



ST FRANCIS XAVIER

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pupil Premium Policy

Version	1.0
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Ratified by	LGB
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Policy review date	September 2026
Post holder responsible	Vice Principal- N. Smith
Director / LGB Chairperson	C.Cullen

Commitment to Equality:

We are committed to providing a positive working environment which is free from prejudice and unlawful discrimination and any form of harassment, bullying or victimisation. We have developed a number of key policies to ensure that the principles of Catholic Social Teaching in relation to human dignity and dignity in work become embedded into every aspect of school life and these policies are reviewed regularly in this regard.

This Pupil Premium Policy has been approved and adopted by St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School – September 2025 and will be reviewed in September 2026.

Signed by LGB representative for St Francis Xavier:

Ms C.Cullen Signed

by Principal: Miss

L.Marshall

St Francis Xavier's Catholic Primary School aims to provide the very best educational experience for each individual pupil within a firm Catholic context, through developing our community as Christians, learners, teachers and pupils.

Principles

Every child with his/her individual needs and gifts is a unique gift from God. At St Francis Xavier we want to ensure that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all of the pupils. All members of staff and governors accept the responsibility for our Pupil Premium pupils and are committed to meeting their pastoral, social and academic needs within a caring Catholic environment.

As with every child in our care, a child who belongs to vulnerable groups is valued and respected and is entitled to develop his/her full potential, irrespective of need. We ensure that appropriate provision is made for pupils who belong to such groups and we ensure these pupils are adequately assessed and supported. In making the provision for these pupils, we recognise that not all pupils who receive Free School Meals (FSM) will be disadvantaged.

We also recognise that not all pupils who are disadvantaged are registered for FSM. We reserve the right to allocate the Pupil Premium funding to support any pupil, or groups of pupils, the school has legitimately identified as being disadvantaged.

Pupil Premium funding will be allocated following a needs analysis which will identify propriety classes, groups and/or individuals.

Background

The Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) is a Government initiative that targets additional funding at pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds. Research shows that this group of pupils underachieve compared to their peers. The premium is provided in order to support these pupils in reaching their full potential.

The Government has used pupils entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) as an indicator for deprivation and have deployed a fixed amount of money to schools per pupil, based on the number of pupils registered for FSM in any of the previous 6 years (Ever 6 FSM). This fixed amount of money is expected to increase every year of the course of this current Parliament. At St Francis Xavier we will be using the indicator of those eligible for FSM as well as identified vulnerable groups as our target children to 'diminish the difference' regarding progress and attainment.

PPG is allocated to academies based on the number of pupils who are:

- Recorded as eligible for free school meals or have been recorded as eligible in the past 6 years (FSM Ever 6). This includes eligible children of families who have no recourse to public funds (NRPF).
- Previously looked-after children (PLAC): pupils 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).

PPG is also allocated to local authorities based on the number of looked-after children (LAC) supported by the authority, including for those LAC who attend academies. LAC are defined in the Children Act 1989 as one who is in the care of, or provided with accommodation by, an English local authority. It is up to the local authority to decide how much of this funding to pass on to the child's academy.

The portion of PPG funding for LAC and PLAC pupils is referred to as 'pupil premium plus' (PP+).

Pupil Premium Grant Expenditure Plan

The Secretary of State for Education lays down the following terms and conditions on which assistance is given in relation to the pupil premium grant (PPG) payable to academies (including free schools) for the financial year beginning 1 April 2025.

The grant can be spent:

- for the benefit of pupils registered at the academy that receives it
- for the benefit of pupils registered at other academies or maintained schools
- on community services whose provision furthers the benefit of pupils at the academy

Academies may wish to use a portion of PPG funding to support pupils who do not meet any of the PPG eligibility criteria but have other identified needs, where they deem it beneficial to do so.

Academies must use PPG funding for the purpose of raising the educational attainment of PLAC, LAC and pupils who are recorded as FSM Ever 6.

In line with the 3-tiered approach in EEF's pupil premium guide, activities **must** be those that:

- support the quality of teaching, such as staff professional development
- provide targeted academic support, such as tutoring, and
- tackle non-academic barriers to academic success, such as attendance, behaviour and social and emotional support

To support academies to use PPG in line with the 3 tiers outlined above, DfE have published a 'menu of approaches', which has been informed by evidence of effective practice. Academies must use their PPG in line with this menu from the start of the 2025 to 2026 academic year. Academies are not required to allocate PPG to every approach on the menu, but any activity funded by PPG must fall under one of the approaches listed.

