



# Berkswell C of E School

## Pupil Premium Policy – April 2024

### 1. Aims

Berkswell Church of England Primary School is determined and committed to providing all pupils with the best education possible; assisting all to achieve the very best they can. The pupil premium grant is used strategically to support targeted pupils to achieve this aim in a number of ways:

- Assuring quality first teaching for all pupils
- High quality professional development for staff
- Targeted support for pupils who require a more personalised curriculum or intervention to access learning
- Group, individual mentoring and support sessions by our Community and Family Mentor
- Ensuring pupils are not disadvantaged from engaging with learning opportunities off site or outside the school day

### 2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the [pupil premium conditions of grant guidance \(2017-18\)](#), published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency. It is also based on guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on [virtual school heads' responsibilities concerning the pupil premium](#), and the [service premium](#).

In addition, this policy refers to the DfE's information on [what maintained schools must publish online](#).

### 3. Eligible pupils

The pupil premium is allocated to the school based on the number of eligible pupils in FS1 – Year 6. Eligible pupils fall into the categories explained below.

#### **Ever 6 free school meals**

Pupils recorded in the most recent January school census who are known to have been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years (as determined by the DfE's latest conditions of grant guidance).

This includes pupils first known to be eligible for free school meals in the most recent January census.

It does not include pupils who received universal infant free school meals but would not have otherwise received free lunches.

#### **Looked after children**

Pupils who are in the care of, or provided with accommodation by, a local authority in England or Wales.

#### **Post-looked after children**

Pupils recorded in the most recent January census and alternative provision census who were looked after by an English or Welsh local authority immediately before being adopted, or who left local authority care on a special guardianship order or child arrangements order.

#### **Ever 6 service children**

Pupils:

- With a parent serving in the regular armed forces
- Who have been registered as a 'service child' in the school census at any point in the last 6 years (as determined by the DfE's latest conditions of grant guidance), including those first recorded as such in the most recent January census
- In receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence because one of their parents died while serving in the armed forces

#### **4. Purpose of the grant**

The pupil premium grant is additional funding allocated to publicly funded schools to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and support pupils with parents in the armed forces. The school will use the grant to support these groups, which comprise pupils with a range of different abilities, to narrow any achievement gaps between them and their peers.

We also recognise that not all pupils eligible for pupil premium funding will have lower attainment than their peers. In such cases, the grant will be used to help improve pupils' progress and attainment so

#### **5. Principles**

At Berkswell Church of England Primary School all teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all pupils. Where necessary our provision will be varied and adapted (funded by pupil premium) to meet the differing needs. Variation of need is determined by analysis of pupil data and tracking, discussion with parents, pupils and staff.

In structuring our provision, funded by pupil premium, we recognise that not all pupils who receive or have previously received free school meals (FSM) will be "socially disadvantaged" or "vulnerable". Furthermore, we also recognise that not all pupils who could be described as "disadvantaged" or "vulnerable" are registered or qualify for free school meals, either at the present or in the past. As a result, whilst always linked to a pupil or a group of pupils receiving pupil premium, additional pupils identified as "disadvantaged" or "vulnerable", may also benefit from variation or adaptation in provision. Therefore, groups funded by the grant may be made up of FSM pupils and non-FSM pupils, where needs are similar, or where meeting their needs helps to create a learning environment conducive to success for all. Pupil premium funding will be allocated following the needs analysis, as described above, by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT).

## **6. Roles and responsibilities**

### **Headteacher and senior leadership team**

The headteacher and senior leadership team are responsible for:

- Keeping this policy up to date, and ensuring that it is implemented across the school
- Ensuring that all school staff are aware of their role in raising the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and supporting pupils with parents in the armed forces
- Planning pupil premium spending and keeping this under constant review, using an evidence-based approach and working with virtual school heads where appropriate
- Monitoring the attainment and progress of pupils eligible for the pupil premium to assess the impact of the school's use of the funding
- Reporting on the impact of pupil premium spending to the governing board on an ongoing basis
- Publishing the school's pupil premium strategy on the school website each academic year, as required by the DfE
- Providing relevant training for staff, as necessary, on supporting disadvantaged pupils and raising attainment

### **Governors**

The governing board is responsible for:

- Holding the headteacher to account for the implementation of this policy
- Ensuring the school is using pupil premium funding appropriately, in line with the rules set out in the conditions of grant
- Monitoring the attainment and progress of pupils eligible for the pupil premium, in conjunction with the headteacher, to assess the impact and effectiveness of the school's use of the funding
- Monitoring whether the school is ensuring value for money in its use of the pupil premium
- Challenging the headteacher to use the pupil premium in the most effective way
- Setting the school's ethos and values around supporting disadvantaged members of the school community

### **Other school staff**

All school staff are responsible for:

- Implementing this policy on a day-to-day basis
- Setting high expectations for all pupils, including those eligible for the pupil premium

### **Virtual school heads**

Virtual school heads are responsible for managing pupil premium funding for children looked after by a local authority, and allocating it to schools. Their responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Identifying the eligible looked after children and informing the local authority
- Making sure methods for allocating and spending ensure that looked after children benefit without delay
- Working with each looked after child's educational setting to put together a personal education plan, agree how pupil premium funding will be spent to meet the need identified in this plan, and ensure the funding is spent in this way
- Demonstrating how pupil premium funding is raising the achievement of looked after children

Virtual school heads are in charge of promoting the educational achievement of all the children looked after by the local authority they work for.

## **7. Provision**

The provision may include:

- Achievement and standards work including additional class based or intervention activities to accelerate progress for targeted groups or individuals, alongside tracking systems to monitor pupil progress.
- Pastoral work with the Family Community Mentor supporting pupils with emotional or socially related issues which inhibit learning, impact on self-esteem or mental health.
- Out of hours and enrichment to ensure that pupils are given the opportunity to develop a range of talents including sport and creativity, also improving self-confidence and motivation for learning.
- Residential learning to enable pupils to develop new skills as well as independence and confidence through access to alternative activities that the school cannot offer on site.
- Support with learning at home.

Though varied in its nature and form, all our work through the use of pupil premium will be aimed towards a common outcome: accelerating progress, ensuring pupils make expected or better than expected progress to enable them to achieve or exceed age related expectations.

## **8. Continuous Professional Development for teachers and support staff**

Pupil premium funding may also be used to provide sustained professional development opportunities for teaching staff. This will be targeted to improve the quality of teaching in relation to specific strategies or approaches that research suggests will disproportionately benefit "vulnerable" pupils.

## 9. Reporting

It will be the responsibility of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to produce regular updates for governors, to ensure that funds have been used appropriately.

- Annual spending plan for pupil premium published on the school website
- Data analysis of pupil progress and attainment
- Case studies, where appropriate as part of SENCO report to governors
- Community and Family Mentor action plans and documentation shared with key staff and SLT
- Annual reporting of provision and impact via the school's website

Next review date April 2026.