

Pupil premium strategy statement for Berewood Primary School

This statement details our school's use of pupil premium (and recovery premium for the 2022 to 2023 academic year) 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 effect that last year's spending of pupil premium had within our school.

School overview

Detail	Data
School name	Berewood Primary School
Number of pupils in school	422
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	28%
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers (3 year plans are recommended)	2022/2023 to 2024/2026
Date this statement was published	December 2022
Date on which it will be reviewed	July 2023
Statement authorised by	Megan Carter, Headteacher
Pupil premium lead	Laura Annalls, SENCo.
Governor / Trustee lead	Sharon Corbett, lead for disadvantaged pupils

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year 2022-23	£171,965
Recovery premium funding allocation this academic year	£16,965
Pupil premium funding carried forward from previous years (enter £0 if not applicable)	£0
Total budget for this academic year If your school is an academy in a trust that pools this funding, state the amount available to your school this academic year	£188,930

Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

Our intention is that all pupils, regardless of their background or the challenges they face, make good progress and achieve high attainment across all subject areas. The focus of our pupil premium strategy is to support disadvantaged pupils to achieve that goal, including helping those who are already high attainers to make further progress.

We will consider the challenges faced by vulnerable pupils, such as those who have a social worker and young carers. The activity we have outlined in this statement is also intended to support their needs, whilst raising attainment for all pupils.

High-quality teaching lies at the heart of our approach, 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.

Our strategy is also integral to wider school plans for education recovery, notably in its targeted support through the National Tutoring Programme for pupils whose education has been worst affected, including non-disadvantaged pupils.

Our approach will be responsive to common challenges and individual needs, rooted in robust diagnostic assessment, not assumptions about the impact of disadvantage. The approaches we have adopted complement each other to help pupils excel. To ensure they are effective we will:

- ensure disadvantaged pupils are challenged in the work that they are set
- act early to intervene
- adopt a whole school approach in which all staff take responsibility for disadvantaged pupils' outcomes and raise expectations of what they can achieve

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	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, are more common in our disadvantaged pupil cohorts.
2	Assessments, observations, and discussions with pupils suggest disadvantaged pupils generally have greater difficulties with phonics than their peers. This negatively impacts their development as readers.
3	<p>Internal and external (where available) assessments indicate that speaking and listening (English) attainment among disadvantaged pupils is significantly below that of non-disadvantaged pupils.</p> <p>On entry to Reception in the last 2 years, on average some 27% of our disadvantaged pupils arrive below age-related expectations compared to 13% of other pupils (for speaking, listening and understanding). A significant gap remains steady to the end of KS2.</p>
4	<p>Our assessments and observations indicate that the education and well-being 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.</p> <p>This has resulted in significant knowledge gaps leading to pupils falling further behind age-related expectations, especially in maths.</p>
5	<p>Our assessments (including survey), observations and discussions with pupils and families have identified social and emotional issues for many pupils and a lack of enrichment opportunities during school closure. These challenges particularly affect disadvantaged pupils, including their attainment.</p> <p>Teacher referrals for support have markedly increased during the pandemic. 30 pupils (17 of whom are disadvantaged) currently require additional support with social and emotional needs, with 8 (6 of whom are disadvantaged) receiving small group interventions.</p>
6	<p>Our attendance data over the last 2 years indicates that attendance among disadvantaged pupils has been between 1-2 % lower than for non-disadvantaged pupils.</p> <p>Of all the pupils persistently absent, 40% have been disadvantaged pupils during that period. Our assessments and observations indicate that absenteeism is negatively impacting disadvantaged pupils' progress.</p>

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
Improved oral language skills and vocabulary among disadvantaged pupils.	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.
Improved reading attainment among disadvantaged pupils.	KS2 reading outcomes in 2024/25 show that more than 60% of disadvantaged pupils met the expected standard.
Improved maths attainment for disadvantaged pupils at the end of KS2.	KS2 maths outcomes in 2024/25 show that more than 60% of disadvantaged pupils met the expected standard.
To achieve and sustain improved wellbeing for all pupils in our school, particularly our disadvantaged pupils.	Sustained high levels of wellbeing from 2024/25 demonstrated by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• qualitative data from student voice, student and parent surveys and teacher observations• a significant reduction in bullying• a significant increase in participation in enrichment activities, particularly among disadvantaged pupils
To achieve and sustain improved attendance for all pupils, particularly our disadvantaged pupils.	Sustained high attendance from 2024/25 demonstrated by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the overall absence rate for all pupils being no more than 8-9%, and the attendance gap between disadvantaged pupils and their non-disadvantaged peers being reduced by 5%.• the percentage of all pupils who are persistently absent being below 10% and the figure among disadvantaged pupils being no more than 3% lower than their peers.

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: **£160,000**

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>Purchase of standardised diagnostic assessments.</p> <p>Training for staff to ensure assessments are interpreted and administered correctly.</p>	<p>Standardised tests can provide reliable insights into the specific strengths and weaknesses of each pupil to help ensure they receive the correct additional support through interventions or teacher instruction:</p> <p>Standardised tests Assessing and Monitoring Pupil Progress Education Endowment Foundation EEF</p>	1, 2, 3, 4
<p>Embedding dialogic activities across the school curriculum. These can support pupils to articulate key ideas, consolidate understanding and extend vocabulary.</p> <p>We will purchase resources and fund ongoing teacher training and release time.</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 Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF</p>	1
<p>Purchase of a DfE validated Systematic Synthetic Phonics programme to secure stronger phonics teaching for all pupils.</p>	<p>Phonics approaches have a strong evidence base that indicates a positive impact on the accuracy of word reading (though not necessarily comprehension), particularly for disadvantaged pupils:</p> <p>Phonics Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF</p>	2
<p>Enhancement of our maths teaching and curriculum planning in line with DfE and EEF guidance.</p> <p>We will fund teacher release time to embed key elements of guidance in school and to access Maths Hub resources</p>	<p>The DfE non-statutory guidance has been produced in conjunction with the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics, drawing on evidence-based approaches:</p> <p>Maths guidance KS 1 and 2.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)</p>	3

and CPD (including Teaching for Mastery training).	The EEF guidance is based on a range of the best available evidence: Improving Mathematics in Key Stages 2 and 3	
<p>Improve the quality of social and emotional (SEL) learning through our PSHCE curriculum</p> <p>SEL approaches will be embedded into routine educational practices and supported by professional development and training for staff.</p>	<p>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):</p> <p>EEF Social and Emotional Learning.pdf(educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)</p>	5

