

West Hill Primary School : Vision and Values Statement for Pupil Premium

'Learning Today for the World of Tomorrow'

This Vision and Values Statement on Pupil Premium has 'Safeguarding Children and Child Protection', the sentiments of 'Every Child Matters', the school's 'Healthy school', 'Investors in People Gold', 'Eco-School', 'Forest School' and 'Artsmark Gold' ethos, 'Excellence and Enjoyment' and the School's Mission Statement and Aims at its heart.

West Hill Primary School is a Co-operative Trust school having formed The SMILE Learning Trust in November 2013.

(Support, Motivate, Inspire, Learn Excel)

Our school ethos is based on 'Care', 'tolerance', 'trust' and 'respect' and on our SMILE Learning Trust Co-operative Values of: self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity, solidarity. As Co-operative members, we believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

Background

The Government's Social Mobility Strategy, launched in April 2011, aims to tackle unfairness at every stage of life with specific measures to improve social mobility from the foundation years to school and adulthood. The Pupil Premium is part of the Social Mobility Strategy.

Poverty is the strongest predictor of a child's future life-chances. In terms of attainment, the facts speak for themselves:

- The highest early achievers from poorer backgrounds are overtaken by lower achieving children from advantaged backgrounds by age seven; by the end of Key Stage 1 the odds of a pupil eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) achieving Level 2 in reading, writing and maths are one third those of a non-FSM pupil.
- The gap widens further during secondary education and persists into Higher Education. The odds of an FSM pupil achieving five or more GCSEs at A* - C including English and mathematics are less than one third those of a non FSM pupil.
- A pupil from a non-deprived background is more than twice as likely to go on to study at university as their deprived peers.
- Attainment gaps have proved to be persistent and slow at narrowing despite investment.
- The Government has made it clear that this is a morally and socially unacceptable position and it has made narrowing attainment gaps between rich and poor its top priority.

The Government believes that the Pupil Premium, which is additional to main school funding, is the best way to address the current underlying inequalities between the poorest and wealthiest children by ensuring that funding to tackle disadvantage reaches the pupils who need it most.

It is for schools to decide how the Pupil Premium, which is allocated per FSM pupil, is spent, since they are best placed to assess what additional provision should be made to best meet their pupils' needs.

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Rationale and Vision and Values Statement

'In outstanding schools in particular, the curriculum has been effectively designed to match the needs of pupils and, where alternative curriculum was in place, this was rigorously quality assured to ensure effectiveness.' (Ofsted 2011: 51)

Excellence and Equity

The pursuit of **excellence** in all of West Hill Primary School's activities is demonstrated by an uncompromising and highly successful drive to strongly improve, and maintain, the highest levels of achievement and personal development for **all pupils** over a sustained period of time. To this end, the leadership and management of the school focus on the necessary priorities for ensuring that **all pupils** make excellent progress in reading, writing and mathematics and across all areas of the curriculum.

We, at West Hill Primary School, aim to provide the best possible education for **all pupils**, matching our broad and balanced curriculum to the needs and abilities of our pupils. We shall provide pastoral care and support and learning opportunities which are **fair and equitable** to all. We shall use our Pupil Premium funding to make a real difference in closing the gap for all underperforming groups of children. We recognise that closing the gap between children eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) and their wealthier peers is a key component of the Government's Social Mobility Strategy along with raising standards in all schools and raising aspirations for **all** children and we have made it a key priority for our school.

Our Principles and Strategies

The Sutton Trust -EEF Teaching and Learning Toolkit is an independent resource, based on educational research, which provides guidance for teachers and schools on how to use their resources to improve the attainment of disadvantaged pupils. The Toolkit covers 21 topics, each summarised in terms of their potential impact on attainment, the strength of the evidence supporting them, their cost and their applicability. West Hill Primary School has used the Sutton Trust Toolkit to help identify which approaches are potentially the best for increasing the attainment of our disadvantaged pupils and underperforming groups and which approaches offer less promising chances of success. Based on Sutton Trust research and the school's knowledge of its pupils, its community and what works best for our school, we place the following **principles and strategies** at the heart of all learning as we believe that they produce the best results for our children.

- Having very high expectations in terms of the standards, achievement and behaviour of **every child** across the ability spectrum.
- A strong belief in the education of the whole child.
- Providing **all children** with high quality, clear feedback about their work and ways they could improve it to move their learning forward.
- Peer tutoring through Learning Partners with **all children**.
- Metacognition: teaching **all our children** to learn how to learn, to think, to problem-solve, to recognise learning styles and to be lifelong learners.
- Early years intervention: targeting children in the early stages of their learning.
- One to one support for specific needs, such as learning difficulties or social and emotional matters as well as daily reading, phonics and writing.

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- Support from high quality, highly trained, experienced teachers and teaching assistants who have a variety of knowledge and expertise across a range of areas and needs.
- Involving our parents and carers in the learning process as much as possible.
- Enabling children in receipt of Pupil Premium to participate in events and extra-curricular activities, both at lunchtime and after-school.

Accountability, Monitoring and Evaluation

We keep the strategies and principles above at the heart of our decision-making on expenditure of the Pupil Premium and publish a list of specific learning opportunities based on our principles, on our school website. We have taken the decision not to publish specifics out of respect and care for the pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium, who are in the minority.

We keep our Pupil Premium strategies under constant review to ensure that only the best is provided for **all our pupils** and to demonstrate the impact of our spending on the outcomes for pupils. We seek ways to encourage parents and carers to apply for free school meals where pride, stigma or changing circumstances act as barriers to its take-up.

This Statement should be read in conjunction with West Hill Primary School's Policies for:

- Safeguarding Children and Child Protection
- Children in Care
- Special Educational Needs and Disability
- Independent Learning, Thinking Skills, Problem Solving and Life-Long Learning
- All Curriculum Policies