diminishing the difference s is implemented.
- Review and monitor the use of Pupil Premium Funding, with a discussion termly surrounding the report provided.
- Ensuring an annual report to parents is published on the school website detailing how the Pupil Premium Funding has been used to address the issues of diminishing the difference s in our school and the impact of intervention.

Reporting

It is currently the responsibility of the Pupil Premium Coordinator, to produce a termly report for the Governing Body as an attachment to the Head teacher's Report, to include:

- The progress made towards narrowing the gap, by year group, for Pupil Premium Pupils by analysis of data.
- An annual evaluation of the cost of effectiveness, in terms of the progress made by the pupils receiving a particular provision.
- Ongoing Analysis by class teachers of data to isolate and evaluate progress of Pupil Premium children within their year-group.
- An outline of the provision that was made during the term since the last meeting.
- The Governors has and will ensure that there is an annual statement to the parents outlining how the Pupil Premium funding has been used to address the issue of closing the gap for socially disadvantaged pupils. This task will be carried out within the requirements published by the Department for Education. The annual report of allocated pupil Premium spending will be published on the school website

Success Criteria

The evaluation of this policy is based on how the school can close the gap between socially disadvantaged pupils and their peers.

The success criteria for the Pupil Premium Policy are:

- That the progress of Pupil Premium pupils exceeds the national average.
- That the attainment of Pupil Premium pupils exceeds the national average.
- That the progress of Pupil Premium pupils is equal to non-Pupil Premium pupils at St. Edward's in all year groups.
- That the attainment of Pupil Premium pupils is equal to non-Pupil Premium pupils at St. Edward's in all year groups.