

Policy for the use of Pupil Premium

September 2020

Version 6.0

What is the Pupil Premium?

It is a sum of money given to the school each year to narrow attainment gaps between pupils from low income families and their peers. It aims to provide significant funding for disadvantaged children to help close the attainment gap.

The Pupil Premium is allocated to the school and is generated by children from low-income families, who are currently known to be eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) in both mainstream and non-mainstream settings, as well as children who have been eligible for FSM at any point during their primary school years. These children are categorised as 'Ever 6' pupils. Additionally, children who have been looked after continuously for more than six months and children with parents on active duty in the armed forces are eligible for pupil premium.

How much is it?

The level of the premium remains at £1345 per pupil for pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM) during 2019-20. It is paid at a higher rate of £2345 for pupils in care who have been continuously looked after for six months. For children who are classed as 'service children' (a child

whose parent is in the armed services or whose parent collects a pension from the Ministry of Defence), it is paid at a rate of £300 per pupil. In 2020/21, we expect to receive approximately £180,000 pupil premium money at Marish and £135,000 at Willow.

The main barriers to educational achievement faced by pupils at our schools are:

Lack of aspiration, poor attendance, lack of access to mental health, social care and well-being support, inadequate nutrition and housing; and for a considerable minority insecurity and unsafe home environments, including some where substance abuse is endemic and transgenerational.

How Pupil Premium is to be spent to address these barriers and the reasons for this approach.

The Pupil Premium has been targeted at pupils from low income homes using known eligibility for FSM as a proxy, since all the evidence and facts make it abundantly clear that poverty is the single most important factor in predicting a child's future life chances. Starting in April 2012, the government widened the coverage of the premium to include those eligible for FSM at any point in the last six years.

The government requires schools, from September 2012, to publish online details of how they have used the premium. This will ensure that parents and others are made fully aware of the attainment of pupils covered by the premium.

The DFE guidance states that Pupil Premium should be spent on the following:

- for the purposes of the school, that is for the educational benefit of pupils registered at that school
- for the benefit of pupils registered at other maintained schools or academies
- on community facilities. For example, services whose provision furthers any charitable purpose for the benefit of pupils at the school or their families, or people who live or work in the locality in which the school is situated.

Until September 2017 our pupil premium was spent exclusively for the educational benefit of pupils registered at our schools. However, from 2017, we have used a small amount of pupil premium monies (£2000 p.a) to fund the set up and maintenance costs of a children's community football club based at the school, Marish Wizards. This means we are, from 2017 onwards, also using the Pupil Premium for purposes listed at bullet points 2 and 3 above.

In 2019 – 2020, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, some of our Pupil Premium money was spent on supporting our disadvantaged families with food.

At Marish Academy Trust, we have a clear strategic plan for our use of Pupil Premium Funding. We first and foremost focus on quality first teaching for all our pupils, including disadvantaged pupils. Our disadvantaged strategy is attached as Appendix 1 to this policy, but our generic principles for its spend are outlined below:

Overarching Principles At Marish and Willow Primary Schools

- We ensure that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all of the pupils;
- We ensure that appropriate provision is made for pupils who belong to vulnerable groups, this includes ensuring that the needs of socially disadvantaged pupils are adequately assessed and addressed;
- In making provision for socially disadvantaged pupils, we recognise that not all pupils who receive Free School Meals will be socially disadvantaged;
- We also recognise that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for Free School Meals. We reserve the right to allocate the Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil or groups of pupils the school has legitimately identified as being socially disadvantaged. At least 70% of any group will be made up of FSM children.

How will the money be used at Marish and Willow?

At both schools we look at how the money is best spent by considering the individual needs of each child. There are a broad range of uses for the money, but when we consider how best it is to be used, **the only criteria is that it must support the school in raising the child's academic achievement so that they are at least in line with their peers.**

The range of provision the Governors may consider making for this group could include:

- Reducing class sizes thus improving opportunities for effective AfL and accelerating progress;
- Providing small group work with an experienced teacher focused on overcoming gaps in learning;
- 1-1 support such as 121 boosters, Reading Recovery etc.
- Additional teaching and learning opportunities provided through learning mentors, trained TAs or external agencies;

- Pupil Premium resources may be used to target able children on FSM to achieve greater depth at KS1 or higher than the expected standard at KS2;
- Pupil Premium funding will be allocated following a needs analysis which will identify priority classes, groups or individuals;
- Provision will be made to ensure children's attendance and well-being at school, because if they do not attend regularly or if they arrive at school hungry, they are unlikely to be able to make the most of their opportunities. So, PP monies may be used to provide free transport to school or free breakfast and after school club places and meals. Money is also used to staff and support our attendance team's work which includes essential home visits in pairs;
- Provision may be used to provide therapeutic support (such as Nurture Group, Play Therapy), as well as to support programs that increase self-esteem and resilience (such as Kids Connect);
- We make provision using Pupil Premium for some children to attend school trips, including residential school journeys and holiday and extra-curricular clubs;
- Occasionally we also provide necessities, such as clothing and shoes, using pupil premium, for families in crisis;
- In the 2020-21 academic year, we will continue to use some pupil premium money to narrow the attainment gap between more able children in receipt of pupil premium in comparison with that of their non pupil-premium peers;
- Also in the 2020/21 academic year, we will use a small amount of Pupil Premium to support our community football club, Marish Wizards

How will Marish Academy Trust measure the impact and effect of its expenditure of the pupil premium allocation

At the end of the academic year, the Governors of Marish Academy Trust will ensure that there is an annual statement to stakeholders posted on the website showing how the Pupil Premium funding has been used and analysing its impact on the issue of 'narrowing the gap', for socially disadvantaged pupils.

