

Ewanrigg Junior School

Pupil Premium Policy

Rationale

Ewanrigg Junior School is committed to providing the best possible education for every individual pupil. We have high aspirations and expectations for all of our pupils and we believe that no child should be left behind. This includes making appropriate provision for pupils who belong to vulnerable groups including those who may be socially disadvantaged. Consequently, we are determined to ensure that all of our pupils are given every opportunity to realise their potential.

Background

The Pupil Premium is a government initiative that targets additional funding at pupils from deprived backgrounds because research has shown that such pupils underachieve compared to other pupils. The money is provided to ensure that schools are able to support these pupils in achieving their full potential. The government have used pupils who are entitled to free school meals (FSM) as an indicator of deprivation and they allocate a fixed amount of money per pupil to schools each financial year based upon the number of pupils who have been registered for FSM at any point during the previous six years. An amount of money is also allocated to children who are looked after (LAC) and service children. The government does not dictate how this money should be spent but we are expected to employ strategies that we are confident will 'narrow the gap' in attainment between those pupils which are considered to be deprived and those who are not. We are accountable for this allocation of resources and must demonstrate that pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium achieve well compared to other pupils.

Key Principles

By following these key principles we believe that we can maximise the impact of our Pupil Premium spending:

High expectations

We will provide a culture where staff believe in all children and no excuses are made for underperformance. We will strive to overcome barriers to learning for pupils and give every individual the best possible chance of success.

High Profile

Narrowing gaps in attainment will receive the highest priority in school. We adopt a whole school approach with all staff involved in identifying pupils at risk, pupils in need and the barriers to their learning.

Inclusive Provision

At Ewanrigg Junior School we acknowledge that FSM pupils are not always socially disadvantaged and at risk of underachievement. Likewise, there are many pupils that we would consider to be vulnerable that are not in receipt of FSM and do not receive this additional funding. We will ensure that our provision meets the needs of all of our pupils and will allocate Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil that the school has identified as being socially disadvantaged. We will also use pupil Premium funding to target more able pupils who are in receipt of FSM to ensure that they exceed age related expectations.

High Quality Teaching and Learning

We recognise that the biggest factor in high standards of pupil attainment is high quality teaching and learning. We will continue to ensure that **all** pupils across the school receive at least good teaching with increasing percentages of outstanding teaching achieved each year. We will ensure consistent application of key elements of teaching and learning such as planning, marking and assessment and carry out moderation activities to reinforce this. We give high priority to our appraisal systems for teachers and teaching assistants and ensure that high quality professional development is available to all staff.

Emphasis on Basic Skills

We will concentrate our spending on achieving the highest possible standards in English and mathematics. This may be in the form of direct teaching and intervention or may be indirect through improving attendance, behaviour or access to resources and support.

Increasing Learning Time

We will maximise the time that the children have to narrow the gap by working to improve attendance and punctuality. We also aim to provide any needed intervention as early as possible and to make good use of homework, after school clubs and extra tuition.

Strategies

Identifying Need

All pupils who are in receipt of Pupil Premium or are considered to be socially disadvantaged will be identified in preparation for the beginning of an academic year. Underachievement is targeted at all levels, not just the lower attaining pupils. Pupils will also be consulted and asked how they feel they are progressing and if there are any areas that they feel need additional support. Pupils' individual needs are considered carefully to ensure that they receive support that

is suited to them. Due to this funding being limited, not all pupils who are receiving this funding will be receiving additional provision at one time.

Barriers to Learning

When making decisions regarding the use of Pupil Premium funding it is important that we consider the context of the school and the challenges faced by pupils. We recognise that pupils can experience many barriers to their learning and that these barriers can be long term or of a more short term nature. We believe that it is vital that these barriers are identified and addressed in order for pupils to achieve their maximum potential. Typical barriers experienced by our pupils may include:

- attendance and punctuality issues
- lack of support at home
- weak language and communication skills
- behaviour and emotional difficulties
- low confidence and self-esteem
- lack of resources to support homework

Use of Data

We acknowledge the importance of data and all staff are involved in its analysis so that they are aware of strengths and weaknesses across the school.

