



St Thomas's
CE Primary School

Pupil Premium Policy 2026-27

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“We are a church school with a happy, caring, sharing atmosphere that recognises the worth of everyone in our multicultural, multi-ethnic community. We recognise the centrality of the spiritual development of our pupils and promote this through the whole of our curriculum.

It is our intention that the children should experience the wonders of God's world. They should respect each other and learn to live in peace with themselves and their neighbours. This is fostered through good links with the community that the school serves.

Our aim is to enable the children to realise their full potential through the quality of education we give them. This is achieved through a professional dedicated staff, each of whom seeks to provide the highest standards of teaching and learning.”

School's Vision and values:

Our vision is to inspire, believe, and achieve through a strong foundation of Christian values. With God, all things are possible. We provide enriching experiences, believing in the potential of every learner. Through trust, friendship, respect, and kindness, we create a learning community where children flourish academically, socially, and spiritually.

Our vision is built on our strong Christian Values and that “With God all things are possible” Matthew 19:26. Our offer is closely aligned to the Church of England vision to live ‘Life in all its fullness’ John 10:10.

Aims

At St Thomas's our strong vision support a curriculum that aims to:

Inspire-All learners through the places they visit and the people they meet

Believe-That even in the face of adversity, anything is possible.

Achieve-Through what we know, learn and understand

Values

We are a learning community built on our core values of:

Respect, courage, aspiration, resilience, hope and compassion.

The pupil Premium is an allocation of additional funding given to schools to support specific groups of children who are considered vulnerable to possible underachievement. The intended outcome of this additional funding is to accelerate progress, raise attainment and enrich life experiences.

This policy incorporates the aims and values of our school which is rooted in the belief that all children are unique. All children are entitled to a rich and varied curriculum regardless of socio economic or any other external factors and any barriers that may hinder pupil progress and attainment and ultimately affect their life chances, are carefully considered when deciding how funding is best allocated. The barriers to learning for our children at ST Thomas's are clearly identified in the pupil premium strategy statement 2026-27.

Aims:

- To provide all pupils with fair and equal opportunities to achieve and excel in all areas of the curriculum; using and applying the most effective pedagogy, supported using additional and delegated funding.
- To work in partnership with pupils and families to plan, monitor and evaluate support and intervention to secure 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 and trustees fulfil their statutory responsibilities to monitor the effectiveness of funding streams to ensure impact is maximised
- Provide background information about the pupil premium grant so that all members of the school community understand its purpose and which pupils are eligible.

Purpose of the grant:

The Pupil Premium grant (PPG) was introduced in April 2011. It is additional funding given to publicly funded schools in England to raise the attainment of **disadvantaged pupils**. Funding is paid for:

- ☐ Ever 6- Pupils recorded in the most recent January census who are known to have been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last six years. This includes pupils known to be on free school meals in the most recent census. It does not include pupils on universal infant free school meals who would not have otherwise received free lunches.
- ☐ Looked after children who are in the care of or provided with accommodation by a local authority.
- ☐ Post looked after children- Pupils recorded in the most recent January census who are looked after by the local authority immediately before being adopted, or who have left local authority care on a special guardianship order or child arrangement order.
- ☐ Ever 6 service children- pupils with a parent serving in the armed forces or who have been registered as a “service child” in the school census at any point in the last 6 years, or who are in receipt of a child pension because one of their parents died whilst in service.

The school will use the funding to support these groups 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 ensure those pupils are given the opportunity to enhance their future aspirations and achievements and ensure they have access to enrichment activities to enhance their lives.

Use of the grant:

Decisions on how the PPG is spent is considered very carefully in discussions with class teachers, SLT, the inclusion team and the inclusion trustee. The context of the school, our main barriers to learning and research carried out by the Education Endowment Foundation are all considered when costing provision.

The Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) is used to provide additional educational support to improve the progress and to raise the standard of achievement for these pupils. The funding is used to diminish the difference in achievement of these pupils and their peers.

