



Pupil premium strategy statement

DfE Guidance on Pupil Premium Funding

The Pupil Premium was introduced in April 2011. Schools can decide how to spend the funding to ensure that the attainment gap narrows.

The Pupil Premium provides funding for pupils:

- pupils who qualify for free school meals or have done so at any time in the past six years (FSM EVER6) (£1,480 per child)
- pupils who have a parent serving in the armed forces (£340 per child)
- pupils who are in the care of or provided with accommodation by an English local authority (LA) (looked after children LAC) (£2,570 per child)
- pupils who were looked after by an English or Welsh local authority before being adopted or who left care on a special guardianship order or child arrangements order (Post LAC) (££2,570 per child)

Schools are held accountable for spending these monies, and performance tables will capture the achievement of disadvantaged students covered by the Pupil Premium. This statement details our school's use of pupil 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 effect that last year's pupil premium spending had within our school.

Overview

Detail	Data
School name	St John of Jerusalem School
Number of pupils in school	137
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	52.7%
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers (3 year plans are recommended)	2023 - 26
Date this statement was published	December 2025
Date on which it will be reviewed	September 2026
Statement authorised by	René Africa
Pupil premium lead	Amy Bliss
Governor / Trustee lead	Nana Akwa



Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£122,060
Pupil premium funding carried forward from previous years (enter £0 if not applicable)	£0.00
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	£122,060



Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

Our aim is for all our pupils, irrespective of their background or the challenges they face, make good progress and achieve high attainment across all subject areas. Our pupil premium strategy focuses on supporting disadvantaged pupils to achieve that goal, including progress for those who are already high attainers.

We will consider the challenges faced by vulnerable pupils, such as those who have social workers and young carers. The activity we have outlined in this statement is also intended to support their needs, regardless of whether they are disadvantaged or not.

High-quality teaching is at the heart of our approach, focusing on areas where disadvantaged pupils require the most support. This is proven to have the greatest impact on closing the disadvantaged 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 School-Led 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're set
- act early to intervene at the point the need is identified
- 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	Many disadvantaged pupils at our school start their education at a lower level of achievement in reading, writing, mathematics and oracy than other pupils. They have had less exposure to a wide vocabulary, less experience with numbers, and less familiarity with reading. Pupils often lack metacognitive approaches. Poor memory skills and the inability to transfer knowledge to long-term memory can impact pupil progress and attainment.
2	Many of our disadvantaged pupils begin school with limited exposure to formal spoken English, having spoken a language other than English at home during their formative years
3	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.
4	Reviews, evaluations and monitoring highlight the need to embed pedagogical expertise and our wider curriculum to respond to the needs of all our pupils. Observations and discussions with pupils and families identified limited cultural capital and links with the local/ wider community
5	Some of our pupils in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant have low self-confidence and difficulty in regulating their emotions, which acts as a barrier to their educational success
6	Attendance among disadvantaged pupils is lower than for non-disadvantaged pupils. Disadvantaged pupils' have a higher percentage of 'persistently absent' compared to their peers. Our assessments and observations indicate that absenteeism negatively impacts 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.

Whole School Priorities

- Maintain strong outcomes for pupils at the end of every academic year and specifically in year 6, Year 4 MTC, Year 1 Phonics and GLD in Reception by ensuring children achieve well and demonstrate good progress from starting points.
- Implement the planned curriculum in all subject areas, with a focus on Reading and Maths (specifically greater depth in reading and ensuring good progress in maths, considering the



starting points) and ensure leaders can articulate a robust learning journey for pupils as well as their impact

- Support teachers to plan for all pupils, especially those requiring SEND support so that they make good progress

Intended outcome	Success criteria
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.
To increase the number of disadvantaged pupils who achieve greater depth at the end of KS1 and KS2 across reading, writing, and mathematics.	Termly progress monitoring show progress in disadvantaged pupils attaining a higher standard.
Improved Phonics, Reading, Writing and Maths Attainment amongst Disadvantaged children	Termly monitoring shows a decrease in the gap between Disadvantaged children and their peers GLD, Phonics, KS1 and KS2 Data Shows diminished difference from 2023-24
Attendance for disadvantaged pupils in line with that of non- disadvantage pupils and local/national levels of FSM attendance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in persistent absence for PPG group. • Attendance data analysis at half-termly meetings show figures for disadvantaged pupils above 96%.
To achieve and sustain improved well-being for all pupils in our school, particularly our disadvantaged pupils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A significant increase in participation in enrichment activities, particularly among disadvantaged pupils • Experiences and visitors planned for all pupils across the year. • Provision of a wide range of extra-curricular activities accessed by disadvantaged pupils at subsidised cost to allow children to participate in experiences that are not provided within the home environment. • Parental engagement activities are strategically planned, and feedback demonstrates sustained access.



