

Pupil premium strategy statement - St Ethelbert's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

This statement details our school's use of pupil premium (and recovery premium) funding to help improve the attainment of our disadvantaged pupils.

It outlines our pupil premium strategy, how we intend to spend the funding in this academic year and the outcomes for disadvantaged pupils last academic year.

School overview

Detail	Data
Number of pupils in school	441
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	18%
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers (3 year plans are recommended)	2024/2025 – 2027-2028
Date this statement was published	December 2024
Date on which it will be reviewed	September 2025
Statement authorised by	Fiona Maynard, Head teacher
Pupil premium lead	Salma Mirza, Teacher
Governor / Trustee lead	Margaret Matthews

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£100,078.00
Recovery premium funding allocation this academic year	£0
Pupil premium (and recovery premium*) funding carried forward from previous years	£0
Total budget for this academic year	£100,078.00

Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

Our intention is that all pupils, irrespective of their background or the challenges they face, make the best possible progress and achieve positive outcomes with a particular focus upon high academic attainment across the curriculum. The intention of our pupil premium strategy is to support disadvantaged pupils to achieve this goal and to ensure that provision for all pupils is of a high quality.

Our ultimate objectives are:

- To narrow the attainment gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils.
- For all children (disadvantaged or not) to make at least expected progress from their starting points.
- To support our children's health, wellbeing and physical fitness to enable them to access learning at an appropriate level.
- For all pupils (disadvantaged or not) to engage in, and be represented, in all aspects of school life equally.
- To develop all pupils' oral language skills and the ability to express their views fluently and coherently through spoken language.
- To improve attendance for all children (disadvantaged or not)

We aim to do this through:

- High-quality teaching, with a focus on areas in which disadvantaged pupils require the most support. This is proven to have the greatest impact on closing the disadvantage attainment gap and at the same time will benefit the non-disadvantaged pupils in our school. Implicit in the intended outcomes detailed below, is the intention that non-disadvantaged pupils' attainment will be sustained and improved alongside progress for their disadvantaged peers.
- Ensuring that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all pupils, including challenging disadvantaged pupils in the work that they're set
- Ensuring that we act early to intervene at the point need is identified and provide appropriate provision for pupils who belong to vulnerable groups
- Adopting a whole school approach in which all staff take responsibility for disadvantaged pupils' outcomes and raise expectations of what they can achieve
- Facilitating a wide range of enrichment experiences which will positively impact on the pupils' academic achievement, physical fitness and well-being.
- Providing pastoral support to the children. We have identified (through assessment of need) that the main challenges experienced by our most disadvantaged pupils include SEMH needs (particularly anxiety), complex family

situations and safeguarding concerns. We have a Pastoral Lead who provides pastoral support to pupils and their families, including punctuality and attendance, as well as dealing with safeguarding concerns and multi-agency issues. Due to our pupils' increasing SEMH needs, we also have 2 part-time Emotional Learning Support Assistants (ELSA) who provide bespoke support to identified pupils.

Challenges

This details the key challenges to achievement that we have identified among our disadvantaged pupils.

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	Narrowing the attainment gap across reading, writing and maths between pupil premium and non-pupil premium children. Our assessments and observations indicate that the education and wellbeing of many of our disadvantaged pupils have been impacted by partial school closures to a greater extent than for other pupils. These findings are supported by national studies. This has resulted in gaps in knowledge leading to some pupils falling further behind age-related expectations, especially in writing and maths.
2	Ensuring previously high attaining pupil premium pupils make accelerated progress and attain the highest possible levels.
3	Many of our pupils have limited experiences beyond their home life and immediate community. Our assessments, observations and discussions with pupils and families have identified a lack of enrichment opportunities for these pupils. These challenges particularly affect disadvantaged pupils, including their wellbeing, physical fitness and attainment.
4	The pupil premium children have a range of pastoral needs which impact on their academic progress. Our assessments, observations and discussions with pupils and families have identified social and emotional issues for many pupils.
5	Assessments, observations, and discussions with pupils indicate under-developed oral language skills and vocabulary gaps among many disadvantaged pupils. These are evident from Reception through to KS2 and in general.
6	Our attendance data over from last year indicates that attendance among disadvantaged pupils has been 2.3% lower than for non-disadvantaged pupils. Our assessments and observations indicate that absenteeism is negatively impacting disadvantaged pupils' progress.

Intended outcomes

This explains the outcomes we are aiming for **by the end of our current strategy plan**, and how we will measure whether they have been achieved.

