



# St. John's Church of England Middle School

December 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians

I am writing to introduce Mr Upwood as the Designated Teacher in school with lead responsibility for promoting the educational outcomes for young people that are Looked after or have been previously looked after. If this is relevant to your family, please read on.

Each December we remind parents and guardians that the deadline for the Pupil Premium Plus selfdeclaration is in early January, when our school census is completed.

## **Pupil Premium Plus**

If your child was previously looked after by a Local Authority and **is now adopted, Subject to a special guardianship order or subject to a child arrangement order**. The school can claim a grant (currently £2,300) each year to support the social, emotional and educational needs of this group of children.

**The Department for Education requires you to provide evidence of your child's status;** this will allow our administrative team to complete a tick box on our school census to obtain funding. Please be reassured that such evidence and information will be treated in the strictest confidence and names or details of children are not provided as part of the census.

Please be aware that you must make this declaration each time your child moves to a new school, so if this is your child's first year with us we would be grateful if you could let us know. If you have previously made a declaration to us, then you are not required to make it again.

This information is used for funding purposes only. If you wish school staff to know about your child's status in order to better understand and support them we would welcome a discussion. Mr Upwood is our named member of staff with lead responsibility for children who are looked after, have been previously looked after, adopted or who are living under a special guardianship order.

## **How is the funding used?**

It is important to understand that the Pupil Premium Plus is not ring-fenced funding for the child that attracts it. This gives the school flexibility to decide how the additional funding can best be deployed to have the maximum impact. Schools can, for example, decide to train their staff in recognising and responding to attachment-related issues, or provide tailored support for an adopted child that is in excess of the value of the individual premium. As a school, we welcome discussions from parents and carers on how the Pupil Premium Plus is used to support your child and are transparent about our spending of this funding - please see the annual Pupil Premium Report on our website.

To contact Mr Upwood, please do so via e-praise or via a call to the school office (01527 832376).

**Mr K Medway**  
**Deputy Headteacher**

**Mrs A Elwell**  
**Head of School**

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