- RAISEonline is analysed each Autumn in order to evaluate the performance of FSM pupils. Comparisons are made with non FSM pupils within the school as well as FSM and non FSM pupils nationally. This data is used to set challenging targets for improvement where necessary. These targets are set high, in line with non-FSM pupils rather than other FSM nationally, to ensure that the highest possible standards of attainment are reached.
- Pupil Premium pupils are clearly identified on our school's tracking system and their progress in reading, writing and mathematics is tracked at least termly.
- All pupils are set targets in reading, writing and mathematics at the beginning of each academic year. These are reviewed at the end of each term in light of the results of assessments and adjusted accordingly. Targets can be increased to provide more challenge but are never lowered.
- Every teacher will hold a Pupil Progress Meeting with the head teacher each term to discuss the progress of individual pupils and agree targets and interventions.
- Data is used to monitor progress against annual targets. Pupils who are not making expected progress will be identified to receive specific interventions aimed at accelerating their progress. An intervention plan is produced termly detailing which Pupil Premium pupils are to receive additional support or benefit from some form of provision.

Provision

We recognise that all of our pupils are individuals with varying needs and as such we employ a wide range of strategies aimed at ensuring that they achieve the highest standards of attainment. Our provision includes:

- Nurture group and deployment of a Senior Learning Mentor
- Extra support staff to ensure Wave 1 in class support - target groups for Phonics, maths and English
- Wave 2 small group interventions - Toe by Toe Spelling, Emergent Writing, Springboard Maths, Memory Group, Anger Management, Learning to Get Along, Kidsafe, Risk and Safety Group, Learning Behaviours, Bereavement Support Group, Family Water Confidence Classes,
- Wave 3 individual interventions - Reading Intervention, Structured Reading and Spelling,
- 1:1 tuition for Y6 children to gap knowledge gaps to prepare for SATs for all Levels
- Attendance monitoring and support
- Curriculum enrichment subsidies for one day visits, Life Education Bus, Gold Card Trips, jewellery making classes, theatre in school etc.
- PE kit for every child
- Music tuition - woodwind, guitar and violin
- 1:1 emotional support sessions

A Closing the Gap plan is produced annually detailing our provision for the year. This is reviewed termly in light of the changing needs of pupils and is amended accordingly.

Engaging With Parents

We believe that parents have the potential to impact significantly upon their child's academic attainment in school and we strive to support them in any way that we can. This support may be to develop their own skills in the form of training or support to assist in their child's learning through curriculum workshops. We also work closely with parents to address attendance and punctuality concerns and provide support in times of stress and crisis. We do not provide individual accounts of how this funding is spent for every individual pupil but parents will be aware of the additional provision that their child is receiving. They will have an opportunity to discuss this at their child's termly Pupil Progress Meeting.

Reporting

We will ensure that we comply with guidance on reporting the use of Pupil Premium issued by the Department for Education by publishing the following information on our school website:

- Our Pupil Premium Policy

- Our Pupil Premium Expenditure Report for the previous academic year detailing how the funding was spent and the impact that this had
- Our Closing The Gap Plan detailing plans for expenditure in the existing academic year

The head teacher will provide an annual report to the *Governing* body on how effective provision has been in achieving its objectives.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Members of the Senior Management Team have specific responsibilities in relation to Pupil Premium and will oversee the progress of pupils. Concerns regarding progress will be referred to the head teacher who will explore these further with class teachers during the termly Pupil Progress Meetings and will review existing provision where necessary. The Curriculum and Progress committee of the *Governing* Body will monitor the progress of Pupil Premium pupils. Details of monitoring activities can be found within the annual Closing The Gap plan.