Intended outcome	Success criteria
1 -Pupils make at least expected progress in reading, writing and maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The difference between PP and non-PP pupils reducing year upon year • School outcomes in 2026/27 at EYFS, KS1 and KS2 at least in line with national figures • The attainment gap between girls and boys reduced by the end of the key stages
2 - High achieving pupils achieve greater depth in reading, writing and maths	Those achieving greater depth at baseline will maintain greater depth at the end of the year
3 - Pupil premium pupils enjoy the wide range of enrichment activities we have on offer at St Ethelbert's	<p>Sustained high levels of wellbeing from 2026/ 27 demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • qualitative data from student voice, student and parent surveys and teacher observations • a significant increase in participation in enrichment activities, particularly among disadvantaged pupils • PP children have opportunities for leadership roles across the school <p>Discounts in line with our charging policy will continue to apply to pupil premium families for all enrichment opportunities to include trips and visits, music lessons, residential trips and experiences</p>
4 - Pupils are supported socially and emotionally at St Ethelbert's	<p>Sustained high levels of wellbeing from 2026/ 27 demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • qualitative data from pupil voice reporting that they feel happy, safe and valued in school and understand who to go to if they are concerned or worried • Every member of staff will be a mentor to a disadvantaged pupil, meet with them regularly and provide support/alleviate barriers. • Peer mentor scheme to run again where children are trained to support each other • Identified children are invited to ELSA sessions, Nurture, Art and Lego Therapy sessions with support staff. These will be monitored to identify impact.

5 - Improved oral language skills and vocabulary among disadvantaged pupils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessments and observations indicate significantly improved oral language among disadvantaged pupils. This is evident when triangulated with other sources of evidence, including engagement in lessons, book scrutiny and ongoing formative assessment.
6 - To achieve and sustain improved attendance for all pupils, particularly our disadvantaged pupils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance for all pupils has improved from 2023/24 Regularly monitoring attendance – targeting pupils who are continuously absent Parent engagement – home visit and building a support network Creating an engaging curriculum

Activity in this academic year

This details how we intend to spend our pupil premium (and recovery premium) funding **this academic year** to address the challenges listed above.

Teaching (for example, CPD, recruitment and retention)

Budgeted cost: £35,000

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<i>Teaching : Ongoing CPD to improve teaching in writing and maths and oracy (linked to SDP)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + All relevant staff will receive CPD training on Herts 4 Learning writing scheme to ensure teaching of writing is well planned and well delivered across the school + English Lead has time out of class to help embed effective teaching of writing. + RWI phonics training which will lead to 1:1 phonics tuition using RWI materials for PP pupils by trained HLTAs Literacy_KS1_Guidance_Report_2020.pdf (d2tic4wvo1iusb.cloudfront.net) +All relevant staff will receive CPD training on White Rose maths scheme to ensure teaching of maths is well planned and well delivered across the school including the use of CPA + All relevant staff will receive CPD training + Maths Lead has time out of class to help embed effective teaching of Maths. <p>The DfE non-statutory guidance has been produced in conjunction with the National Centre for Excellence in the</p>	<p>1 2 5</p>

	<p>Teaching of Mathematics, drawing on evidence-based approaches:</p> <p>Maths guidance KS 1 and 2.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)</p> <p>The EEF guidance is based on a range of the best available evidence:</p> <p>Improving Mathematics in Key Stages 2 and 3</p> <p>The EEF Guide to the Pupil Premium - Autumn 2021</p> <p>https://d2tic4wvo1iusb.cloudfront.net/documents/guidance-for-teachers/pupil-premium/EEF-Guide-to-the-Pupil-Premium-Autumn-2021.pdf</p>	
<p><i>Quality first teaching for all pupils</i></p>	<p>+ EEF guide to pupil premium – tiered approach – teaching is the top priority:</p> <p>The EEF Guide to the Pupil Premium - Autumn 2021</p> <p>https://d2tic4wvo1iusb.cloudfront.net/documents/guidance-for-teachers/pupil-premium/EEF-Guide-to-the-Pupil-Premium-Autumn-2021.pdf</p> <p>+ Training and supporting highly qualified teachers to deliver targeted support, including adaptive teaching and giving specific feedback, where needed.</p> <p>Feedback;</p> <p>EEF Feedback</p>	<p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>5</p>

Targeted academic support (for example, tutoring, one-to-one support, structured interventions)