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

Budgeted cost: **£20,000**

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Purchase of books or a programme to improve listening, narrative and vocabulary skills for disadvantaged pupils who have relatively low spoken language skills.	<p>Oral language interventions can have a positive impact on pupils' language skills. Approaches that focus on speaking, listening and a combination of the two show positive impacts on attainment:</p> <p>Oral language interventions EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)</p>	1, 4
Additional phonics intervention sessions targeted at disadvantaged pupils who require further phonics support.	<p>Phonics approaches have a strong evidence base indicating a positive impact on pupils, particularly from disadvantaged backgrounds. Targeted phonics interventions have been shown to be more effective when delivered as regular sessions over a period up to 12 weeks:</p> <p>Phonics Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF</p>	2
Engaging with the National Tutoring Programme to provide a blend of tuition, mentoring and school-led tutoring for pupils	Tuition targeted at specific needs and knowledge gaps can be an effective method to support low attaining pupils or those falling behind, both one-to-one:	4

whose education has been most impacted by the pandemic. A significant proportion of the pupils who receive tutoring will be disadvantaged, including those who are high attainers.	One to one tuition EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) And in small groups: Small group tuition Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF	
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Wider strategies (for example, related to attendance, behaviour, wellbeing)

Budgeted cost: **£8,930**

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Whole staff training on de-escalation behaviour management and anti-bullying approaches with the aim of developing our school ethos and improving behaviour and well being across school.	Both targeted interventions and universal approaches can have positive overall effects: Behaviour interventions EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	5
Embedding principles of good practice set out in the DfE's Improving School Attendance advice. This will involve training and release time for staff to develop and implement new procedures and appointing attendance/support officers to improve attendance.	The DfE guidance has been informed by engagement with schools that have significantly reduced levels of absence and persistent absence.	6
Contingency fund for acute issues.	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: £188,930

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 2021 to 2022 academic year.

Our internal assessments still show that this is taking more time to fully develop than we might have liked. This will remain a key focus in 2022-23

Our assessment of the reasons for these outcomes points primarily to Covid-19 impact, which disrupted all our subject areas to varying degrees. As evidenced in schools across the country, despite returning to school the covid school closure was most detrimental to our disadvantaged pupils. The impact is being mitigated in part by our resolution to introduce a new revamped curriculum from January 2022 which has started to have a positive impact for all our pupils.

Although overall attendance in 2021/22 was lower than in the preceding year at 95%, it was still above the national average for schools of 94%. At times when all pupils were expected to attend school, absence among disadvantaged pupils was still 5-6% higher than their peers and persistent absence 5% higher. These gaps are larger than in previous years, and whilst robust work has already started to improve these figures, attendance remains a focus of our current plan.

Our assessments and observations indicated that wellbeing and mental health were significantly impacted last year and have been slower to improve. The impact has remained particularly acute for disadvantaged pupils. We used pupil premium funding to provide wellbeing support for all pupils including check-ins with pupils, and targeted interventions where required. We are continuing to build on that approach with the activities detailed in this plan.

Externally provided programmes

Programme	Provider
Counselling support / Family Support	Local school contracted counsellors Local authority support networks

Further information

Additional activity

Our pupil premium strategy will be supplemented by additional activity that is not being funded by pupil premium or recovery premium. That will include:

- embedding more effective practice around feedback. [EEF evidence](#) demonstrates this has significant benefits for pupils, particularly disadvantaged pupils.
- utilising a [DfE grant to train a senior mental health lead](#). The training we have selected will focus on the training needs identified through the online tool: to develop our understanding of our pupils' needs, give pupils a voice in how we address wellbeing, and support more effective collaboration with parents.
- offering a wider range of high-quality extracurricular activities to boost wellbeing, behaviour, attendance, and aspiration. Activities will focus on building life skills such as confidence, resilience, and socialising. Disadvantaged pupils will be encouraged and supported to participate.

Planning, implementation, and evaluation

In planning our pupil premium strategy, we looked at why activity undertaken in previous years had not had the degree of impact that we had expected.

We triangulated evidence from multiple sources of data including assessments, engagement in class book scrutiny, conversations with parents, pupils and teachers in order to identify the challenges faced by disadvantaged pupils. We also used the nationally available data to view the performance of disadvantaged pupils in schools similar to ours.

We looked at a number of reports, studies and research papers about effective use of pupil premium, the impact of disadvantage on education outcomes and how to address challenges to learning presented by socio-economic disadvantage. We also looked at information about the impact of the pandemic on disadvantaged pupils.

We used the [EEF's implementation guidance](#) to help us develop our strategy, particularly the 'explore' phase to help us diagnose specific pupil needs and work out which activities and approaches are likely to work in our school. We will continue to use it through the implementation of activities.

We have put a robust evaluation framework in place for the duration of our three-year approach and will adjust our plan over time to secure better outcomes for pupils.