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: £ 75,000

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>Staff Training to support Quality First Teaching across the school to support all groups of children but particularly those disadvantaged, SEND and More Able Training to develop teacher knowledge of the most effective ways to ensure children remember more and make good or better progress from starting points</p>	<p>Supporting the attainment of disadvantaged pupils: articulating success and good practice (publishing.service.gov.uk) identifies high-quality teaching as a key aspect of successful schools. DFE, 2015. "Ensuring an effective teacher is in front of every class and that every teacher is supported to keep improving is the key ingredient of a successful school and should rightly be top priority for any pupil premium spend." (Sutton Trust Report, 2011). Incremental Coaching focuses on improving the use of a wide range of vocabulary and formal language and adaptation within lessons to support .</p>	<p>1,2,3,4</p>
<p>Home reading books and topic book resources are regularly replenished to ensure pupil access to high-quality texts is consistent to ensure breadth of reading opportunity</p> <p>A range of books at every level are available for reading at school and at home. This will encourage children to read more widely, also improving their general knowledge and understanding of the world.</p>	<p>Book accessibility is imperative for developing positive reading habits and engagement in reading for pleasure.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)</p> <p>Limitation of vocabulary knowledge is a predictor of achievement which is often linked to socioeconomic status.</p> <p>word-gap.pdf (oup.com.cn) A word gap study suggested that pupils growing up in poverty hear about 30 million fewer words in a conversation by age 3 than those from more privileged backgrounds and that the lack of exposure to words and books has an impact on both their literacy and numeracy attainment, (Oxford University Press, 2018).</p> <p>Within the school context, a strategy plan for the evaluation and development of reading resources is undertaken</p>	<p>1,2,3,5,6</p>



	https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/reading-comprehension-strategies	
Embedding dialogic activities across the school curriculum. These can support pupils in articulating key ideas, consolidating understanding and extending vocabulary.	<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 outcomes</p> <p>Children regularly retell stories in all key stages. They are also given opportunities to take part in debates and presentations to their class, the whole school and outside groups, i.e. World of Work Week presentations to different firms.</p>	1,2
<p>The Phonics lead continues to embed Bug Club Phonics Programme.</p> <p>Training of Support Staff.</p> <p>Resources and CPD for Nursery – Year 3 Staff, Phonics Reading Materials for Reception to Year 3.</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: Phonics EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)</p>	1,2
Enhancement of Maths Teaching- Maths Mastery CPD, Resources and Materials.	<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: Mathematics guidance: key stages 1 and 2 (covers years 1 to 6) (publishing.service.gov.uk)</p> <p>The EEF guidance is based on a range of the best available evidence: KS2 KS3 Maths Guidance 2017.pdf (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)</p>	1,3,4
<p>Improve the quality of social and emotional (SEL) learning.</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>https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/SEL/EEF_Social_and_Emotional_Learning.pdf</p>	5,6,7



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

Budgeted cost: £32,000

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>Employ a specific teaching assistant to lead language sessions and school-based catch-up interventions across the school</p> <p>Additional time from S&L sessions for EYFS (intervention), including PPG focus groups</p>	<p>Communication and language approaches EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) emphasises the importance of spoken language and verbal interaction for children. They are based on the idea that children’s language development benefits from approaches that explicitly support communication through talking, verbal expression, modelling language and reasoning, (EEF 2021). Within the school context, the specific investment of an additional teaching assistant to deliver speech and language intervention is in place to ensure capacity, consistency in provision and rapid progress for pupils identified with need.</p>	<p>1,2,3,4,5,6</p>
<p>Homework support for identified Years 1-6 pupils in receipt of PPG</p> <p>Revision Homework books for KS2 pupils</p>	<p>Homework EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) Homework clubs are identified as having an impact for pupils when linked to core learning, (EEF 2021)</p>	<p>1,2,3,4,5</p>
<p>Teaching Assistant training to enable targeted interventions within the classroom to ensure effective challenge from starting points and the lowest 20% catch up quickly</p>	<p>Making Best Use of Teaching Assistants EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) identifies that research on TAs delivering targeted interventions in one-to-one or small group settings shows a consistent impact on attainment of approximately three to four additional months’ progress (effect size 0.2–0.3). Crucially, these positive effects are only observed when TAs work in structured settings with high-quality support and training. When TAs are deployed in more informal, unsupported instructional roles, they can negatively impact on pupils’ learning outcomes. EEF, 2021. Within the school context, training, development and evaluation of intervention are undertaken by teaching assistants.</p>	<p>1, 2, 3</p>



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

Budgeted cost: £15,060

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
The whole staff training on behaviour management and anti-bullying approaches aims to develop our school ethos and improve behaviour across school.	Both targeted interventions and universal approaches can have positive overall effects: Behaviour interventions EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	5
Enrichment opportunities including subsidised residential visits (PGI) and other trips for children in receipt of the pupil premium grant	The EEF, consider evidence-based research unpicking the 'enriching' of education Life skills and enrichment EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) and the intrinsic benefits to ensure all children, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds, deserve a well-rounded, culturally rich, education. Within the school context, systems of evaluation, analysis and forward planning ensure an effective spending model.	5,6
Coffee mornings (including additional EYFS and SEND-specific coffee mornings), Big Breakfast, and Parent workshops where we invite different speakers.	The security of the evidence around parental engagement is high. The key mechanism for parental engagement strategies is improving the quality and quantity of learning that takes place in the home learning environment (EEF, 2021).	4,6
Additional time from the School Attendance Officer to track and monitor lates and persistent absence (including home visits) and identify external support for vulnerable children	Pupils need to be in school to learn and achieve. There is a direct link between pupil achievement at KS2 and KS4 and attendance. Pupils with no absence are 1.6 times more likely to achieve age expected and 4.7 times more likely to achieve more than expected than pupils that missed 15-20% of all sessions (NFER, 2015).	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	All



	quickly to needs that have not yet been identified.	
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Total budgeted cost: £122,060