

Pupil premium strategy statement – Clare Community Primary School

Before completing this template, read the Education Endowment Foundation's guidance on [using your pupil premium funding effectively](#) and DfE's [using pupil premium guidance](#), which includes the 'menu of approaches'. It is for school leaders to decide what activity to spend their pupil premium (and recovery premium) on, within the framework set out by the menu.

All schools that receive pupil premium (and recovery premium) are required to use this template to complete and publish a pupil premium statement on their school website by 31 December every academic year.

If you are starting a new pupil premium strategy plan, use this blank template. If you are continuing a strategy plan from last academic year, you may prefer to edit your existing statement.

Before publishing your completed statement, delete the instructions (text in italics) in this template, including this text box.

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 outcomes for disadvantaged pupils last academic year.

School overview

Detail	Data
Number of pupils in school	199
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	17.7% 39 pupils FSM 18.6%
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers	2025-2026
Date this statement was published	December 2025
Date on which it will be reviewed	December 2026 Reviewed annually
Statement authorised by	Lorna Stranger Head teacher

Pupil premium lead	Lorna Stranger
Governor / Trustee lead	Alison Robinson

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£56370
Recovery premium funding allocation this academic year	£0
Pupil premium (and recovery premium*) funding carried forward from previous years (<i>enter £0 if not applicable</i>)	£0
Total budget for this academic year <i>If your school is an academy in a trust that pools this funding, state the amount available to your school this academic year</i>	£56370

Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

At Clare Community Primary School, we understand that there can be barriers to learning for disadvantaged children which can include less support at home or a barrier between home and school due to lack of engagement, limited language and life chances, lack of confidence and poor attendance.

There may also be complex family situations that can impact pupils including our acknowledgement that many of these families may have had negative experiences that can impact their well being and aspirations.

Our ultimate objectives are:

- To narrow the attainment gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils to ensure that pupils in receipt of pupil premium, including those with SEND, make expected progress from their starting points
- For all disadvantaged pupils in school to make or exceed nationally expected progress rates where SEND needs are not an additional barrier through a focus on improved maths, reading and writing attainment for disadvantaged pupils at the end of KS2.
- To ensure that the well being and emotional needs of pupil premium children are being met and that they are ready to learn. Also ensure their basic needs are being met when they are facing financial hardships
 - To ensure Pupil Premium Pupils have access to consistent education through good attendance at school

Our overall school vision is to deliver a learning experience for each pupil which encompasses each of our core values: Citizenship, Learning to Learn, Aiming High, Respecting Ourselves and Others and, most importantly, Enjoying Learning. Each child, irrespective of background or academic ability, has the right to access an engaging and stimulating curriculum, within a safe, secure and nurturing environment. At the heart of our curriculum is our belief in creativity, diversity and aspiration for all. We believe that children should not be limited by labels and have created this curriculum to inspire, enthuse and engage all of our pupils and their families, working in partnership with parents and carers. We also aim for them to acquire experiences within the local and wider environment irrespective of personal socio-economic circumstances. We are conscious of the responsibility of schools in shaping well-rounded individuals who are confident learners willing to take risks and have the knowledge and skills necessary to be a 21st century citizen. We have incorporated opportunities to develop leadership and collaborative skills, and to utilise our setting fully, including the rich locality as a wider campus. By the end of their primary education, we want our pupils to be aware of their responsibility in shaping the

future as life-long learners, as well as having pride in what they have achieved with us.

Funding will be used to further improve the impact of teaching and learning within the classroom. Good teaching is the most important lever schools have to improve outcomes for disadvantaged pupils. Using the Pupil Premium to improve teaching quality benefits all students and has a particularly positive effect on children eligible for the Pupil Premium. We believe having passionate, well trained and effective teachers and support staff in every class is the driving force in beginning to close the disadvantage gap in our school.

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	Children who are falling behind (have been identified as not working at age-expected levels, or who have fallen behind previously assessed levels) display inconsistent reading skills and a lack of reading for meaning, including the ability to frame questions about their reading matter, answer similar questions and engage in discussion. These are prevalent in at least half of our disadvantaged pupils, and the gaps often widen throughout Key Stage two. This can have a massive impact on their achievement in other subjects, and with the reasoning element of Maths where it is essential that they can read and understand this type of question.
2	Phonic gaps have occurred following lockdown. We have implemented a new phonic programme in January 2022 to address this. Phonics underpins reading and writing skills and therefore gaps in phonic ability had a knock on affect with reading and writing progress.
3	A new writing scheme is needed to ensure consistency across the school. A structured and systematic approach to writing is required to help close the gaps in progress (Implemented a new English curriculum Read into Writing in January 2023)
4	Maths remains an area where many pupils are falling behind and parents find supporting pupils at home with maths a challenge.
5	Children who are continuing to display difficulties with acquiring English and Maths skills at an age-appropriate rate can find it difficult to concentrate within whole-class learning settings and often will lack learning resilience and try to give up easily. (Amendment 2024 – the main Year groups who seem to be impacted are Years 4 and 5 who missed out on Early Years/KS1 consistency due to Covid)
6.1	Pupil voice activities have identified that their remain heightened anxiety levels across the school. (2024 Amendment – this is showing as issues

