

Wateringbury CE Primary School

Pupil premium strategy statement



This statement details our school's use of pupil premium (and recovery premium for the 2023 to 2024 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	Wateringbury CEP School
Number of pupils in school	171
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	22.8%
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers.	2022-2023 2023-2024 2024-2025
Date this statement was published	December 2023
Date on which it will be reviewed	July 2024
Statement authorised by	Debbie Johnson, Headteacher
Pupil premium lead	Debbie Johnson, Headteacher
Governor / Trustee lead	John Callaghan, lead for disadvantaged pupils

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£45,105
Recovery premium funding allocation this academic year	£ 4,785
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	£ 49,890

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 good progress and achieve high attainment across all subject areas. We aim to ensure that pupils in receipt of pupil premium and those deemed as having multiple vulnerabilities gain the skills, knowledge and mindset to thrive at school and beyond.

The focus of our pupil premium strategy is to support disadvantaged pupils to achieve that goal, including progress for those who are already high attainers. A glass ceiling is not placed on their ability to access challenge, learning opportunities or further develop their learning toolkit.

High-quality teaching is 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.

Pupils understand the areas of their learning and the metacognitive elements that support retention, recall and application that develop their thirst for learning leading to lifelong education.

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 at the point 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
- provide opportunities to increase cultural capital for all.

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	Social, emotional and mental health issues for pupils. Both impacted upon by the national partial school closures plus for some external factors. These findings are supported by national studies.

	Teacher referrals for support have markedly increased during the pandemic and in the years afterwards. Over 50 pupils (21 of whom are disadvantaged) currently require additional support with social and emotional needs, with 18 (8 of whom are disadvantaged) receiving small group interventions.
2	Vocabulary development related to pre-school exposure. The impact of partial school closure and reduced access to pre-school provision has, for some of our disadvantaged pupils, widened the vocabulary gap with their peers and all pupils nationally. In addition, some pupils with multiple vulnerabilities started school with a lower vocabulary base than their peers this is supported by research linked to the number of words pupils from a range of backgrounds start school with. This is more prevalent in our disadvantaged pupils than their peers.
3	Reduced capacity for accessing learning beyond the school day. From pupil perceptions and discussions with parents a common thread was the time, skill base and resourcing to access learning beyond the school day. In addition, further opportunities to extend strengths/ interests in creative and sport related sessions with specialist teachers or coaches to improve self esteem as well as giving the opportunity to become a specialist in this area themselves.
4	Pupils with multiple vulnerabilities. Our assessments (including pupil perception survey), observations and discussions with pupils and families have identified social and emotional issues for many pupils, notably due to low self-esteem, low levels of resilience, lower expectations and a lack of enrichment opportunities during school closure. These challenges particularly affect disadvantaged pupils with multiple vulnerabilities including their attainment.
5	Poor attendance. Our attendance data over the last three years indicates that attendance among disadvantaged pupils has been between 8 - 12% lower than for non-disadvantaged pupils. 30 - 48% of disadvantaged pupils have been 'persistently absent' compared to 20 - 27% of their peers during that period. 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
Improved outcomes for disadvantaged pupils	All statutory data show that the gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers is diminishing.
Improved attendance.	Gaps in attendance between focus children and their peers to be reduced. Attendance of all groups to be in line with national data.

	<p>Sustained high attendance from 2023/24 demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the overall absence rate for all pupils being no more than 4%, 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 15% and the figure among disadvantaged pupils being no more than 5% higher than their peers.
Structured approach to support pupils with SEMH.	<p>Pupils with SEMH regularly receive support at the level matched to their needs.</p> <p>Improved attendance. (96%)</p> <p>Improved Boxall Profile scores, show that more than 80% of disadvantaged pupils met the expected standard.</p> <p>Levels of self-regulation improved.</p>
Improved understanding and application of age appropriate vocabulary.	<p>Pupils confidently using subject specific vocabulary in context in their learning. (triangulated with other sources of evidence).</p> <p>Pupils meeting age related expectations for vocabulary use and speech.</p> <p>Improved language assessment scores.</p> <p>Focus children to be engaged in learning dialogue in the classroom. This is tracked and reviewed over time in different elements of learning.</p>
Additional opportunities are provided to support learning at home.	<p>Reading diaries show improved engagement in learning at home with pupils reading at least 4 times a week to an adult.</p> <p>Parental engagement with workshops and other support impact positively on pupil outcomes as well as parents understanding linked with phonics, maths, reading and spelling strategies used by their child.</p> <p>Increased pupils' drive in lifelong learning.</p>
Discrete provision to meet the individual needs of each pupil.	<p>Provision maps show specific support for PP pupils and its impact on their outcomes and wellbeing.</p> <p>Attainment gap between pupils and all pupils nationally to reduce in reading, writing and maths.</p> <p>Pupil voice shows that pupils feel they have more ownership of their learning and feel supported to achieve highly in the classroom and beyond.</p>

