



Oakthorpe Primary School Pupil Premium Policy

The Government introduced the Pupil Premium in April 2011. It is allocated to schools to work with pupils who have been registered for free school meals at any point in the last six years (known as ever 6 FSM). The purpose of the funding is to address the current underlying inequalities between children eligible for FSM and their peers by ensuring that funding to tackle disadvantage reaches the pupils who need it most.

Although funding is triggered by census data, at Oakthorpe we recognise the issues with our own pupil mobility and also children who we deem are vulnerable but do not claim FSM.

Funding priorities

Although the use of the Pupil Premium is used flexibly depending on the needs of our children, the main priority for using it is to narrow attainment gaps and accelerate progress. Depending on pupil priorities, this therefore means a significant proportion is spent on initiatives and personnel to accelerate progress. For e.g. additional tuition and focussed intervention groups, specific lesson based projects on vulnerable groups etc... Research into what works to close attainment gaps, along with tracking information in school, is used to inform spending decisions.

Additional opportunities

At Oakthorpe we recognise that progress and attainment is not developed through academic study alone. An important part of pupil engagement and progress is gained from extra-curricular activities and enrichment opportunities. To this end we invest funding in things such as school trips to broaden cultural experiences, after-school clubs, visiting theatre and specialist curriculum opportunities & music tuition. We make these opportunities available and track very closely our target audience groups and take-up in our Pupil Premium population. Such experiences add breadth of experiences and engagement in learning beyond the school day.

Attendance

At Oakthorpe we recognise the importance of good attendance and punctuality. We have a very strict policy for attendance and employ the services of an EWO. The EWO supports us in engaging parents in the life of school and ensuring parents value good attendance by making sure their children take every possible advantage of the learning opportunities on offer.

Pupil Mobility

With a high rental area and significant levels of transience in our school population we are flexible in our approach to using the premium for pupils who join us late and may not be shown on the census data. In this respect the numbers in actual receipt of Pupil Premium funding opportunities may differ from our census numbers. This information is recorded on our annual Pupil Premium Statement.

Non-Claimers

At Oakthorpe we have numbers of parents who choose not to claim FSM even though they are entitled to do so. We also have some children who, although their parents may work they work in low-paid employment and therefore still disadvantaged to some extent. We also have children that may experience vulnerability because of other disruptive family arrangements or

traumas. Oakthorpe is sensitive to these individuals and will use funding flexibly to ensure they are not disadvantaged in any way and have the educational support they need.

Pastoral Support

We offer pupils at Oakthorpe extensive pastoral support opportunities to develop self-esteem. We pay outside providers but also our own TAs who run nurture groups for vulnerable pupils. For some children this might be consistent support across the academic year, for others it could be during a time of personal upheaval or trauma or for transition onto secondary school. The provision is there to benefit those who are in receipt of the Pupil Premium funding but of course many children benefit from this opportunity as well.

Accountability

Schools are made accountable for Pupil Premium expenditure through: performance tables which show the performance of disadvantaged pupils, the Ofsted Inspection framework & reports for parents published online.

The Headteacher reports on Pupil Premium spending to the Finance Committee. The Pupil Premium annual spending report is also made available on the school web-site for parents to see. Data about progress and attainment for Ever 6 pupils is shared with the School Improvement Committee who interrogate the impact of spending on standards and progress.

Charging Policy

Oakthorpe has a charging policy with more details about what we charge for in school.

Agreed by governors.....May 2013

Signed by Chair of Finance..... **Date:**

Next review.... May 2015