

# Clipston Endowed VC Primary School



**Be Kind ~ Be Your Best ~ Be Happy**

## **Pupil Premium Policy**

Adopted by the Governing Body: January 2026

Proposed Review: Spring 2027

Signed .....  
Mrs Sarah McElroy: Chair of Governors

## **Clipston Primary School's Vision, Mission, Ethos and Aims**

### **Our Vision**

Every Child Matters to God

### **Our Mission**

Be Kind ~ Be Your Best ~ Be Happy

### **Ethos**

Recognising its historic foundation, Clipston Primary School seeks to serve its community by providing a rounded, connected and coherent education of the highest quality.

We endeavour to preserve and develop our distinct religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England.

The school lives out its Christian virtues – Thankfulness, Kindness, Justice, Love, Forgiveness, Responsibility and Courage – and all those essential human values, which are common to good, kind and tolerant people of all faiths and none, through the experiences it offers to all its pupils.

### **Aims**

The school's aim, through its Christian ethos, is the creation of a safe, happy learning environment, which supports all children on their journey towards becoming:

- Successful engaged learners, who enjoy learning, who are knowledgeable and skilled, and who make progress and achieve their best;
- Confident, articulate individuals who can lead safe, healthy and fulfilling lives in the communities in which they live now and in the future;
- Responsible, happy citizens of the world who have the capacity to make positive contributions to society.

**“Do to others as you would have them do unto you” Luke 6:31**

To achieve these aims, staff and governors will work in partnership with parents, carers and the local community for the benefit of all our pupils.

## **The Pupil Premium Policy**

### **Introduction**

This policy incorporates the aims and values of our school vision, which is rooted in our belief that every child matters and that the desire, commitment and aspirations of our school is to address and overcome socio-economic factors – or any other external factor – which may hinder pupil progress and attainment, and ultimately affect their life chances.

At Clipston, we recognise that not all pupils who are eligible for pupil premium are underachieving, while some pupils may be underachieving and not eligible for pupil premium funding. It is school policy to plan, adapt and prepare for any individual and group where under-performance is evident. The school does not use this policy to displace current strategies to intervene and support its

pupils. Some pupils may be achieving well, but will be entitled to funding to enhance their educational aspirations.

### **Aims**

This policy aims:

- To provide all pupils with fair and equal opportunities to achieve in all areas of the curriculum; using and applying the most effective pedagogy and research, supported by use of additional, delegated funding.
- To work in partnership with families and pupils eligible for pupil premium, in order to support individual progress and achievement.
- To work with external partners and organisations to provide additional support for the social, emotional, health and wellbeing of all pupils with potential barriers to learning and achievement.
- To ensure governors fulfil statutory responsibilities to make effective use of pupil premium funds in order to impact positively on pupils' achievement and attainment.

### **Legislation and guidance**

This policy is based on guidance published by the government e.g. Using Pupil Premium: Guidance for school leaders <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium>

### **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. In addition, Looked After and Previously Looked After children also initiate additional funding to schools.

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 that they can reach their full potential.

### **Use of the grant**

We will publish information on the school's use of the pupil premium on the school website in line with the requirements set out in our funding agreement and the DfE's guidance on what schools should publish online.

Spending decisions will be informed by a range of evidence as outlined in the conditions of the grant. It is recommended that this focusses on high quality teaching, targeted academic support and wider strategies. Scrutiny and identification is crucial in understanding the specific elements of education that our children are finding challenging, rather than performance in whole subjects, and the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) guidance may be used to support this process.

As stated in the Gov.UK Pupil Premium Overview 2024, *the Pupil Premium grant is not a personal budget for individual pupils, and schools do not have to spend pupil premium so that it solely benefits pupils who meet the funding criteria. It can be used:*

- *to support other pupils with identified needs, such as those who have or have had a social*

*worker, or who act as a carer*

- *for whole class interventions which will also benefit non-disadvantaged pupils*

#### **In making decisions on the use of the Pupil Premium we will:**

- Ensure that Pupil Premium funding is used primarily for its intended purpose.
- Use latest evidence based research on proven strategies which work to narrow the attainment gap and adapt these as necessary to meet the needs of our pupils.
- Be transparent in our reporting of how we have used the Pupil Premium, so that our parents, interested stakeholders and OfSTED are fully aware of how this additional resource has been used to make a difference.
- Encourage uptake of Free School Meals (FSM) by working proactively with our parents and carers in a sensitive and supportive manner to remove any stigma or potential barriers attached to claiming FSM. In doing so, we also recognise the vital role that parents and carers play in the lives of their children.
- Be mindful of the fact that eligibility and take up of FSM does not equate with pupils being considered to be of 'low ability' because of their social circumstances.
- Ensure there is regular monitoring and evaluation in place to account for the use of the Pupil Premium, by the school and governing body.
- Recognise the fact that FSM pupils are not an homogeneous group and cover a wide range of needs. As such, the strategies we use to raise attainment will take these group and individual needs fully into account.
- Use high quality teaching and learning as the preferred way to narrow the gaps in attainment in the first instance. We may also use interventions with proven evidence of impact to assist our pupils who need additional support in a time limited way.
- Use the Pupil Premium for all year groups.
- Be mindful that we can use the funding to support other pupils with identified needs such as having a social worker or act as a carer. We know from evidence across the English school system that using Pupil Premium funding to improve teaching quality is the most effective way to improve outcomes for disadvantaged pupils. By doing so, we will inevitably benefit non-eligible pupils as well.

#### **Some examples of how the school may use the grant include, but are not limited to:**

- Providing extra one-to-one or small-group support by either a teacher or TA. This creates smaller class sizes in some lessons for the whole class.
- Employing extra teaching assistants.
- Implementing intervention sessions 1:1 and in small groups e.g. for children who need extra help with maths or literacy.
- Subsidising educational trips and music lessons.
- Supporting children's access to extra-curricular activities e.g. one club session per week.

#### **Eligible pupils**

The pupil premium is allocated to the school based on the number of eligible pupils in Reception to Year 6.

#### **Eligible pupils fall into the categories 1 - 4 explained below:**

##### **1. 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.

## **2. Looked after children**

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

## **3. 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.

## **4. Ever 6 service children**

- Pupils with a parent serving in the regular armed forces.
- Pupils 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.
- Pupils in receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence because one of their parents died while serving in the armed forces.

**Pupil Premium Plus** is funding to help improve the attainment of looked-after children and previously looked-after children. As with pupil premium, it is not a personal budget for individual children.

### **Children who are looked after by the local authority**

For looked-after children, pupil premium plus is managed by each local authority's Virtual School Head for the purpose of supporting their educational attainment.

Our Pupil Premium lead (Mrs Mercer) will work with Virtual School Heads to ensure that pupil premium plus for looked after children at Clipston is used to meet the needs identified in their personal education plans.

Local authorities are expected to release these payments as soon as possible to schools, but they may choose to retain a portion of it to fund activities that will benefit a group, or all, of the authority's looked-after children.

### **Pupils who were previously looked after by the local authority**

Pupil premium plus for previously looked-after children is managed by the child's school, alongside their pupil premium funding. The designated teacher has a key role in ensuring the specific needs of previously looked-after children are reflected in how the school uses its funding to support these children.

### **Roles and responsibilities**

#### **Head Teacher and Bursar**

The Head Teacher is 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 evidencebased 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
- Identifying pupils whose attainment is not improving in response to interventions funded by the pupil premium, and highlighting these individuals to the senior leadership team
- Sharing insights into effective practice with other school staff

### **Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed every two years by the Head Teacher. At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing board.