It will be the responsibility of the Substantive Headteacher and Executive Headteacher, or a delegated member of staff, to include the following information in the annual data report for the Governors:

The report will include:

- a statement about the progress made towards narrowing the gap, by Key stage, for socially disadvantaged pupils
- an outline of the provision that was made since the last annual report
- An evaluation of the cost effectiveness, in terms of the progress made by the pupils receiving a particular provision, when compared with other forms of support.

| Date and version | Ratified by | Next review due |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| September 2015 1.0 | Strategic Board Oct 2015 | September 2016 |
| September 2016 2.0 | Strategic Board Oct 2016 | September 2017 |
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| September 2019 5.0 | Strategic Board Oct 2019 | September 2020 |
| September 2020 6.0 | Strategic Board Oct 2020 | September 2021 |

Appendix 1 Strategy for disadvantaged (pupil premium and other vulnerable pupils), at Marish Academy Trust

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| <p>At Marish Academy Trust our strategy for Pupil Premium/Disadvantaged is...</p> <p>*Examples at point 4 include: free breakfast and after school clubs; free child-care and holiday clubs; food parcels, laptops and CGP books to enable chn to access home learning; free access to bespoke online learning packages Access to free, high quality tuition to ensure they are not educationally disadvantaged when compared to their peers; transport to and from school; free school uniform or trips; support with groceries, toiletries etc for families in extremis; support with learning English and support getting into work and accessing services, such as early help, social care, food bank, housing, mental health services for adults; finally, for children, support for well- being in the form of a learning mentor, teacher or play therapist to talk to as well as resilience building programs such as Kids Connect</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not to disadvantage these children further by labelling them unhelpfully 2. To acknowledge that there are many hidden disadvantaged within our schools 3. Having taking into account points 1 and 2; to do whatever it takes to remove individual/multiple barriers to learning for each child and family. 4. *To provide for needs, whatever they are, free; with the express aim of levelling the field. 5. Having completed steps 1-4 for all children in need, we have consistently reduced the attainment and progress gap in both schools over the last three years, so that by the end of KS2 disadvantaged children typically achieve as well as their peers and considerably better than the national ‘other’ group. Therefore, each year, we continue this strategy and develop it further. 6. We are also mindful of local contextual factors that change over time, such as the drop in pupil premium monies and numbers of pupils year on year, since universal free school meals for infants were introduced in 2014. However, due to Covid-19, there was an increase in pupil numbers for 2019-2020 but this will not be reflected in monies received until 2020-2021. |
| <p>Each year the Trust receives about</p> | <p>£ 150,000 at Marish and about £130,000 at Willow in pupil premium monies</p> |
| <p>In September each year, the school leadership present how they intend to spend our pupil premium monies in the next academic year, for governor discussion and agreement:</p> | <p>So, for example, in September 2020, governors agreed that the school leadership would spend the predicted amounts of pupil premium monies we would receive in 2020-21 in the same way we have over last 6 years.</p> |

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| <p>At the same meeting in September each year, the school leadership outline what the predicted outcome of this spend will be in terms of outcomes for disadvantaged pupils.</p> <p>(For specific details, please refer PP spend impact document and policy on the trust website)</p> | <p>So, in September 2020, the school leadership explained what the impact of this spend would be on outcomes in general and specific terms. For example, in general terms the money would help maintain the high level of outcomes for the disadvantaged pupils in both schools and reduce any remaining differentials for some prior attainment groups still further. There is a particular focus on children that have been even further disadvantaged as a result of covid-19. In specific terms, it would also impact on the attainment of disadvantaged boys writing in year 5 at Marish and more able and disadvantaged pupils reading and maths in Year 4 at Willow.</p> |
| <p>In October or November each year, (or whenever national data for disadvantaged pupils is released), the school leadership report to governors on how they have spent the pupil premium monies for the previous year and what it's impact has been</p> | <p>Please refer to the 2018/19 and 2019/20 Impact of Pupil Premium Spend documents, which are posted on our website and which explain both how our money was used in previous years and its impact.</p> |
| <p>At the same October/November meeting, the governors review the spend for the previous academic year and compare the predicted impact with the actual outcomes. Generally they match.</p> | <p>The minutes of this meeting show the impact not only of the pupil premium monies spend but the discussion also provides governors with an opportunity to evaluate the impact of governors' involvement in this important strategic aspect of the schools' work.</p> |