



The John of Gaunt School  
*A Community Academy*

## Implementation strategy of our Pupil Premium & Catch-Up funding

### **Background information**

The challenge set by the Department for Education (DfE) is for every educational establishment to 'diminish the difference' that exists between our disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged young people. In April 2011 the DfE introduced Pupil Premium funding to help schools support students who have may be disadvantaged by their context. This funding contributes towards the strategies we implement at The John of Gaunt School in an attempt to provide equity of support and opportunity for all our students.

### **Eligibility for funding**

Pupil Premium funding is available to children in Years 7-11 who have been registered for Free School Meals (FSM) in the previous 6 years from the present date (Ever 6). Funding can also be accessed by a school for students who are adopted, continuously looked after for more than six months or are children of parents who are in the armed services. Parents and carers are urged to inform the school if they feel their child is eligible for the additional funding. If you are unsure if your child is eligible free school meals please use this link: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> Please see Appendix 1 for a list of criteria that may lead to eligibility to claim FSM.

Catch-up funding is available to schools for every Year 7 students that does not meet the expected academic standards at the end of Key Stage 2 (KS2). The aim is to aid schools in providing additional support and interventions to students so that they can make accelerated progress to reach the levels required in English and maths at the start of KS3.

### **Our aspirations for the life-chances of the disadvantaged child**

We are determined to provide all of our students the opportunities to be involved in a broad range of experiences, to access all possible learning activities and resources and be able to achieve the results required to study at university or have a career in a highly skilled occupation. Therefore, we plan the allocation of the additional funding in an attempt to maximise the impact on all our disadvantaged students dependent on their needs and desires. We use evidenced-based research from leading educationalists and educational groups such as John Hattie, Sir John Dunford, Ofsted, the Sutton Trust, the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) toolkit and the PPR guide (Spring 2016) to inform our decision making. We also take into consideration the views of the students and the families that we serve.

## An overview of the approaches taken by The John of Gaunt School

Our strategies vary from individual support to whole-school initiatives that may have a positive effect on closing the attainment gap, including those disadvantaged students who are deemed to be more able. We understand that fundamentally, the most effective action the school can take is to provide high quality Teaching and Learning (T&L). Considerable effort by all staff is placed on ensuring the experience and guidance students receive in the classroom is highly effective and this includes positive discrimination in planning, delivery of lessons and feedback provided to our disadvantaged students who may not be able to access the same amount of support and provision outside of school compared to their peers. Training is provided to increase the awareness of the support these disadvantaged students require and how these pedagogical strategies can be implemented.

The funds allocated for this group are distributed in a way that each child has the equipment and resources required to access the curriculum, to feel and believe they are on an equal standing with their peers and they are as aspirational as their peers about their future pathways. The school has a Pupil Premium spending plan clearly lays out how the additional funds are used, the aims of the strategies, the impact made and the next steps the school needs to make to either ensure positive outcomes or enhance the progress made to that point.

### School funding allocation and data (2015-16)

Total number of students on roll:						1181
Breakdown of numbers in each year group						
Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13-14
176	201	210	203	243	108	39-1
<b>Pupil Premium Grant</b>						
Total number of students eligible:						269
Breakdown of numbers in each year group						
Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13-14
31	57	58	57	57	12	0
Total Pupil Premium funding received:						£271,222

### School funding allocation and data (2016-17)

Total number of students on roll:						1142
Breakdown of numbers in each year group						
Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13-14
175	178	203	210	203	80	91 - 2
<b>Pupil Premium Grant</b>						
Total number of students eligible:						286
Breakdown of numbers in each year group						
Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13-14
33	59	65	60	61	8	0
Total Pupil Premium funding received (1st forecast):						£256,245

## **Appendix 1: Criteria for FSM eligibility**

Your child may be able to claim free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

Children who receive any of the above benefits in their own right (ie they gain benefits payments directly, instead of through a parent or guardian) can also claim free school meals.