

Pupil Premium Strategy Statement

Walcott Community Primary School

This statement details our school's use of pupil premium (and recovery 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	84
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	35.7%
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers	2024 / 23 to 2025 / 26
Date this statement was published	December 2026
Date on which it will be reviewed	June 2025
Statement authorised by	Andrew Sewell
Pupil premium lead	Andrew Sewell
Governor lead	Julie Reid

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£45,450
Total budget for this academic year (Including carry forward from previous year)	£45,450

Part A: Pupil Premium Strategy Plan

Statement of intent

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Our vision

“We want our pupils to be excellent communicators and be able to think critically to solve problems they encounter in their work and daily lives. Children should experience lessons that have very clear aims and are delivered in a way that encourages children to have an intrinsic love of learning. Teachers to be confident at planning lessons that draw upon the science of learning and include activities that promote thinking and help children to remember more of what they have been taught. When children leave our school, they should be curious and creative learners who are well prepared for the complex world they live in and their next stage in education.”

We recognise that there are additional challenges for those pupils supported by the pupil premium. This group includes vulnerable children and families who require additional support both in school and beyond. A significant proportion of these children are also have+ ‘special educational needs and disabilities’, which compounds the challenges they have to succeed.

Our pupil premium strategy is closely linked to our overall school development plan; this has a strong focus on ensuring teaching is of a high standard and meets the needs of all children. We are investing in training for staff to support quality first teaching that will benefit our most disadvantaged children along with all others. We have adopted new strategies that are particularly tailored to supporting this group: such as the introduction of a new approach to teaching English.

Given the high proportion of vulnerable pupils; we have prioritised additional staffing in the form of a non-teaching dedicated SENDCO so that we have the capacity to intervene earlier and provide more robust support plans for those who need them. In doing this we seek to ensure all staff are taking responsibility for ensuring disadvantaged children are stretched and appropriately supported. Very often self esteem and emotional wellbeing is key barrier to children being ‘ready to learn’, the SENDCO is undertaking training to become an accredited play therapist and this work will further enhance our ability to meet these needs in-house.

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	Significantly poor speech and language skills, especially on entry to the school. Our disadvantaged pupils often experience a lack of routine and limited expressive language in the home environment; they do not come to school with a rich experience of books and printed text, alongside a lack of enrichment experiences within and beyond their immediate locality. These factors have a significant

	impact on the development and quality of pupils' reading and writing.
2	We find that disadvantaged pupils often find it challenging to grasp and retain new concepts in Maths, as well as utilising thinking skills to solve problems. Typically, these pupils do not possess well-developed skills or the resilience to work independently.
3	A significant number of our disadvantaged pupils also have additional needs (25%), some of whom have an EHCP. This presents pupils and the school with an additional challenge beyond disadvantage in order to make good progress and attain in-line with 'other' pupils.
4	Social / emotional, child mental health issues. Anxiety and poor self-image often result in pupils being unsettled, particularly early in the school day, whilst also exhibiting poor learning behaviours. These are key barriers that often mean that disadvantaged children are not ready to learn.

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
Increase the percentage of disadvantaged pupils achieving a good level of development in EYFS, with weaker areas currently being in-line with LA average ie PSE, physical.	The percentage of disadvantaged pupils (without complex SEND) achieving a good level of development will be at least in-line with the LA average.
Improve oral language skills and vocabulary among disadvantaged pupils (on entry – KS2).	Assessments and observations, including engagement in lessons and book scrutiny, indicate significantly improved oral language among disadvantaged pupils.
Sustain % of disadvantaged pupils secure with phonics and early writing in KS1.	Sustain the % of disadvantaged pupils achieving expected standard in phonics screen to 75%+. Increased % of disadvantaged pupils achieving expected standard in Reading and Writing to 75%+.
Disadvantaged pupils with SEND make good progress, resulting in attainment closer to or in-line with NA.	Disadvantaged pupils with specific learning needs make good progress from their respective starting points when measured using schools NFER checkpoint data, with attainment at least in-line with SEND pupils nationally (KS2).

Disadvantaged pupils with social and emotional needs receive quality, targeted support and intervention, which enables them to develop positive learning behaviours.	Support for disadvantaged pupils with social and emotional needs results in them exhibiting positive learning behaviours (teacher observation, pupil voice, work scrutiny) and attaining in-line with 'other' pupils.
Improve Reading, Writing and Maths attainment for disadvantaged children by the end of KS2.	KS2 Reading, Writing and Maths outcomes in 2025 / 26 show that more than 75% of disadvantaged pupils meet the expected standard or above.