	with attendance in some of our pupils and most notably our attendance of Pupil Premium pupils needs to be addressed this academic Year)
6.2	In relation to the above amendment – new target added in 2024 – to raise attendance levels in Pupil Premium Pupils and to support families in helping pupils with school related anxiety and school avoidance
7.	To continue to ensure the outcomes for pupils in receipt of pupil premium are at least in line with those of peers in school across the curriculum through ensuring high quality teaching is effectively in place, alongside targeted interventions.

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
To ensure that pupils in receipt of pupil premium, including those with SEND, make expected progress from their starting points	Pupils show progress either in line with peers or in line with expectation for their needs and assessment shows an ability to show small steps of progress.
Improved maths, reading and writing attainment for disadvantaged pupils at the end of KS2.	Progress and attainment begins to be more in line with national expectations
To ensure that the well being and emotional needs of pupil premium children are being met and that they are ready to learn. Also ensure their basic needs are being met when they are facing financial hardships	Pupils demonstrate an ability to articulate their needs. They feel safe, secure and happy in school. Pupil voice demonstrates positive mental health.
Added 2024 To ensure Pupil Premium Pupils have access to consistent education through good attendance at school	Pupil Premium pupils will demonstrate improved attendance and the school will work closely with families and pupils to overcome barriers that effect attendance

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: £20,000

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Subscriptions for Whole school interventions that provide diagnostic assessments and associated materials: Accelerated Reader Bedrock and related materials	A robust curriculum provides consistency as well as CPD for staff.	2-5 7
Continued funding of of a DFE Systematic Synthetic Phonics programme to secure stronger phonics teaching for pupils in R, 1, 2 and 3, and books and training to support this Essential Letters and Sounds Books Training	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:	1-5 7
Use of systematic approaches in English and maths lessons with the introduction of whole school schemes (White Rose for maths and Read into Writing for English) as well as supporting resources and books	Systematic approaches support pupils to make effective progress, especially consistency for low attaining pupils.	1-5 7
Improve the quality of social and emotional (SEL) learning through continued funding towards the PHSE JIGSAW curriculum as well as the use of nurture room	Improved mental health and ability to articulate thoughts, feelings and needs supports pupils particularly low attaining pupils helping to build resilience	1-5 7
Provide interventions for PP and PP+ pupils to ensure that gaps are closed and to enhance learning through the use of a		1-5 7

minimum of 1 TA per class where possible		

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
Support for vulnerable PP and PP+ through intervention programmes (drawing and talking and ELSA as well as a play therapist for pupils with extreme needs	Support 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 and in small groups and in class support.	2-5 7
Tas in each class minimum of 1 to ensure that pupils needing additional interventions and support can be catered for - focus on quality in class support		1-5 7
Purchase of standardised diagnostic assessments, PIRA Training for staff to ensure assessments are interpreted and administered correctly as well as SMART grade and possible use of Insight to ensure progress is accurately tracked to identify areas of need and specific progress of disadvantaged pupils	Assessments and tracking systems will be used to identify gaps and track the progress and differences between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils. The aim being to ensure that PP pupils are making affective progress in line with their peers and that interventions are put in place to support those falling behind. Interventions will run prioritising PP pupils alongside peers of a similar ability level so that pupils close the attainment gap Standardised tests provide reliable insights into the specific strengths	3-7

<p>Implement a variety of interventions to support and accelerate progress. Nurture/intervention room will be running full time with nurture member of staff released from other duties by a new TA so that interventions can take place. This will also be partly funded by the in school tuition funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letterjoin • RWInc • Phonic interventions • Literacy gold • 	<p>and weaknesses of each pupil to help ensure they receive the correct additional support through interventions or teacher instruction</p>	<p>1-5 and 7</p>
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Wider strategies (for example, related to attendance, behaviour, wellbeing)

