



Thinking Schools Academy Trust
“Transforming Life Chances”

The Victory Academy

Pupil Premium Policy

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| This policy was adopted on | 13 th January 2017 (tbc) |
| The policy is to be reviewed on | 13 th January 2018 |

Introduction

This policy explains how we aim to spend our Pupil Premium Funding.

Pupil Premium 2016 to 2017: conditions of grant

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1. Introduction

The Pupil Premium Grant provides funding for two key areas:

- raising the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and closing the gap with their peers
- supporting children and young people with parents in the regular armed forces

2. Rates for eligible pupils

The PPG per pupil for 2016 to 2017 is as follows:

| | Pupil premium per pupil |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Disadvantaged pupils | |
| Pupils in year groups reception to Year 6 recorded as Ever 6 FSM | £1,320 |
| Pupils in years 7 to 11 recorded as Ever 6 FSM | £935 |
| Looked-after children (LAC) defined in the Children Act 1989 as one who is in the care of, or provided with accommodation by, an English local authority | £1,900 |
| Children who have ceased to be looked after by a local authority in England and Wales because of adoption, a special guardianship order, a child arrangements order or a residence order | £1,900 |
| Service children | |
| Pupils in year groups reception to Year 11 recorded as Ever 6 Service Child or in receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence | - |
| | £300 |

3. Eligibility

3.1 Ever 6 FSM

The pupil premium for 2016 to 2017 will include pupils recorded in the January 2016 school census who are known to have been eligible for free school meals (FSM) in any of the previous 6 years (since May 2010), as well as those first known to be eligible at January 2016.

3.2 Children adopted from care or who have left care

The pupil premium for 2016 to 2017 will include pupils recorded in the January 2016 school census and alternative provision census who were looked after by an English or Welsh local authority

immediately before being adopted, or who left local authority care on a special guardianship order or child arrangements order (previously known as a residence order). These are collectively referred to as post-LAC in these conditions of grant.

3.3 Ever 6 service child

For the purposes of these grant conditions, Ever 6 service child means a pupil recorded in the January 2016 school census who was eligible for the service child premium in any of the previous 5 years (i.e. since the January 2011 school census) as well as those recorded as a service child for the first time on the January 2016 school census.

Use of Pupil Premium Funding

As outlined above, Pupil Premium funding, which is additional to main school funding, is intended to address the disparity in progress between children who are, are have been, eligible for free school meals (FSM) and their peers by providing target funding to tackle disadvantage.

It is for the school to decide how the Pupil Premium is spent. However, schools will be held accountable for how they have used the additional funding to support students from disadvantaged groups improve their levels of progress and attainment.

At Victory we use this money to support structures and processes which remove barriers for learning and progress for those in disadvantaged groups. Many of our students face circumstances that create barriers to them progressing in line with their non-disadvantaged peers. These barriers may be financial – a lack of the resources needed for their studies or to pay for visits, or they may be social, emotional or educational – challenges or stresses and that make it more difficult for them to access the learning opportunities provided. A student's poor attendance may also affect their access to the curriculum.

Pupil Premium funding will be used to support projects and opportunities, enabling access for all, by eliminating the barriers created by financial difficulties. Funding will be used to enable the employment of staff and establish projects and services that will help students tackle social, emotional and educational barriers to learning. Funding will also be used to put in place systems and staff to deal with poor attendance.

- i. Ensuring Attendance
- ii. Developing Key Skills.
- iii. Encouraging Aspiration.
- iv. Facilitating Progress and Academic Success for All
- v. Addressing Student's Special Educational Needs.
- vi. Enabling Experiences beyond the Curriculum.

i. Ensuring Attendance

For student to learn it is vital that they attend school regularly. In recognising the link between absence and low rates of progress, Pupil Premium funding will be used to facilitate attendance by disadvantaged students. Initiatives to reward students who arrive to school on time and on each day will be supported, whilst attendance will be systematically checked and acted upon. Systems are in place to make early identification of issue and need.

ii. Developing Core Skills

When Students join the Victory Academy, we ensure we know and understand the starting points for their academic progress. We gain valuable information from their Primary Schools and additionally carry out several important baseline assessments such as reading and spelling ages.

Based on this information, Pupil Premium Funding will be spent on programmes and initiatives that ensure that all students are making sufficient progress in the Key Skills (reading, writing including spelling, and use of number).

iii. Encouraging Aspiration

Our Students often lack aspiration – they do not automatically realise the options open to them as they progress throughout their time at the Academy, nor do they realise the impact that their attitude to learning can have on their future. Pupil Premium Funding will be used to introduce programmes that advise students on their future education and career choices, and develops the attitudes and skills necessary to make these choices.

iv. Facilitating Progress and Academic Success for All

To enable all of our students to progress and achieve we look to put in place initiatives that provide the very best foundation for them to succeed academically. Staff will be trained in aspects of classroom practice that have been shown to positively impact on rates of progress for disadvantaged students. Through funding programmes to provide suitable revision materials and maximise contact with staff through after school and holiday provision we look to address the financial constraints which may limit the ability of disadvantaged students to access additional support. Where appropriate, alternative provision and examination courses are enabled to ensure that all students are able to develop and demonstrate their abilities and maximise potential pathways as they progress beyond schooling.

v. Addressing Students' Special Educational Needs

At the Academy, Students have a broad range of educational needs, and some require additional support and expertise in order to allow them to make progress. Identifying these students, putting in place the appropriate support and measuring its impact, is a continual process, requiring skilled staff. Pupil Premium Funding will be used to employ and train staff to deliver interventions.

vi. Enabling Experiences beyond the Curriculum

The Victory Academy is committed to providing its students with a wide and varied range of opportunities that aim to broaden their experiences. Our hope is that each student will discover a talent or focus for their energies whilst at the Academy, and will be enabled to pursue this talent. Pupil Premium Funding will be used to create these opportunities throughout the year.

The Academy will publish, and annually update, key details relating to the use of its Pupil Premium Funding on its website.

This Policy is to be read in conjunction with our Charging & Remissions Policy.