

Pupil premium strategy statement

This statement details our planned 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 2024/2025 and the effect that last year's (2023/2024) spending of pupil premium had within our school.

School overview

Detail	Data
School name	Willingham Primary School
Number of pupils in school	341
Number of Pupil Premium Pupils	74 - 21.7%
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers (3-year plans are recommended)	2022-2025
Date this statement was published	Sept 2024
Date on which it will be reviewed	Sept 2025
Statement authorised by	Curriculum Governors
Pupil premium lead	Mrs G Hassan
Pupil Premium Governor	Chris Woodward

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year*	£123,030
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	£123,030
*Value is based on 7/12 of funding for 2024/25 + prediction of funding for Summer 2025 (based on 74 pupils)	



Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

At Willingham Primary School we believe that with equitable knowledge and equitable opportunities all pupils can achieve equitable success.

The pupil premium grant is additional funding for publicly funded schools in England. It's a school-level grant that gives schools extra resources to help them meet challenges, including those arising from deprivation.

It's allocated for schools to:

- improve the academic outcomes of disadvantaged pupils of all abilities
- close the attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers across the country

The school employs a three-tiered approach to supporting disadvantaged pupils.

Whole school improvement of teaching

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 be the top priority for Pupil Premium spending. We believe that improving the quality of teaching for all pupils will have a disproportionately positive impact on pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds.

At Willingham Primary School we focus on providing a knowledge-based curriculum, delivered using memory-rich pedagogies and all staff PD is focused on developing staff understanding of and ability to deliver our intended curriculum.

Contextualised support for pupils

We carefully consider the make-up of our disadvantaged cohort (considering coalescent needs for e.g. PPF, SEND and GRT or PPF and CP issues) and specific school development areas and use this information to provide contextualised support for the pupils at Willingham Primary School. This may include mental health and wellbeing provision, catch-up interventions for small groups and one-to-one support. Our intervention is not on disadvantaged students as a cohort, it's a strategy which should help to close many gaps in achievement, not just for those receiving the Pupil Premium.

Wider strategies including support for individual pupils

Due to the complex needs of the disadvantaged pupils at Willingham Primary School, we recognise that some pupils need specific support with individual difficulties or barriers to



learning. We allocate a proportion of funding each year to enabling equitable access to our curriculum for all pupils. Support might include payment for school trips and visits, uniform to ensure that pupils feel fully part of the community and clubs and after-school provision to allow access to wider curriculum experiences.

We measure the impact of our provision through our school drivers of Active Participation, Equitable Success and Improvement. We use both academic and wider outcomes to assess disadvantaged progress towards their goals. We do this through half-termly Pupil Progress Meetings and analysing termly/yearly assessment data but recognise that the impact (particularly of individualised support) cannot always be measured.

The impact of the overall strategy for disadvantaged pupils is reviewed in termly Disadvantaged and Gap Analysis SMT meetings.



Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	Attainment entry points of disadvantaged pupils are below that of other pupils in each of Oral Language, Reading, Writing and Mathematics across the school – this is limiting their progress.
2	Disadvantaged pupils’ poor executive function and a range of other social and emotional difficulties are hindering their ability to maintain focus and attention during lessons, affecting their ability to learn and impacting on SEMH development.
3	Coalescence of factors contributing to pupils’ disadvantage and vulnerability can result in challenge in oversight of provision for pupils.
4	Poor attendance of a small number of pupils is preventing them from making strong progress.
5	Complex family situations hinder the progress of a small number of disadvantaged pupils.
6	In a minority of subjects, plans do not clearly indicate the link between what is taught in early years and what children go on to learn in other years

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
Progress of disadvantaged pupils is accelerated in oral language, Reading, Writing and Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School has a well-organised and ambitious curriculum that sets out clearly what pupils should learn from early years onwards, in all subjects. Teaching across the school and within teams, consistently reflects strategies proven to support the acquisition, retention, and application of knowledge, developed in PD sessions Gap between disadvantaged pupils and other pupils is narrowed according to statutory and internal, standardised assessments.
Pupils’ academic and social achievements are not hindered by SEMH development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All pupils’ behaviour in lessons and at playtimes is excellent All pupils have the strategies that they need to self-regulate in challenging situations The attainment of vulnerable children continues to improve across all curriculum areas. Pupils’ basic welfare needs are met (uniform, food, socialization etc.)
Increased attendance rates for disadvantaged pupils, with a key	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance of GRT pupils rises towards 95%



<p>focus on those from our GRT community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall attendance of Disadvantaged pupils improves to above 95%
<p>Ensure equity of opportunity for all children across the school, regardless of their background, including access to a range of sporting, cultural activities and home learning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school provides a outstanding range of extra-curricular sporting and cultural activities, school trips and experiences for all pupils.