When diagnosing the targeted academic support needs of their disadvantaged pupils, academies should ensure they consider which pupils will benefit from tutoring, including through the National Tutoring Programme (NTP).

The DfE published initial allocations in March 2025 for all academies that completed the October 2024 census. Further updated allocations will be published in December 2025 and March 2026.

Allocations will include NRPF pupils once the data from academies' claims for those pupils has been validated.

The DfE pay PPG to academies in quarterly instalments by:

- 10 July 2025
- 9 October 2025
- 8 January 2026
- 9 April 2026

Academies are not required to spend all of the PPG they receive in the financial year beginning 1st April 2025; some or all of it may be carried forward to future financial years. Any funding that is carried forward must be used in accordance with the conditions of grant for pupil premium for the financial year in which the funding is spent. It must be accounted for in the academy's pupil premium strategy statement for the academic year in which it is spent.

Provision

In order to meet the requirements of the PPG, the Local Governing Body at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School will ensure that the provision is made which secures the teaching and learning opportunities that meet the needs of all pupils. Strategies to include this are: providing small group or one-to-one support with a dedicated teacher or assistant who is focused on overcoming the gaps in learning and specifically targeted to raise pupil's progress and attainment. All of our work through PPG will be aimed at accelerating progress for these individuals.

Children adopted from care or who have left care

It is the responsibility of the academy to ensure that their use of PPG addresses the specific needs of PLAC attending the academy.

Success Criteria

The evaluation of this policy is based on how the school can 'diminish the difference' between PPG children and their peers. Targets will be identified and evaluated annually and included within the School Development Plan (SDP).

The success criteria for the Pupil Premium Policy are:

- Early intervention and support for PPG children
- The vast majority of PPG children will meet their individual targets
- Effective parent/pupil/school support, including an effective transition
- Having an effective system for identifying, assessing and monitoring pupils with a whole-school approach.

Reporting and Accountability

It will be the responsibility of the Principal to produce a yearly report to the Local Governing Body. The information included within this report will be:

- The progress made towards diminishing the difference, by year group for PPG pupils
- An outline of the provision during the term that was made since the last meeting
- An evaluation of the cost effectiveness, in terms of the progress made by the pupils receiving a particular provision, when compared with other forms of support

At the end of the academic year, the Local Governing Body of the school will ensure that there is an annual statement to the parents on how the PPG funding has been used to address the issues of diminishing the difference for PPG children. This task will be carried out within the requirements published by the Department of Education (DfE).

To comply with School Information regulations, maintained schools are required to publish an updated pupil premium strategy annually. All schools must use the templates available on GOV.UK to publish their 2025 to 2026 pupil premium strategy, by the end of December 2025. The Department for Education will undertake monitoring checks on a sample of schools' published reports.

Given their role in ensuring schools spend funding appropriately and in holding schools to account for educational performance, governors and trustees should scrutinise schools' plans for and use of their pupil premium funding. Schools are held

accountable for the outcomes they achieve with all their funding, including through Ofsted inspections and by governors and trustees, and this will be no exception.

Academies are required to publish an updated pupil premium strategy annually.

All academies must use the template available on the [using pupil premium](#) guidance page on GOV.UK to publish their 2025 to 2026 statement, by the end of December 2025.

Pupil Premium Support Administrator – Job Purpose

- To speak to/meet every child on a regular basis on the PP register
- Ensure there is an up-to-date list available of children eligible for PP including monies spent to date on these children
- Weekly/fortnightly meeting with the Principal used to highlight any challenges
- To work closely with class teachers to ensure we help ‘diminish the difference’ for the PP children
- To contribute to raising the standards of children’s attainment
- To share and support the school’s responsibility to provide and monitor opportunities for the personal and academic growth of PP children.

Diocesan Education Service

- This document is designed to help St Francis Xavier’s Catholic Primary School follow the Equality Act 2010 and Human Rights Act 2012, which legislates that schools treat disabled people equally and positively.

<https://www.gov.uk/equality-act-2010-guidance>

www.equalityhumanrights.com/.../humanrights/hrr2012_executive_sum

