

NARROWING THE GAP

St John's Catholic Comprehensive School - Pupil Premium

1: Background

The Pupil Premium is a government initiative to target resources on those pupils deemed to be from a disadvantaged background. Specifically the Pupil Premium funding is calculated for those pupils who have been entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) at any point over the past 6 years (Ever 6) or those children who are service children, have been looked after for one day or more, are adopted or are under a special guardianship order or residential order. For the financial year 2016-7 funding is £935 per pupil and £1900 for a looked after child. The government has not dictated how Pupil Premium funding should be spent, but what is clear is that the money should be used to promote strategies which narrows the attainment gap between the highest and lowest achieving pupils.

2: Breakdown of Pupil Premium Students

2.1 PP figures 2016-7 (as at March 2017)

Year group	PP pupils	Total no. pupils in year group
7	33	195
8	68	185
9	59	180
10	65	181
11	48	166
Total	273*	907

*Nb: * this figure fluctuates slightly throughout the year as a result of some students being added/removed.*

Total number of PP in years 7-11 of 273 equates to 30% of the whole school.

2.2 Ensuring PP funding was accessed by those eligible.

The school put procedures in place to try to assist those who were eligible for FSM to apply for and claim this entitlement. These procedures included a reminder email and letter sent to parents and a school meal audit at KS3 parents' evenings.

3: Strategies for narrowing the gap – an overview

St John's is a non-selective school with 30% being eligible for Pupil Premium funding. 23.4% have Additional Educational Needs (AEN). No single intervention provides a complete solution to the complex educational issues in any school and it is therefore a multi-faceted approach that we feel offers the best opportunities for pupils to succeed.

Interventions in our school come in a variety of forms: we aim to be specific to the needs of the students and not simply use generic strategies. Examples at St John's include:

- The continuation of **smaller group teaching in year 7** and the employment of a **primary trained staff** to support these pupils in their transition to secondary school and their progress.
- **PP priority given in lessons**, including marking.
- **Specific resources** to support learners in subjects e.g. provision of English, maths, science revision and text books.
- **SLT individualised targeting** and support of **poor attendees**.
- **Individual financial support** for uniform and extra-curricular activities.
- **SLT individual mentoring** of Year 11 PP students.
- **KS4 revision provision:** Monday to Friday programme.
- **Year 11 interviews for VI form:** students targeted to specific members of SLT based on need.
- **SEN interventions for SEN PP students:** SENCO and team personalise interventions/support for PP students who are also SEN. E.g. Lexia, HW club for SEN students, mentoring of SEN students.
- **Year 10 HW drive:** detention set for those with amber or red HW status.
- **Inclusion in student voice:** e.g. anti-bullying, safe space, Year 11 questionnaire on what would help them learn better.
- **Pilot** run of VI form students mentoring **Year 11 maths**.
- **Audit of year team interventions to improve PP attendance figure:** from December 16 to March 17 attendance in Years 9, 10 and 11 improved.
- **Additional GCSE Maths and English lessons** for disadvantaged pupils in year 11.

Pupil Premium and spending

The total funding received by St John's for the 2016-7 academic year was £264,250. The funding is spend in a variety of ways with the direct and explicit aim of narrowing the attainment gap between the highest and lowest achievers. This includes investment in both academic and pastoral initiatives. A breakdown of expenditure for 2015-6 is shown below.

Improvement initiative	Amount (£)	Description
Counselling	9000	Specialist counselling to support PP students' needs
Family Attendance Officer	6950	Additional tracking and tracking and support of PP students with poor attendance.
Resources	5000	Support with uniform, educational trips and additional resources.
Specialist teachers	116,001	Specialist staff with primary and other relevant experience, who work with PP students.
LSA	65,615	Learning support staff and resources to support PP students in lessons, Learning Support and Return to Learn.
Pastoral support	28,186	Staffing to support pastoral needs of PP
Management of PP	31,548	Staff cost to overview and track PP students
Additional support	1950	After school intervention and revision
Total	264,250	

5 Impact of spending

5.1 Attendance figures for the year 2016-17 (Figs are in %)

	Yr7	Yr8	Yr9	Yr10	Yr11	School average	National Average (Last year)
All pupils	96.6	95	92.6	93.3	94.4	94.4	94.8
Non Pupil Premium	96.9	95.25	95.5	94.86	93.46	95.4	95.7
Pupil Premium	95.9	93.65	92.6	90.72	90.94	91.9	92.5
Gap	1	1.6	2.9	4.14	3.5	3.5	3.2

Pupils who fall below the government minimum attendance requirement (92%) are identified and monitored by the school Attendance Officer.

5.2 Results – Attainment and Progress

Year 11 Results – 3 Year Trends

Basics 4+ English and Maths

	2017	2016	2015
All students	51%	64%	62%
Non Pupil Premium	59%	72%	70%
Pupil Premium	30%	40%	42%
School Gap	-29%	-32%	-28%
Gap Narrowed	YES		

Basics 5+ English and Maths – 3 Year Trend

	2017	2016	2015
All students	26%	-	-
Non Pupil Premium	31%	-	-
Pupil Premium	17%	-	-
School Gap	14%	-	-
Gap Narrowed	-		

Progress 8 Measure – 3 Year Trend

	2017	2016	2015
All students	+0.13	0.02	-
Non Pupil Premium	+0.43	0.21	-
Pupil Premium	-0.55	-0.53	-
School Gap	-0.98	-0.74	-
Gap Narrowed	NO		

Comment

Though the gap between PP and non PP students achieving The Basics Measure (Both GCSE English and Maths at Grade 4 or above) has narrowed in 2017, the gap remains wide and narrowing this gap further this continues to be a key priority for the school. Narrowing the gap between PP and non PP students on the Progress 8 Headline Measure also remains a key priority.

5.3 Pupil Destinations: Year 11 cohort 2016-17

		Destination category				Total:
		1:	2:	3:	4:	
		VI St John's	VI in other school/college	Work based training	Unplaced	
Pupil Premium	Y	22	25	3	0	50
	N	83	29	1	0	113
Total		105	54	4	0	163
					0% (National 5%)	

Comment

The zero NEETs figure is very pleasing: all Year 11 students have secured a destination pathway.

Further information can be found by following the link to the website below:

<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/118933>