Budgeted cost: £16,370

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p><i>Clubs and trips to enhance pupils wider cultural experiences and to offer them support</i></p>	<p>The educational attainment gap illustrates the differences in academic outcomes attained by economically advantaged and disadvantaged children. The gap is evident when children begin school and reaches 19.3 months by the end of secondary school. The gap illustrates the importance of intervening early to attend to the learning needs of disadvantaged students. One possible avenue for such an intervention relates to the access to social and cultural capital provided by one's interpersonal connections and social environments. Adopting a 'capital shortage' lens spotlights that</p>	<p>6</p>

	children from disadvantaged backgrounds may perform less well in school because the social and cultural capital they acquire through their families/social contacts and experiences can fall short, or stand in tension with, what they require to succeed. (Prof Chris Brown, Durham University, March 2021)	
Developing staff skills and abilities to support pupil wellbeing, social skills and dealing with anxiety Training for support staff – Mental Health First Aid Awareness and sharing of strategies Training for senior staff - A strategic approach to Whole School Emotional Health and Wellbeing (Thrive) Interventions may include: • Nurture Groups • Drawing and Talking • Elsa – Emotional Literacy Support Assistant	Children and adults living in households in the lowest 20% income bracket in Great Britain are two to three times more likely to develop mental health problems than those in the highest. ² In 2004, evidence from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Survey found that the prevalence of severe mental health problems was around three times higher among children in the bottom quintile of family income than among those in the top quintile. ³ Analysis of data from the Millennium Cohort Study in 2012 found children in the lowest income quintile to be 4.5 times more likely to experience severe mental health problems than those in the highest, ³⁷¹ suggesting that the income gradient in young people's mental health has 5 and 6 Play therapy/counselling offered to children experiencing pastoral or family issues 5 and 69 9 worsened considerably over the past decade. ⁴	6
Nurture room in the afternoons provided to support pupils who struggle to regulate. Those PP pupils with well being issues are also prioritised in these sessions. As of 2024 TAs in each class will be using the room with break out support groups as well as 1:1 support Introduction of therapy dog one day a week		1-7

ELSA to run sessions each week and have a dedicated day for ELSA sessions		
Breakfast club and after school club sessions for PP children	To support parents who are attending work or college as well as to support parents with childcare needs and offer This can also support with attendance with parents able to use the wrap around care to support them	6
Use of attendance support	Meeting regularly with Trust attendance partner as well as the county EWO	6

Total budgeted cost: £

Part B: Review of the previous academic year

Outcomes for disadvantaged pupils

Currently attainment is lower and the majority of disadvantaged pupils fall into the lower attainment category within the school. Attendance has also been low for some disadvantaged pupils. They have also been often the pupils displaying higher level of anxiety and lower self-esteem. Pupil Premium Pupils are often also appearing on the SEND register, meaning they have more of a disadvantage in reaching the expected levels due to a number of factors. There are also a number of pupils who are falling into a category that has not previously been monitored closely. This category is pupils who have or have previously had a social worker or have or have been subject to Early Help through a Family support practitioner. We will be following these pupils closely. We have recognised that some of our Pupil Premium Pupils are also SEND and/or have/have had a social worker or Early Help intervention.

Attendance has been a key factor for these pupils as well as parental engagement and relationship building between home and school. When we enter our new Trust Anglian Learning Trust we will have access to a dedicated support teacher for attendance who we will liaise with to improve attendance for Pupil Premium Pupils.

Parental and family engagement has been a focus and we will continue this to be able to overcome barriers for pupils. We work closely with families and this year have been able to add in Hamish and Milo sessions to support parents.

EBSA and part time timetables for this and for SEND have had a large impact on attendance. As a school, with lower TA staffing, we are trying to find ways of staffing and supporting these pupils.

As a school we have noticed a decline in children accessing cultural capital experiences as well as life experiences outside of school. The aim will be to ensure that all pupils have access to a number of experiences regardless of their financial situation. The school will continue to support pupils to be able to access these. As costs relating to these experiences have increased the school will be looking at cost effective ways of ensuring as many pupils as possible can have positive experiences.

We have engaged with local authors, visitors and local attractions to try to overcome this.

We have been looking into ways of supporting with anxiety including the use of a therapy dog.

Externally provided programmes

Please include the names of any non-DfE programmes that you used your pupil premium (or recovery premium) to fund in the previous academic year.

Programme	Provider

Service pupil premium funding (optional)

*For schools that receive this funding, you may wish to provide the following information: **How our service pupil premium allocation was spent last academic year***

The impact of that spending on service pupil premium eligible pupils

Further information (optional)

Use this space to provide any further information about your pupil premium strategy. For example, about your strategy planning, or other activity that you are implementing to support disadvantaged pupils, that is not dependent on pupil premium or recovery premium funding.