

Pupil Premium Statement (including Catch-up Funding)

St. Joseph's Catholic Infant School

School overview

Detail	Data
School name	St Joseph's Catholic Infant School
Number of pupils in school	179
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	12%
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers (3 year plans are recommended)	2021/2022 2022-2023 2023-2024
Date this statement was published	December 2021
Date on which it will be reviewed	July 2022
Statement authorised by	Ann Taylor, Headteacher
Pupil premium lead	Hayley Tobin, Deputy Headteacher
Governor / Trustee lead	Richard Baker, lead for disadvantaged pupils

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£28,245
Recovery premium funding allocation this academic year	£1,566
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	£29,811

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. 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.

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, regardless of whether they are disadvantaged or not.

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.

Our approach will be responsive to common challenges and individual needs, rooted in robust 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 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	Assessments, observations, and discussions with pupils indicate underdeveloped oral language skills and vocabulary gaps among many disadvantaged pupils. These are evident from Pre-school through KS1 and in general, are more prevalent among our disadvantaged pupils than their peers.
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	Internal assessments indicate that reading and writing attainment among disadvantaged pupils is below that of non-disadvantaged pupils. On entry to Reception class in the last 2 years, our disadvantaged pupils arrive below age-related expectations compared to of other pupils.

4	<p>Our assessments and observations indicate that the education and wellbeing 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 knowledge gaps leading to pupils falling further behind age-related expectations, especially in social skills, language and communication</p>
5	<p>Our assessments (including wellbeing survey), observations and discussions with pupils and families have identified social and emotional issues for some pupils, notably due to lack social interaction and structured play opportunities during school closure. These challenges particularly affect disadvantaged pupils, including their attainment.</p> <p>Teachers need for additional class support has markedly increased during the pandemic. Many pupils including disadvantaged currently require additional support with social and emotional needs, with many receiving small group interventions.</p>
6	<p>Our attendance data over the last 2 years indicates that attendance among disadvantaged pupils has been lower than for non-disadvantaged pupils.</p> <p>Our assessments and observations indicate that absenteeism is negatively impacting some 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.	KS1 reading outcomes in 2024/25 show that more than 90%(non-SEN) of disadvantaged pupils met the expected standard.
Improved maths attainment for disadvantaged pupils at the end of KS2.	KS1 maths outcomes in 2024/25 show that more than 90% (non-SEN)of disadvantaged pupils met the expected standard.
To achieve and sustain improved wellbeing for all pupils in our school, particularly our disadvantaged pupils.	<p>Sustained high levels of wellbeing from 2024/25 demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • qualitative data from student voice, student and parent surveys and teacher observations • 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.	<p>Sustained high attendance from 2024/25 demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the overall absence rate for all pupils being no more than 5%, and the attendance gap between disadvantaged pupils and their non-disadvantaged peers being reduced by 3%.

- the percentage of all pupils who are persistently absent being below 6% and the figure among disadvantaged pupils being no more than 3% lower than their peers.

Activity in this academic year 2021-2022

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: **£3000**

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Training for staff to ensure assessments are interpreted and administered correctly.	Accurate teacher judgement 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	1, 2, 3, 4
Purchase Voice-21 Membership Appoint Voice 21 leader – release time (3 x supply) Embedding communication activities across the school curriculum. These can support pupils to articulate key ideas, consolidate understanding and extend vocabulary. We will purchase additional resources and fund ongoing teacher training and release time.	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
Introduce RWI to secure stronger phonics teaching for all pupils. Purchase Yearly Reading and Phonic support programmes (NESSY) We will purchase resources and fund ongoing teacher training and release time.	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

<p>Enhancement of our maths teaching and curriculum planning in line with DfE and EEF guidance and the use of White Rose Maths.</p> <p>We will fund teacher release time to embed key elements of these in school and to access Maths resources and CPD</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
<p>Improve the quality of social and emotional (SEL) learning – such as use of Zones of Regulation, release for staff to carry out training and sessions</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

Budgeted cost: **£25000**

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>Use of dialogic reading and NELI programme to improve listening, narrative and vocabulary skills for disadvantaged pupils who have relatively low spoken language skills.</p>	<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
<p>Additional phonics sessions targeted at disadvantaged pupils who require further phonics support. (Subscriptions)</p>	<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
<p>Targeted intervention groups targeting specific needs of disadvantaged children and</p>	<p>Tuition targeted at specific needs and knowledge gaps can be an effective method to support low attaining pupils or those falling behind, both one-</p>	4

led by trained TAs e.g.1:1 reading, EAL support, emotional check in	to-one: One to one tuition EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) And in small groups: Small group tuition Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF	
Additional class based support through increased adult ratios, smaller work groups	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	
Improved access to remote learning/home learning through provision or resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laptops • Glue, • Pencils, pens etc • Exercise books and workbooks 	Ensuring access to technology is key, particularly for disadvantaged pupils Almost all remote learning uses digital technology, typically requiring access to both computers and the internet. Many reviews identify lack of technology as a barrier to successful remote instruction. It is important that support is provided to ensure that disadvantaged pupils – who are more likely to face these barriers – have access to technology. We have included basic resources as an essential feature of remote/home learning for infant children Rapid evidence assessment Distance learning	2,4,6

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

Budgeted cost: **£2000**

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Whole staff training on behaviour management approaches with the aim of developing our school ethos and improving behaviour 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	All

<p>family crisis including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution towards costs – uniform, school outings, • Breakfast Club • Afterschool club • Taxis • Enrichment clubs 	<p>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.</p>	
<p>Running nurture groups to support emotional well-being for disadvantaged pupils.</p> <p>This includes CPD and release time for staff to deliver these sessions</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>	<p>5</p>

Total budgeted cost: £30,000

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 2020 to 2021 academic year.

Our internal assessments during 2020/21 suggested that the performance of disadvantaged pupils was lower than in the previous 2 years in key areas of the curriculum. The outcomes we aimed to achieve in our previous strategy by the end of 2020/21 were therefore not fully realised.

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, school closure was most detrimental to our disadvantaged pupils, and they were not able to benefit from our pupil premium funded improvements to teaching and targeted interventions to the degree we had intended. The impact was mitigated by our resolution to maintain a high quality curriculum, including during periods of partial closure, which was aided by use of online resources such as those provided by Oak National Academy.

Although overall attendance in 2020/21 was lower than in the preceding 2 years at 94%%, it was higher than the national average.

Our assessments and observations indicated that pupil behaviour, wellbeing and mental health were significantly impacted last year, primarily due to COVID-19-related issues. The impact was particularly acute for disadvantaged pupils. We used pupil premium funding to provide wellbeing support for all pupils, and targeted interventions where required. We are building on that approach with the activities detailed in this plan

Externally provided programmes

Programme	Provider
N/A	
N/A	