Budgeted cost: £ 30,078

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p><i>Reading, Writing and Maths interventions</i></p>	<p>+ Establish small group interventions for disadvantaged pupils a) falling behind age-related expectations</p> <p>b) not maintaining greater depth in order to provide quality personalised support for the children</p> <p>+ Higher attainment in reading indicates better life chances</p> <p>EEF Teaching and Learning Toolkit</p> <p>Teaching assistant interventions</p> <p>Small group tuition</p>	<p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>5</p>

<p><i>Oral Language Embedding dialogic activities across the school curriculum. These can support pupils to articulate key ideas, consolidate understanding and extend vocabulary. Ongoing staff CPD</i></p>	<p>There is a strong evidence base that suggests oral language interventions, including dialogic activities such as high-quality classroom discussion, are inexpensive to implement with high impacts on reading:</p> <p>Oral language interventions</p> <p>Improving Mathematics in the Early Years and Key Stage 1</p> <p>Improving Mathematics in KS2 and KS3 Schools - Voice 21</p>	<p>1 2 5</p>
<p><i>Early intervention in oracy</i></p>	<p>Trained Early Years Practitioners to plan and lead 'Time to Talk' early intervention to develop oracy skills in Nursery and Reception</p> <p>Oral language interventions EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)</p>	<p>1 2 5</p>
<p><i>1:1 pupil tutoring</i></p>	<p>Teachers/ HLTA's to provide high quality 1-1 sessions which build on the child's previous experiences and develops their areas of need in after school sessions. This will include those working at Greater Depth as well as those working below age related expectations.</p> <p>EEF One to one tuition</p>	<p>1 2</p>
<p><i>1:1 pupil progress meetings with teachers and AHT/ DH/ HT</i></p>	<p>Pupil Progress meetings track progress of PP pupils and appropriate, timely interventions are put in place. There is a collective responsibility for PP children's progress. Staff will know who they are, their barriers to learning and any strategies needed to meet their educational and emotional needs.</p>	<p>1 2 3 4</p>
<p><i>Easter Booster School</i></p>	<p>Targeted support for Year 6 pupils in reading, writing and maths during Easter holidays by teaching staff</p>	<p>1 2</p>
<p><i>Purchase web based programs to be used in school at home: Purple Mash TTRS Seesaw</i></p>	<p>EEF toolkit states the importance of parental engagement as well as using digital technology. There is clear evidence that technology approaches are beneficial for reading, writing and maths practice.</p> <p>EEF Toolkit: EEF Parental engagement EEF Use of digital technology to improve learning</p>	<p>1 2 3</p>

<i>Parental engagement approaches and responsive interventions to target causes of low attendance (including persistent and severe attendance)</i>	Attendance interventions rapid evidence assessment	1 2 5

Wider strategies (for example, related to attendance, behaviour, wellbeing)

Budgeted cost: £ 35,000

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number (s) addressed
<i>Engaging with families</i>	Using Seesaw platform to share communication, targets and achievements. EEF Toolkit: Teaching learning toolkit - Parental-engagement	1 2 4
<i>Exciting trips/ visits planned to enhance the curriculum</i>	Children who are exposed to these have an enhanced knowledge and understanding of the world. Ofsted research (2019) places emphasis on improving cultural capital, particularly for disadvantaged pupils. Rock steady music sessions to be offered to 5 of our disadvantaged pupils for free. This will provide free weekly music sessions for those showing a passion in music.	3
<i>Breakfast Club/ After School Sports Clubs to be subsidised</i>	Supporting the wellbeing of disadvantaged pupils and families ensuring pupils are ready to learn through having breakfast and socialising with their peers - developing life and social skills.	3
<i>Lunchtime club</i>	Coach to work with pupils during lunchtimes to reduce behaviour issues and increase engagement and confidence in team activities	3 4
<i>Leadership roles offered to</i>	All children to be recognised and represented in roles throughout the school, for example, faith ambassadors, subject ambassadors, school council and house captains, developing confidence/ leadership skills	3 4