	Expectations across the school do not create a glass ceiling for ambition.
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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: £19,800

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Recruitment, retention and development (high quality CPD) for teaching staff (teachers and support staff) to ensure quality first teaching for all within a mastery curriculum.	Mastery learning approaches aim to ensure that all pupils have mastered key concepts before moving on to the next topic – in contrast with traditional teaching methods in which pupils may be left behind, with gaps of misunderstanding widening. Mastery learning approaches could address these challenges by giving additional time and support to pupils who may have missed learning, or take longer to master new knowledge and skills. Mastery learning EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	All
Behaviour support (de-escalation, Zones of Regulation, Executive functioning) training for all staff. To further extend and impact comprehension linked to attachment and early child development and its impact on behaviour.	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)	1, 3, 4 & 5
Embedding dialogic activities across the school curriculum. These can support pupils to articulate key ideas, consolidate understanding and extend vocabulary.	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: Oral language interventions Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF	2

We will purchase resources and fund ongoing teacher training and release time		
CPD on metacognition to develop staff and pupil understanding of how pupils learn and retain and recall. Implementation of EEF Five-a-day to support inclusive practice.	There is some evidence to suggest that disadvantaged pupils are less likely to use metacognitive and self-regulatory strategies without being explicitly taught these strategies. Explicit teaching of metacognitive and self-regulatory strategies could therefore encourage such pupils to practise and use these skills more frequently in the future. With explicit teaching and feedback, pupils are more likely to use these strategies independently and habitually, enabling them to manage their own learning and overcome challenges themselves in the future. Metacognition and self-regulation EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	All
Purchase of standardised diagnostic assessments. Training for staff to ensure assessments are interpreted and administered correctly.	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: Standardised tests Assessing and Monitoring Pupil Progress Education Endowment Foundation EEF	2, 3, 4
Phonics into spelling development CPD. Early reading targeted intervention CPD	EEF 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 Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF	2, 3, 4
Purchase of a DfE validated Systematic Synthetic Phonics programme to secure stronger phonics teaching for all pupils.	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 Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF	2, 3, 4

Coaching of teachers to develop effective provision mapping.	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: One to one tuition EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) And in small groups: Small group tuition Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF	All
CPD for conceptual development of early maths in line with DfE and EEF guidance.	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: Maths guidance KS 1 and 2.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)	2, 3, 4

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

Budgeted cost: £16,225

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Early reading targeted intervention groups and 1:1 support	Interventions targeted at specific needs and knowledge gaps can be an effective method to support lower-attaining pupils.	1, 2, 3, 4
Increased accessibility to high quality texts.	Interventions targeted at specific needs and knowledge gaps can be an effective method to support lower-attaining pupils.	1, 2 & 3
Phonics intervention groups in Y2, 3 and 4.	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: Phonics Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF	1, 2, 3, 4
Pre-teaching of subject specific vocabulary. Whole Class strategies for improving speech and language	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: Oral language interventions Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF	1, 2, 3

Practical reinforcement of mathematical concepts.	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: Maths guidance KS 1 and 2.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)	1, 2, 3, 4
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Wider strategies (for example, related to attendance, behaviour, wellbeing)

Budgeted cost: £ 15,800

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Further develop the nurture provision in school. So that pupils with ongoing social, emotional support needs and for pupils that needs arise.	Both targeted interventions and universal approaches can have positive overall effects: Behaviour interventions EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	1, 3, 4 & 5
Structured nurture interventions, e.g. counselling, ELSA, play therapy, etc.	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: One to one tuition EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) And in small groups: Small group tuition Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF	1, 3, 4 & 5
Further develop the role of a FLO and welfare team in school to build relationships with parents and support the wellbeing of vulnerable families. Introduce the role of parent support worker to work alongside FLO.	Dedicated staff to look at the needs of families, emotional and well-being needs of children and attendance ensures support is given early.	1, 3, 4 & 5
Work alongside parents to reduce attendance issues and accessibility to learning beyond the classroom. Through providing bespoke	Parental engagement refers to teachers and schools involving parents in supporting their children's academic learning. It includes: • approaches and programmes which aim to develop parental skills such as literacy or IT skills;	All

support or signposting to other agencies and support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general approaches which encourage parents to support their children with, for example reading or homework; • the involvement of parents in their children's learning activities; and • more intensive programmes for families in crisis. Parental engagement EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	
<p>Embedding principles of good practice set out in the DfE's Improving School Attendance advice.</p> <p>This will involve training and release time for staff to develop and implement new procedures and appointing attendance/support officers to improve attendance.</p>	The DfE guidance has been informed by engagement with schools that have significantly reduced levels of absence and persistent absence.	1 & 5
Increased accessibility to wider opportunities.	<p>There is intrinsic value in teaching pupils creative and performance skills and ensuring disadvantaged pupils access a rich and stimulating arts education. Arts participation may be delivered within the core curriculum, or through extra-curricular or cultural trips which can be subject to financial barriers for pupils from deprived backgrounds.</p> Arts participation EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	1, 3 & 4
Whole staff training on behaviour management and anti-bullying approaches with the aim of developing our school ethos and improving behaviour across school. Also include training and support for parents.	<p>Both targeted interventions and universal approaches can have positive overall effects:</p> Behaviour interventions EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	1 and 5
Parent workshops to support learning at home	Parental engagement refers to teachers and schools involving parents in supporting their children's academic learning. It includes:	2, 3 & 4

