



Policy

Pupil Premium

Author

Trust Achievement Director

Date of Approval

May 2015

Approved by

Board

Review date

May 2018

1. Background

- 1.1 Educational attainment remains the single biggest barrier to young people moving into a life path that lifts them out of inherited circumstances of poverty. The attainment of pupils from the poorest quintile of households is dramatically lower than that of other quintiles, and widens at each Key Stage.
- 1.2. Evidence, both internationally and from UK-based studies collated by the Economic & Social Research Council, clearly indicates that disadvantaged pupils benefit disproportionately from increases in education expenditure and that school autonomy is also closely linked with improving outcomes for disadvantaged pupils. Therefore, an approach which provides a 'premium' that follows disadvantaged pupils in academies is seen as the best way to close the social mobility gap.
- 1.3. The pupil premium is additional funding given to publicly funded schools in England to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils from reception to year 11 and close the gap between them and their peers.
- 1.4. Pupil premium funding is allocated for each financial year, using eligibility for free school meals as the main measure of deprivation at pupil level, with additional focus on adopted and Looked After Children.
- 1.5. The Trust, Principals and governing bodies are accountable for the use and impact of pupil premium funding in the following ways:
 - performance tables, which show the performance of disadvantaged pupils compared with their peers
 - requiring schools to publish details online each year of how they are using the pupil premium and the impact it is having on pupil achievement

- the Ofsted inspection framework, where inspectors focus on the attainment of pupil groups, and in particular those who attract the pupil premium.

2. Trust Approach to Pupil Premium

- 2.1. Within the Trust, the prime accountability for improving pupil premium outcomes sits with the leadership of each academy.
- 2.2. Each academy will apply its allocation in the way which best suits the needs of the disadvantaged pupils on its current register, and account for its local performance.
- 2.3. The Trust will provide the strategic policy framework to support local leadership teams, to monitor progress and to account for the achievement of the wider Trust goals for student outcomes, social mobility and narrowing attainment gaps.
- 2.4. Additionally the Trust will:
 - set clear and unambiguous targets for each academy for pupil premium outcomes that narrow the achievement gap in each academic year
 - clearly identify that pupil premium funding is used by the Trust for the purpose for which it is intended; improving educational outcomes for disadvantaged students
 - set an expectation that students' performance is tracked closely in every year, and that processes to meet underachievement are deployed at the earliest opportunity once such underachievement becomes apparent
 - use evidence based research outcomes to inform planning and activities intended to improve pupil premium outcomes (eg Education Endowment Foundation, Sutton Trust, Ofsted)
 - ensure each academy has one member of the leadership team with accountability for pupil premium outcomes and deployment of pupil premium funding .

3. Pupil Premium Reporting

- 3.1. Each academy will report on its use of pupil premium funding in a way which best reflects the work of the academy and its support for disadvantaged pupils.
- 3.2. Each academy will publish its report on the academy website, with hard copies of the information provided on request.
- 3.3. Although funding is allocated by financial year, pupil premium information will be reported by academic year, as this is how parents and the general public understand the school year.
- 3.4. In reporting on its use of pupil premium funding each academy will include the following information:
 - pupil premium allocation for the current academic year (as allocations are made by financial year this information will initially be for the first part of the academic year, with updates provided when future allocations are known)

- details of planned spending for the current academic year
- details of how the previous academic year's allocation was spent
- information on how the use of pupil premium funding has made a difference to the attainment of disadvantaged pupils.