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

Budgeted cost: £2545

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>Continue to develop the role of Middle / Subject Leaders to have an increased impact on improving the quality of teaching.</p> <p>This year we will fund work with the English Hub to drive two significant projects: Improving children's ability to write confidently with independence and Improving whole school reading culture.</p> <p>This work includes investment in the associated resources to deliver a high quality reading curriculum</p>	<p>Evidence indicates that high quality teaching is the most important lever schools have to improve pupil attainment, including for disadvantaged pupils. Schools should focus on building teacher knowledge and pedagogical expertise, curriculum development, and the purposeful use of assessment. In some cases, this may include the selection of high-quality curriculum materials, or investment in the use of standardised assessments.</p> <p>Supporting resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EEF's guidance reports offer practical, evidence-based advice to schools on a range of topics to support high quality teaching, such as improving literacy, maths, science and improving teacher feedback. The EEF Toolkit includes summaries of the best available evidence on approaches. 	1,2,3,4

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<p>Deliver the Read Write Inc Phonics / Spelling Programme through focused group lessons.</p> <p>This is the equivalent of four hours TA time per day.</p> <p>Provision of ongoing consultancy and CPD to develop staff skills to ensure fidelity.</p> <p>Fund additional cover for the phonics lead to observe and support staff for one session a week</p>	<p>This is a well-respected DFE endorsed phonics / spelling programme. The programme has been successful in supporting pupils with poor language and little home support. It has provided good support for those starting the school with poor speech and language acquisition.</p> <p>Ensure that there is ongoing staff development opportunities and improved monitoring of the quality of delivery.</p>	1,3,4

Targeted academic support

Budgeted cost: £4000

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
One-to-one or small group tuition (TA / teacher led), focused on pupils' specific learning needs, identified through daily AfL strategies /	See above.	1,2,3,4,

gaps identified through termly assessments.		
Purchase Nessy Licenses. This will support pupils whose needs have not been met by existing phonics schemes due to their particular learning needs.	Phonics has a positive impact overall (+5 months) with very extensive evidence and is an important component in the development of early reading skills, particularly for children from disadvantaged backgrounds. Nessy is a strategy recommended by LA Specialist Teaching Team in reports for many of our pupils who are experiencing difficulties with spellings, particularly those with Dyslexia. Nessy is a well-established programme that has been shown to benefit this particular group of children.	1,3,4

Wider strategies

Budgeted cost: £1600

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Adult-led support sessions to improve the well-being and readiness for learning of pupils with mental health / social and emotional needs.	Previous support provided by CASY (Counselling and Support for Young People). This charity has had a very positive effect on the well-being of vulnerable children. This is now even more important, with needs increasing as a result of Covid 19.	3,4
Part-funding of SENDCO with responsibility as Well-being Lead, to support pupils with mental health / social and emotional needs.	Social-emotional learning interventions in education are shown to improve SEL skills (EEF). Improved skills will support disadvantaged pupils in understanding and engaging in healthy relationships with peers, as well as emotional self-regulation, both of which will contribute to subsequent increases in academic attainment.	1,2,3

Delivery by school staff of social and communication skills programmes: Talkabout: Alex Kelly Bibbie the Baboon: Dr Karen Treisman	These programmes are recognised schemes that have been recommended by external agencies working to support the mental health of individual pupils.	1,2,3,4
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Total budgeted cost: £48500

Part B: Review of the previous academic year

Outcomes for disadvantaged pupils

We have used both Key Stage performance data, including phonics checks and our own internal data to review the impact of our support strategies for the 30 disadvantaged pupils in the year 2025/26.

24% of Pupil Premium children in our school are also on the SEND register and the EYFS group include a child with an EHCP.

EYFS This was a small cohort of eleven children, three of which were in receipt of pupil premium. 72.7% of the cohort achieved a good level of development which was above LA average. 33.3% PP children achieved a good level of development.

In Y1 Phonics, 75% of the thirteen children overall achieved the expected level in phonics which is part of an improving trend. One child was absent on holiday, had they been present assessment data shows the overall % at expected level would have been at NA. Three of cohort were PP and two (66%) achieved the standard.

KS2 There were fifteen children in this cohort and overall 80% of the group achieved the expected level in maths, reading and writing including 53% GD in maths, 26.7% GD in reading and 26.7%GD in writing. 67% of this cohort were PP. 70% of the PP children achieved the expected level in all subjects and 30% GD in reading and writing. 50% of the PP children achieved GD in maths. PP attainment in this cohort was significantly above the LA level.

Externally provided programmes

Programme	Provider
None	

Service Pupil Premium funding (optional)

How our service pupil premium allocation was spent last academic year

The school receives £1750 Service Pupils funding. In our school, the Service families normally have very low mobility, due to the way they are deployed at airbases in the locality. This means that most of our pupils do not have the difficulties associated with frequent moves and parents being posted.

Service pupils benefit from strategies to improve the quality of teaching or targeted interventions, such as the tutoring programme.

The impact of that spending on service pupil premium eligible pupils

No impact information has been provided in order to protect the pupil's identity.