

**PUPIL PREMIUM**

**POLICY**

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**Background**

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

The Government have used students 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 students registered for Free School meals. This fixed amount of money will increase every year of the course of this current Parliament. At Linden Road Academy we will be using the indicator of those eligible for Free School meals as our target children to ‘narrow the attainment gap’.

The Government are not dictating how schools should spend this money, but are clear that schools will need to employ the strategies that they know will support their students to increase their attainment, and ‘narrow the gap’. Schools will be accountable for narrowing the gap, and there is a planned reform to the school performance tables to include new measures that show the attainment of students who receive the pupil premium compare with their peers.

**Provision**

In order to meet the above requirements, the Governing Body of Linden Road Academy will ensure that provision is made which secures the teaching and learning opportunities that meet the needs of all students. Our priority in the academic year 2016-17 will be on ensuring that students from disadvantaged backgrounds continue to make as good progress as their peers.

As part of the additional provision made for students who belong to vulnerable groups, the Governors of the school will ensure that the needs of socially disadvantaged students are adequately assessed and addressed through termly quality of provision meetings.

In making provision for socially disadvantaged students, the Governors of the school recognise that not all students who receive free school meals will be socially disadvantaged.

The Governors also recognise that not all students who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for free school meals. The Governors reserve the right to allocate the Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil of groups of students the school has legitimately identified as being socially disadvantaged.

**The range of provision**

* Facilitating students’ access to education
* Facilitating students access to the curriculum
* Additional teaching and learning opportunities
* Alternative support and intervention, arranged through a pupil’s parents, where funds are available after securing the school’s own programme

The Inclusion co-ordinator, in conjunction with the Principal, will maintain an ongoing programme of support for socially disadvantaged students, which will be subject to the oversight of the Governors’ Curriculum Committee.

**Reporting**

It will be the responsibility of the inclusion co-ordinator, to produce a termly report for the Governor’s Curriculum Committee on:

* The progress made towards ensuring that disadvantaged students do as well as their peers, by year group
* An outline of the provision that was made during the term since the last meeting.
* An evaluation of the cost effectiveness, in terms of the progress made by the students receiving a particular provision, when compared with other forms of support.

It will be the responsibility of the main Governing body to ensure and outline of the school’s progress towards ‘narrowing the gap’ for socially disadvantaged students is given to the school’s Governors on a termly basis.

The governing body will consider the information provided from the Curriculum Committee in the light of the data relating to the progress of the school’s socially disadvantaged students in conjunction with the revised schools’ league tables.

The Governors of Linden Road Academy will ensure that there is an annual statement to the parents on how the Pupil Premium funding has been used. This task will be carried out within the requirements published by the Department for Education,as necessary.

**Success Criteria**

The evaluation of this policy is based on how quickly the school can ‘narrow the gap’ between socially disadvantaged students and their peers. Targets will be identified and evaluated annually and included in the Academy Improvement Plan.

The success criteria for the Pupil Premium Policy are:

* Early intervention and support for socially disadvantaged children.
* The vast majority of socially disadvantaged children will meet their individual targets.
* Effective parental pupil school support.
* Having an effective system for identifying, assessing and monitoring students.
* Having a whole-school approach.
* Create a positive school atmosphere in which students’ differences are recognised and valued as full members of the school community; developing confident and independent learners.

**Appeals**

Any appeal in connection with the disposition of the pupil premium funding will be dealt with through the Governors’ appeals panel.