<i>disadvantaged children</i>		
<i>Staff mentors to PP children</i>	Children are provided with pastoral care, guidance and support to raise self-esteem and develop skills of resilience, independence and perseverance	4
<i>Pastoral Lead employed to reach out to those families who need extra support through: Home visits Signposting for support Attending TAF, CIN, CP meetings Attendance Officer in place to support families and improve attendance</i>	Dedicated person in the role, who builds a relationship of trust and support with the parents, leading to improved relationships with school and improved home lives for the whole family. This includes supporting attendance and punctuality where needed. EEF Toolkit: Parental engagement EEF Toolkit: Social and emotional learning DfE's Improving School Attendance; Improving school attendance: support for schools and local authorities Improving parental engagement by using a variety of parent events to support more effective collaboration with parents	4 6
<i>Provision of ELSA by 2 trained professionals</i>	There is extensive evidence associating childhood social and emotional skills with improved outcomes at school and in later life (e.g., improved academic performance, attitudes, behaviour and relationships with peers): EEF Social and Emotional Learning.pdf(educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	4
<i>Senior Mental Health Lead</i>	Utilising a DfE grant, a member of SLT is trained as a senior mental health lead to lead a program which supports pupils' mental health and well-being	
<i>6 2 7 Transfer Support for Children</i>	Effective transition between schools is vital for continuing a child's education and improving the mental well-being of children. Children will engage in small groups as well as whole class workshops to support transition to secondary school.	4 6
<i>Resources for home</i>	Stationery packs and reading books provided for PP pupils at home- as determined by staff mentor	1 2
<i>Contingency fund for acute issues</i>	Based on our experiences and those of similar schools to ours, we have identified a need to set a small amount of funding aside to respond quickly to needs that have not yet been identified.	All

Total budgeted cost: £ 100,078.00

Part B: Review of the previous academic year

Outcomes for disadvantaged pupils

We have analysed the performance of our school's disadvantaged pupils during the 2023/24 academic year using EYFS, key stage 1 and 2 performance data and our own internal assessments. We have achieved the outcomes we set out to achieve by June 2024, as stated in the Intended Outcomes section, as our Pupil Premium pupils have outperformed non-Pupil Premium pupils in every Key Stage.

End of EYFS shows 80% of PP pupils achieved a Good Level of Development (GLD) compared to 63% of non-PP pupils.

End of KS1 data shows 67% of PP pupils achieving EXS in Reading, Writing and Maths compared to 57% of non-PP pupils.

In year 6, PP pupils achieved higher scaled scores in KS2 SATs in all areas than non-PP pupils and were above national average:

Pupil groups	Pupils	Reading SS	Reading VA	Writing SS	Writing VA	Maths SS	Maths VA	GPS SS	GPS VA
All pupils	54	107.0	+1.6	102.7	+2.1	104.6	+0.1	107.8	+2.3
Female	26	106.8	+1.7	102.7	+2.2	103.6	+0.3	107.1	+2.0
Male	28	107.2	+1.5	102.7	+1.9	105.5	-0.1	108.5	+2.6
Higher	4	109.8	+2.5	105.5	+2.6	106.0	+0.6	112.8	+5.9 ●
Middle	29	107.1	+2.0	103.1	+1.9	104.6	+0.3	107.8	+2.7
Lower	8	103.0	-0.4	101.0	+2.2	101.3	-0.8	102.3	-0.9
FSM6	9	109.9	+1.5	105.6	+1.7	105.5	-0.5	109.4	+0.9
Not FSM6	45	106.5	+1.6	102.2	+2.1	104.4	+0.3	107.5	+2.6

Overall, 32% of PP pupils made accelerated progress to achieve higher standards in at least one core subject from Advent 2023 to Pentecost 2024. At the end of Pentecost 2024, PP pupil attainment in reading increased from 66% to 82% working at the expected level. PP attainment in writing progressed from 66% working at the expected level to 68%. PP attainment in Maths improved from 68% to 76% at the expected level. These results are also higher across all subjects than last year showing a year on year improvement.

Our PP progress tracker shows that working one-to-one with an adult (either in an intervention or tutoring) has had the greatest impact on the pupils' achievements. Of the 32% of PP pupils who made accelerated progress this year, over half had extra one-to-one support. This will be rolled out further in 2024/2025.

Time taken to build relationships with disadvantaged families by all staff, and especially our pastoral team, has led to improved relationships with school. Increased parental engagement over the last year has led to a rise in the attendance of disadvantaged pupils to being broadly in line with all pupils at 91.8%, up from 90.5% last year.

Pupils who attend our after school gardening club won the Slough Small Garden in a Wheelbarrow competition in July 2024. They achieved the 'Best in Show' Award.

The results mean that we are on course to achieve the outcomes that we set out to achieve June 2027, as stated in the Intended Outcomes section above. In order to achieve all of the Intended Outcomes, we have reviewed our strategy plan and made changes to how we intend to use some of our budget this academic year, as set out in the Activity in This Academic Year section above. This includes funding more 1:1 tutoring as this had the largest impact on results and a sharper focus on CPD for staff in RWI, Maths and Oral Language in order to further improve phonics, maths and reading attainment.