

# Pupil premium strategy statement

This statement details our school's use of pupil premium (and recovery premium) funding to help improve the attainment of our disadvantaged pupils. The statement relates to 2023-24, the second year of the three year plan.

It outlines our pupil premium strategy, how we intend to spend the funding in this academic year and the effect that last year's spending of pupil premium had within our school.

## School overview

Detail	Data
School name	St James' CE Primary
Number of pupils in school	140 (inc Nursery)
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	28.6%
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers	2022-23, <b>2023-24</b> , 2024-25
Date this statement was published	first published 14.10.22; 27.11.23
Date on which it will be reviewed	October 2024
Statement authorised by	David Roundtree
Pupil premium lead	Natalie Beatson
Governor lead	Andrew Gibson

## Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£52,715
Recovery premium funding allocation this academic year	£5,220
Pupil premium funding carried forward from previous years (enter £0 if not applicable)	£0
<b>Total budget for this academic year</b>	<b>£57,935</b>

# Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

## Statement of intent

**We want our school to be a happy and healthy place to achieve and believe for every child, including those who may be socially disadvantaged.**

'Happy and healthy' (including positive mental health) because we can't learn effectively without these basic needs being met. 'Achieve and believe' because we want our children to be confident in themselves so they can realise their potential.

We use pupil premium funding to help us meet this aim.

**In our approach to planning and executing this strategy, we follow key principles that we believe can maximise the impact of our pupil premium spending:**

### **High expectations**

We firmly believe in all children: no excuses are made for underperformance. We will strive to overcome barriers to learning for pupils and give every individual the best possible chance of success.

### **High quality provision**

Good quality teaching is key to good progress and attainment. We continue to ensure that all pupils receive good teaching. We ensure consistent application of key elements of teaching and learning such as planning, feedback and assessment. We provide high quality professional development for all staff.

### **Emphasis on basic skills**

High standards in English and mathematics can only be achieved if our children are confident and competent in basic skills and knowledge, such as reading age-appropriate texts fluently and having number fact fluency (a rapid recall of number facts, including times tables). Our emphasis on basic skills may be in the form of direct teaching and additional support, or may be indirect through improving attendance, behaviour or access to resources and support.

### **Broad and balanced curriculum**

Pupils access the very broadest opportunities across all subjects. This includes providing or subsidising rich cultural experiences and building up pupils' 'cultural capital'.

### **Knowing our children**

Pupils eligible for pupil premium funding are not always socially disadvantaged or at risk of underachievement. Some potentially higher attaining pupils need challenge to make sure they don't under-achieve. Likewise, there are pupils who may be vulnerable but who are not in receipt of pupil premium funding – we use the funding to support pupils with identified needs.

### **Collaboration**

We adopt a whole school approach: all relevant staff are involved in identifying pupils in need and the barriers to their learning. We work across Sphere Federation to share ideas and to challenge each other on the impact of strategies.

### **Early intervention**

High quality provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage with a strong emphasis on oracy and characteristics of effective learning builds a strong foundation for subsequent success in Key Stages 1 and 2.

**There are key processes in place as we formulate and execute this strategy:**

### **Evaluation**

We review how effective our previous strategy was. The last two years has seen disruption caused by the coronavirus, making it hard to reliably measure impact. Before the pandemic, however, we were increasingly confident that the strategies we had developed were successful. To support our evaluations, we seek the views of external consultants.

### Identifying barriers to learning

Pupils can experience many barriers to their learning. We identify these barriers and set out ways to overcome them as much as we can. Analysis has shown that typical barriers may be:

- attendance and punctuality issues
- lack of support at home
- weak language and communication skills
- behaviour and emotional difficulties
- low confidence and self-esteem
- lack of resources to support homework

### Use of assessment

We acknowledge the importance of assessment as a basis for planning provision including additional support and challenge. Assessment data is analysed each term in order to evaluate the performance of all pupils, including consideration of pupils selected for support using pupil premium funding where this can be evaluated in terms of quantitative outcomes.

