



19 November 2019

Dear Parent / Carer

I am writing to inform you about how St Alban's Catholic High School uses the Pupil Premium Funding that it receives from the government.

We will shortly be sending you a questionnaire to complete that will ask about your opinions on your son/daughter's progress at school and how we can best support your child. We would be very grateful for your feedback.

### **Pupil Premium**

Pupil Premium (PP) was introduced by the government in 2011 and is allocated to schools to support students who have been registered for free school meals (FSM) at any point in the last six years (known as 'Ever 6 FSM') or who are Children in Care (CiC) or who are students who have parents that have been in the UK armed forces in the last five years.

The Pupil Premium is a grant given by the government to schools in England to decrease the attainment gap that is commonly seen for students that fall into one of the above categories. For each pupil who is currently receiving FSM, or has received them in the past six years, their school receives £935 (secondary 11-16). The school receives £300 for Service PP.

The pupil premium is allocated for schools to:

- Improve the academic outcomes of PP students of all abilities
- Close the attainment gap between PP students and their peers

Schools decide how to use the pupil premium by looking at the needs of all students and deciding what strategies will have the maximum impact in the school. There is no expectation that schools should spend the grant only on eligible students, or on a per eligible student basis. Therefore, some spending will be on whole school strategies that include improving the quality of teaching and learning, which have the potential to impact positively on all students.

### **St Alban's Catholic High School PP strategy.**

We publish our PP strategy annually on our website. Please read this to see the various whole school projects that we are currently offering to improve progress, aspiration and engagement for all PP students and families.

### **Statement for Funding of Activities and Resources**

One element of our funding aims to ensure that Pupil Premium students are not disadvantaged from accessing the school curriculum, and other curriculum linked opportunities, due to an inability to pay.

To this end we have created a Student Support Fund. Details of this can be found on our website and a summary is included below.

### **1. Trips & Visits**

We will aim to make the organisation of trips as fair as possible for all students and their families.

#### Years 7 to 11

- Trips that involve the whole year group and are Curriculum or SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social or Cultural) based will be free of charge for all those students who are currently receiving FSMs. (For example: Reflection Day, Geography Fieldwork Day, Curriculum Day)
- Optional trips that involve limited number of students and are not directly related to essential curriculum needs will be 50% funded for those students who are currently receiving FSMs. This includes the Duke of Edinburgh opportunity.
- Payments for any trips for students who are CiC will be arranged via the CiC lead teacher and funded separately.
- Residential trips will involve those organising the trip in directing eligible families to alternative funding sources such as The Northgate Foundation.

#### Years 12 and 13

- Eligible students are encouraged and supported to apply for the Sixth Form Bursary and can then decide if they wish to use this money for school organised trips and visits.

### **2. Activities Days**

- All students currently receiving FSMs will be allocated £20 to spend towards an activity of their choice.

### **3. Revision Materials**

- All Year 10 and 11 PP students may receive Revision Materials for any of their GCSE subjects (that a charge is usually made for), at no cost.

### **4. Resources**

- Tech contributions for current FSM students in Years 7-9 will be paid for from the PP budget.
- Current FSM Tech and Art students in Years 10 & 11 may claim funding towards the costs of materials over and above that which is supplied by the department and which are essential to the coursework element of their course. Agreement on cost must be reached with Head of Subject first.

### **5. Music Lessons**

- Students currently claiming FSM can receive individual music tuition at 50% of cost, initially for one year. This will be reviewed at the end of each term and then again at the end of each year. Continuance of funding will depend on student commitment and attitude.

### **6. Uniform**

- All PP students are able to access the Second Hand Supply of uniform currently in stock at the school. If no suitable items are available, then individual funding decisions will be made depending on the item. Please contact school reception for more information.
- There is a maximum £20 allowance for those students currently receiving FSM who require new school shoes.

## Sixth Form Bursary

Students attending our sixth form can apply to receive a bursary. Details of the criteria required, along with the application form, can be found on our school website.

The amount to be awarded is determined by individual circumstances but can assist with things such as travel passes, day trips and residential, University visits and open days and any materials for study, including revision guides.

If you require further information about any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact me via school reception.

Regards

Claire Pickard (PP lead)



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