St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Where every child is special

Pupil Premium Policy

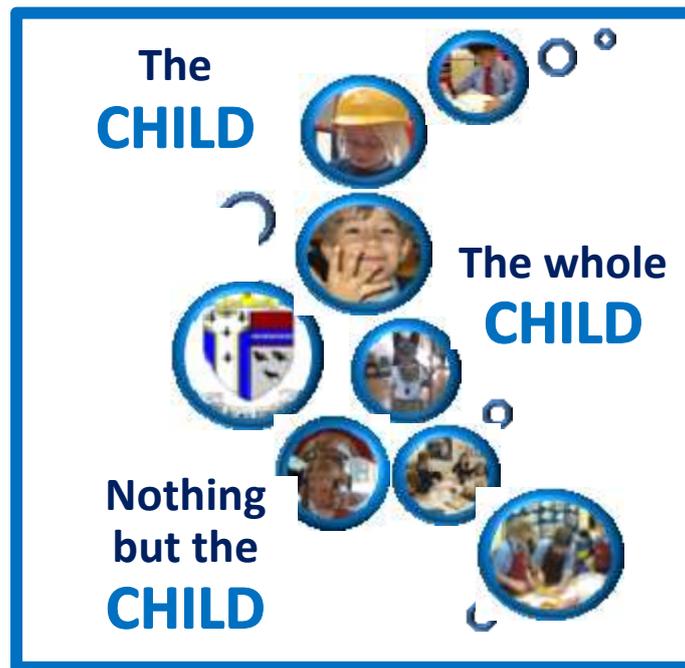|	
Policy compiled by:	Headteacher
Date of last review:	Spring 2017
Review Date:	Spring 2018

The **CHILD**

The whole **CHILD**

Nothing but the CHILD

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

God's love is at the heart of our Catholic School family. We show this in our respect, kindness and love for others and by treating other people as we wish to be treated ourselves. We will encourage everyone to be the best that we can be.

OUR AIMS

- To guide our children to grow in the love of God and build relationships that will enable them to make a positive contribution to the school and society.
- To develop an exciting, challenging and creative curriculum that produces confident and successful learners who are the best that they can be.
- To develop high quality learning that enables every child to flourish, to discover their talents and be lifelong learners.
- To establish a teaching and learning environment that encourages everyone to enjoy, to achieve, to be inclusive, to be healthy, and to stay safe.
- To nurture a strong partnership between home and school.
- To have respect and understanding for our school, our community and our world, helping our children to become responsible citizens and good role models.

OUR GOLDEN RULE

We treat others as we would like to be treated

1. Statement of Principle

Our Mission Statement and Aims highlight the fact that we look to the potential of EVERY child whatever their circumstances. Whilst a set of children have been identified as being eligible for Pupil Premium, we see them as individuals. Each child is special and unique, each child has different needs and each and every child in our school is encouraged without distinction to be the best that they can be.

2. Policy Aims

At St Thomas of Canterbury we take seriously our responsibility to use the Pupil Premium to improve the outcomes for children identified as socially disadvantaged. As with all our pupils we are committed to meeting their academic, pastoral, social and academic needs in a nurturing and caring environment. The Pupil Premium will be used strategically for every entitled child to develop their true potential, irrespective of need.

Our core aim in the use of the Pupil Premium is:
- To raise achievement (the attainment and progress) of all pupils eligible for Pupil Premium so that their performance is at least in line with their non-Pupil Premium peers nationally.
- Address inequalities and improve the achievement of pupils from deprived backgrounds compared to their non-deprived peers nationally.

In our use of the Pupil Premium we aim always to:
- be fair and transparent in our use and distribution of the funding.
- ensure that the teaching and learning opportunities we provide meet the needs of all of the pupils and in particular those identified as being socially disadvantaged.
- ensure that we make appropriate provision for pupils who are identified as belonging to vulnerable groups, this includes ensuring that the needs of socially disadvantaged pupils are adequately assessed and addressed.
- Ensure that in our use of the funds in making provision for socially disadvantaged pupils, we recognise that not all pupils who are eligible and receive free school meals for the purposes of the pupil premium funding are socially disadvantaged.