### Provision

Children are individuals with varying needs and as such we employ a wide range of strategies aimed at ensuring that they achieve the highest standards of attainment. We take a flexible approach and therefore plans set out here may sometimes vary to meet an individual's need, if a specific or immediate one becomes more apparent.

### Consideration of evidence

We refer to research and evidence when considering the actions we take to address barriers to learning. The [Education Endowment Foundation's Teaching and Learning Toolkit](#) is central to this. (Reference to this is made below, using 'EEF' abbreviation.) For example, evidence from across the English school system shows that using pupil premium funding to improve teaching quality is the most effective way to improve outcomes for disadvantaged pupils – that's why we invest a significant amount in continuing professional development.

## Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	Previous limited progress and current lower attainment, which has been exacerbated by Covid lockdowns
2	Limited oral language skills, which slow down progress in reading and writing (and increasingly research indicates other subjects, too)
3	Limited learning behaviour, which might be a reflection of a lack of regular routines including home reading and learning spellings and practising number fact fluency
4	From time to time, due to social and/or emotional circumstances, some individuals are at risk of disengaging at an early age from education, not being ready for secondary school and not fulfilling their long-term potential.
5	Limited life and cultural experiences, which for some of our pupils restricts understanding of some curriculum areas

## 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
Excellent and/or additional provision for all through teaching and classroom-based support and challenge means that pupils eligible for PP make <b>accelerated progress</b> and increase attainment.	The majority of pupils make rapid progress in Reading, Writing and Maths. All pupils make at least expected progress in Reading, Writing and Maths.
<b>Improved oral language skills</b> for pupils identified as needing the support.	The progress made by children receiving speech and language support in Early Years Foundation Stage is rapid.
Through greater social and emotional support, <b>children are more ready and able to learn.</b>	All children chosen for additional support make at least expected progress in Reading, Writing and Maths. Where applicable, improved attendance.
Even <b>greater engagement and enrichment</b> that stems from increased opportunities for cultural and curriculum visits / experiences.	Pupil feedback indicates enriched learning experiences. Teacher observation confirms positive attitude.

## 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: £16,927 (supplemented where necessary and appropriate)

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Introduce split-age class in KS1 as well as continue in Y3,4. 2023-24 update: We have had to review staffing due to financial limitations, meaning this action will not continue in 2023-24; however, single age classes remain Early Years and Key Stage 1.	Despite EEF evidence relates to various potential benefits, in 2023-24, we have had to review staffing due to financial limitations, meaning we can no longer sustain smaller classes throughout school.	na
Carry out individual and small-group interventions to support and challenge pupils appropriately. This includes a Phonics Champion (support staff member with Phonics as a focus) and Times Tables Champion.	Children who keep up or catch up on specific gaps in their learning are more able to at least reach age-related expectations. EEF evidence relates to various aspects: individualised instruction (4 months' extra progress impact); one-to-one tuition (5 months); small group tuition 4 months); reading comprehension strategies (6 months)' teaching assistant interventions (4 months).	1
Subsidise leadership costs to free up senior leaders to support new teachers and additional student teachers in school.	<i>'Evidence from across the English school system shows that using your pupil premium funding to improve teaching quality is the most effective way to improve outcomes for disadvantaged pupils.'</i> ( <a href="#">DfE, 2021</a> )	1, 2

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

Budgeted cost: £4,563 (supplemented where necessary and appropriate)

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Speech and language therapy.	Our past experience indicates that this has a positive impact on selected children's communication skills. EEF evidence: 6 months' extra progress can be made through oral language interventions.	2
NumBots and Times Tables Rock Stars.	We have limited in-house evidence around the long-term impact of this because we began to invest just before the pandemic. EEF evidence: 5 months' extra progress can be made through effective homework.	1
After-school additional learning sessions led by adults in school. 2023-24 update: At least half of these are Maths, based on pupil outcomes 2022-23.	Proven track record of positive impact in-house, with the majority of targeted pupils having reached age-related expectations. EEF evidence: 6 months' extra progress can be made by reading comprehension strategies; 4 months' extra progress can be made using small group tuition.	1
IDL, an online reading and spelling programme.	EEF evidence: 5 months' extra progress can be made through effective phonics.	1