As far as its powers allow, the school will use the additional funding to address any underlying inequalities between children eligible for pupil premium funding and others who are not.

We will ensure that the additional funding reaches the pupils who need it most and that it makes a significant impact on their education and lives. We will ensure, as far as possible, that allocation of funds will have the highest impact for the minimum spend.

Examples of how we use the funding include but is not conducive to:

- Supporting pupils across school to develop their communication and language skills.
- Supporting pupils in smaller groups or 1:1 support
- Funding professionals from a range of services eg Educational Psychology, outreach team, support for children's health and well being
- Funding towards educational visits/trips
- Funding to improve life experiences and widen opportunities eg paying for musical tuition/ sports clubs
- Transition from primary to secondary
- Employing additional staff to work specifically with targeted groups
- Funding for forest school to support health and well being
- Investment in rewards to promote attendance amongst pupil premium children
- Investments in IT/resources to ensure the children access a curriculum that is rich and diverse.

We will publish information on our school's website in line with the requirements set out in our funding agreement and the DFE's guidance on what academies should publish online.

Roles and responsibilities:

Pupil premium lead:

- Keeping the pupil premium policy up to date
- Produce a pupil premium strategy statement on an annual basis with clearly identified outcomes linked to costings.
- Ensuring staff are aware of their role in raising the attainment of disadvantaged pupils
- In discussions with staff, SLT, inclusion team and the Inclusion lead, plan how the PPG is spent, keep this under constant review using an evidence-based approach (EEF)
- Keep Governors and Trustees informed through termly reports which outline progress towards outcomes identified in the action plan.
- Liaise with school business manager to keep track of spending allocation and impact.

- Monitor progress and attainment of all pupil premium children on a termly basis and report this to all stakeholders.
- In discussions with the class teacher decide upon suitable interventions for targeted groups of pupils and monitor impact on a regular basis.
- Ascertain the views of pupils through gathering information in questionnaires.
- Publish information on pupil premium priorities, funding and impact on the school's website.
- Ascertain the views of parents through questionnaires
- Invite parents to all person centered review meeting and transition meetings
- Support parents in completing the forms to access free school meals

Other school staff:

All school staff are responsible for:

- Implementing this policy as part of their daily practice.
- Setting high expectations for all pupils, including those eligible for pupil premium
- As subject coordinators, provide relevant curriculum training as necessary, on supporting disadvantaged pupils and raising attainment.
- Share insights into effective practice with other school staff.
- Identifying pupils whose attainment is not improving in response to interventions funded by the PPG and highlighting concerns to the pupil premium lead.
- Ensure the pupils provision map is kept up to date with evidence that captures achievements, progress and experiences.
- Termly reports sent to parents to keep them informed of their child's progress and next steps in learning.

Governors/Trustees:

- Hold the pupil premium lead to account for the implementation of this policy.
- Challenge the pupil premium lead to use the PPG in the most effective way.
- Ensure the school is using the PPG appropriately, in line with the rules set out in the conditions of the grant 2026-27.
- Monitor whether the school is ensuring value for money in its use of the pupil premium.
- Ensure the information on the school's website is compliant with the academies funding agreement and in line with DFE guidance.

Monitoring the use and impact of the Pupil Premium

The school business manager monitors the use of pupil premium spending on a spreadsheet. Costings are calculated as and when required to support in the EHCP application process or for including in reports to Governors/Trustees. Our school learning plans can filter on pupil premium children and highlight specific areas of spend for individual pupils. Each child eligible for pupil premium is listed with costings next to their name if they are receiving any support that is different from or additional to that of their peers.

Each term progress and attainment of our pupil premium children are tracked against the end of year targets set. From this information small group or 1;1 support is offered to ensure targets are being met.

The impact of actions is reported annually on our school website under the key information tab.

The policy is reviewed annually by the pupil premium lead. At every review the policy will be shared with staff, Governors and Trustees

Policy prepared by C. Haughton (Deputy headteacher)
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