What we expect to see:

'Quality first' teaching is paramount to the progress of all pupils including those from disadvantaged backgrounds. This means highly effective daily teaching with the following features;
- highly focused lessons designed with sharp objectives
- high demands of pupil involvement and engagement with their learning
- high levels of interaction for all pupils
- appropriate use of teacher questioning, modelling and explaining
- an emphasis on learning through dialogue, with regular opportunities for pupils to talk both individually and in groups
- an expectation that pupils will accept responsibility for their own learning and work independently
- regular use of encouragement and authentic praise to engage and motivate pupils.

This remains a consistent and relentless focus at St Thomas'.

In addition to this, targeted intervention and support strategies are deployed in order to:
- Improve levels of attainment and progress;
- Close attainment gaps relative to school averages;
- Enhance reading, writing, mathematics and communications skills;
- Engage and develop learning through a comprehensive co-curricular provision;

- Have a clear focus on all disadvantaged pupils, including those with SEND and more able pupils and
- Support pupils in becoming aspirational, confident and successful learners.

3.   Priorities for Use of Pupil Premium

The priorities for using the Pupil Premium at St Thomas of Canterbury are as follows:

- **Pupil Performance** - to narrow the gap for those pupils not on track to achieve in line with their peers through the use of targeted and strategic support.
- **Enrichment** – to ensure that all pupils eligible for FSM have the same opportunities for enrichment through the school curriculum and co-curricular programme as every other pupil for example, by paying for them to attend educational visits or to be part of our Extended School.
- **Social and Emotional Support** – Provide additional adult support to help facilitate social and emotional development for identified children.

4.   Provision

In order to meet these priorities, the provision we may provide using the Pupil Premium funding includes:

- Providing additional small groups which are strategic and targeted to identified pupils and aim to reduce gaps in basic Literacy and Mathematics skills.
- Providing additional teaching and learning opportunities through the use of teachers, special needs assistants and pastoral assistants (including the School's Home School Link worker) and any intervention group or programme that could enhance the provision and outcomes for children entitled to the Pupil Premium Funding.
- Providing teaching and learning aimed specifically at accelerating progress made by identified children to at least that expected for their age.
- If eligible children have been identified as able, gifted or talented extra support and teaching will be provided to ensure those children meet their full potential.

As a school we understand that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for free school meals and therefore could be disadvantaged by stringent criteria for the distribution of the Pupil Premium Grant. Accordingly we reserve the right to allocate the Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil or groups of children which the School has identified as being socially disadvantaged. The responsibility for this identification of pupils lies with the Headteacher.

5.   Reporting Effectiveness of Pupil Premium Grant

The Headteacher will provide Governors with a report at least once a term on the use and effectiveness of the Pupil Premium Grant.

The report will include the following information:
- A detailed analysis of the progress made by children and identified groups in terms of narrowing the achievement gap.
- Provision for children and groups across the school.
- An analysis and evaluation of the effectiveness of the allocated Pupil Premium Grant.

The Headteacher is also responsible to the Governors for ensuring that there is an annual statement to parents on how the Pupil Premium funding has been used which will be published on the school's website.

6. Disability Equality Impact Assessment

This policy has been written with reference to and in consideration of the School's Disability Equality Scheme. Assessment will include consideration of issues identified by the involvement of disabled children, staff and parents and any information the school holds on disabled children, staff and parents.

This policy of St Thomas of Canterbury School upholds the school's ethos and Mission Statement. It must be read in conjunction with and implemented in accordance to the School's policies for Equal Opportunities, Inclusion and Safeguarding. Copies of these policies are available from the school website.