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

Budgeted cost: £36,445 (supplemented where necessary and appropriate)

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Fund the work of the Sphere Federation Learning Support Mentor.	Our past experience is that these partnerships have been instrumental in sustaining engagement or re-engaging individuals at risk of not fulfilling their potential. EEF evidence: those involved in social and emotional support can make 4 months' extra progress.	3
Invest in local extended services and inclusion partnerships.	As above.	4
Invest in play therapy. 2023-24 update: No sessions planned in 2023-24 due to financial priorities for pupil premium funding and school budget overall.	As above.	4
Children across school participate in a variety of funded experiences, which may include theatre visits, music lessons, after-school clubs, residential. This will include subsidised visits to art galleries / sculpture park as part of the curriculum this year.	Previous activity in this area evidences pupil enjoyment and engagement in learning: <i>'I've never been to the theatre before. I will be able to tell the story to my aunty when I get home. (Y1 pupil following a trip to the theatre).'</i> EEF evidence: those who participate in the arts can make 3 months' extra progress.	5
We're mindful of the cost of living crisis. As yet, we have yet to see a significant impact. However, we may need to divert funding towards some family support.	Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs indicates that a child can't learn successfully if basic physiological needs aren't satisfied.	

**Total budgeted cost: £57,935** (supplemented where necessary and appropriate)

## Part B: Review of outcomes in the previous academic year

### Pupil premium strategy outcomes

This details the impact that our pupil premium activity had on pupils in the 2022 to 2023 academic year.

#### **Pupil outcomes**

Numbers of pupils eligible for pupil premium are small. To ensure that pupils can't be identified, we have not included data for the very small numbers in any particular year group. Instead, we review progress and attainment across all children in Key Stage 1 and 2 who were eligible for pupil premium. In 2022-23, there were 36 pupils in this group.

We have assessed progress from previous starting points:

- for children in Key Stage 1, we have compared attainment in July 2023 with their attainment at the end of their Reception Year (or, if new to school, from their attainment on joining St James' CE Primary)
- similarly, for children in Key Stage 2, we have compared attainment in July 2023 with their attainment at the end of Key Stage 1 (ie the end of Year 2) (and similarly, if new to school, from their attainment on joining)

By the end of the 2022-23 school year, 56% of the group were working at the expected standard or higher (in fact, 19% at greater depth standard). 44% were working towards the standard. Progress in Reading is encouraging. Of the 36 pupils, 94% made at least expected progress: 44% made accelerated progress and 50% made expected progress.

A similar picture is in Writing. 53% of the group were working at the expected standard or higher (greater depth standard) and 47% were working towards the standard. As with Reading, progress in Writing is encouraging. 94% made at least expected progress: 28% made accelerated progress and 67% made expected progress.

Less positive is Maths. 47% of the group were working at the expected standard or higher and 53% were working towards the standard. 14% (five pupils) made slower than expected progress. Despite this, 86% made at least expected progress: 17% made accelerated progress and 69% made expected progress. In 2023-24, more whole-class Maths teaching to develop number fluency is planned.

**For further evaluative notes for 2022-23 actions, refer to the 2022-23 plan.**



## Externally provided programmes`

Programme	Provider
Speech and language therapy	Kathryn Thompson – independent SLT
Various curriculum support programmes, such as NumBots and Times Tables Rock Stars	Maths Circle: <a href="http://mathscircle.com/">http://mathscircle.com/</a>
We chose not to invest in external programmes through the <a href="#">National Tutoring Programme</a> as much of the support available involved online learning and we wanted to avoid this, based on the extent of online learning we had asked of our pupils.	