through skill development and shared in school approaches.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • approaches and programmes which aim to develop parental skills such as literacy or IT skills; • general approaches which encourage parents to support their children with, for example reading or homework; • the involvement of parents in their children's learning activities; and • more intensive programmes for families in crisis. Parental engagement EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	
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: £ 51,825

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.

Attendance is improving across school although we are seeing different reasons for poor attendance, such as mental health especially anxiety.

The gap between the whole school and disadvantaged pupils' attendance has dropped from 8.6% to 3.5%. However, the percentage of persistently absent disadvantaged pupils is still disproportionately high.

Attendance 2022-2023

	All pupils (177)	Disadvantaged Pupils (35)
Attendance	93.3%	89.8%
Persistent Absences	16.0%	34.5%

Attainment 2023

Early Years

	All pupils (22)		Disadvantaged (4)		Non-Disadvantaged (18)	
	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>
GLD	68.2%	68.3%	50.0%	51.2%	72.2%	72.3%
C&L	72.7%	80.7%	50.0%	69.6%	77.8%	83.4%
Literacy	68.2%	70.8%	50.0%	54.2%	72.2%	74.8%
Maths	86.4%	79.2%	75.0%	65.1%	88.9%	82.6%

Phonics

	All pupils (19)		Disadvantaged (3)		Non-Disadvantaged (16)	
	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>
Year 1	89.5%	77.2%	66.7%	59.6%	93.8%	82.0%

	All pupils (21)		Disadvantaged (4)		Non-Disadvantaged (17)	
	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>
Passed in Y1	81.0%	60.4%	50.0%	39.5%	88.2%	67.5%
Passed in Y2	4.8%	12.3%	0%	16.9%	5.9%	10.7%
Combined	85.7%	72.7%	50.0%	56.4%	94.1%	78.2%

Key Stage One

EXPECTED	All pupils (19)		Disadvantaged (3)		Non-Disadvantaged (16)	
	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>
Reading	84.2%	69.1%	66.7%	50.6%	87.5%	75.4%
Writing	84.2%	60.5%	66.7%	40.7%	87.5%	67.1%

Maths	84.2%	71.2%	66.7%	54.0%	87.5%	77.1%
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GREATER DEPTH	All pupils (19)		Disadvantaged (3)		Non-Disadvantaged (16)	
	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>
Reading	26.3%	18.5%	0%	7.6%	31.3%	22.2%
Writing	21.1%	7.8%	0%	2.4%	25.0%	9.6%
Maths	31.6%	15.4%	0%	5.5%	37.5%	18.7%

Key Stage Two

EXPECTED	All pupils (28)		Disadvantaged (3)		Non-Disadvantaged (25)	
	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>
Reading	60.7%	73.0%	33.3%	56.7%	64.0%	78.6%
Writing	82.1%	73.7%	33.3%	55.7%	88.0%	79.9%
Maths	46.4%	70.2%	33.3%	51.3%	48.0%	76.7%
Combined	39.3%	59.3%	0%	38.5%	44.0%	66.5%

GREATER DEPTH	All pupils (28)		Disadvantaged (3)		Non-Disadvantaged (25)	
	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>LA</i>
Reading	25.0%	30.2%	0%	15.8%	28.0%	35.2%
Writing	0%	14.2%	0%	5.1%	0%	17.4%
Maths	3.6%	22.3%	0%	9.4%	4.0%	26.8%
Combined	0%	8.4%	0%	2.5%	0%	10.4%

The numbers of disadvantaged pupils in each group makes significant analysis difficult. It would, though, appear that gaps are closing. However, individual case studies show improvement in engagement in school activities and more positive attitudes to learning. Strategies used last year will continue as many need more time to be embedded with the pupils and families we are supporting.

Externally provided programmes

Please include the names of any non-DfE programmes that you purchased in the previous academic year. This will help the Department for Education identify which ones are popular in England

Programme	Provider
Floppy's Phonics	Oxford Reading Tree
Spelling Shed	Ed Shed
Lightning Squad	Fischer Family Trust
Catch Up Numeracy	Catch Up

Catch Up Literacy	Catch Up
Times Tables Rock Stars	Maths Circle
Nessy	Nessy Learning

Further information (optional)

The school commissioned an external Pupil Premium review on November 17th 2021 as historic use of the Pupil Premium funding had not always had the desired impact on pupil outcomes. The new substantive headteacher and the governing body felt that a review would support the development of this strategy and increase the robustness of monitoring its impact on disadvantaged pupils' outcomes.