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: £124,321

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Development and embedding of the Ark Mathematics Mastery Curriculum and NCETM Mastering Number sessions	<p>EEF evidence shows +5 months for Teaching for Mastery. School monitoring indicates that the key knowledge sequencing of its mathematics curriculum was leading to gaps in understanding, which is limiting further attainment in KS2, particularly for the most vulnerable.</p> <p>Teacher knowledge, understanding and confidence has significant impact on their ability to teach effectively. Ark programme is designed to provide structured PD for staff to address this.</p> <p>£4,684 – Ark £15,887 HLTA costs to provide subject leader release*</p>	1, 6
Development and embedding of the Sounds Write phonics programme across the school.	<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 Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF</p> <p>Following a thorough review of phonics teaching and learning, the school have transitioned over to a new phonics programme – Sounds Write. Sounds Write is a DfE validated programme which was rolled out at Willingham Primary School in the spring term of 2022 in EYFS and Year 2. Continued staff training is required in order to consolidate delivery of the programme across the school.</p> <p>£980 TA & Teacher training x 3 (1 free) Sept 24 to March 25 £2,940 TA & Teacher training x 6 April to July 25 £15,887 HLTA costs to provide subject leader release* £9,870 - TA to deliver Sounds Write interventions for 5 mornings per week.</p>	1, 5, 6



	£2,000 - Reading books to support the Sounds Write programme	
Development of reviewed Humanities Curriculum	<p>Evidence seen during visits to schools with fantastic outcomes for disadvantaged pupils, indicate that a broad and aspirational curriculum will support pupils in their preparation for the next stages in their educational journey. The most disadvantaged pupils enter school with a relative paucity of general knowledge, which can hinder their progress. Through a structured, subject-based curriculum these gaps can be addressed, and all pupils given the knowledge that they need to excel. Through improvements in these subjects, pupils will develop greater reading comprehension and writing skills.</p> <p>£1,800 – Opening Worlds £15,887 HLTA costs to provide subject leader release*</p>	1, 6,
Further development to ensure that the school has an organised and ambitious curriculum that sets out clearly what pupils should learn from early years onwards, in all subjects.	<p>Developing the school’s curriculum including delivery is its number one driver for improvement. Ofsted guidance promotes deep and careful consideration of school curricular, including ensuring that underpinning principles are clear and firm. At WPS, we aim to provide a knowledge-rich, subject-based curriculum that is equitable for all pupils and prepares them to excel at secondary school.</p> <p>School’s internal monitoring in 2022/23, 2023/24 and the school’s Ofsted report 2023, indicates that in a minority of subjects the plans do not clearly indicate the link between what is taught in Early Years and what is learnt in other years. This means that pupils are not as well prepared in some areas of the curriculum for their next steps in Year One.</p> <p>Through continued implementation of consistent approaches to teaching, all pupils will be supported in being able to concentrate fully, understand the expectations and have access to intelligently planned learning sequences.</p> <p>Where schools have the greatest student cultures (ELP programme) outcomes for disadvantaged pupils improve. Through the development of these at WPS, we intend to provide all our pupils with the self-confidence and aspiration to achieve through their focussed, hard work.</p> <p>£15,887 HLTA costs to provide subject leader release* £5,000 - Resources</p>	1, 6



	£94,500 – cost of 12 class structure on top of revenue income	
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Targeted academic support (for example, tutoring, one-to-one support structured interventions)

Budgeted cost: £70,765

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Provide Leadership oversight of Disadvantaged and Vulnerable pupils	Due to the breadth of need, alongside the significant coalescence of vulnerability factors, the school needed greater strategic oversight of the provision and progression of the most vulnerable pupils. The leadership commitment to this strategic oversight sets a clear tone and indicates the importance and priority that the school places upon this area. Staffing costs - £28,140	3, 5
Provide 35 hours of emotional support a week	Improvements in pupils' social/emotional wellbeing and their self-regulation have consistently high impacts on their learning outcomes. Behavioural interventions and those that reduce classroom disruption also have highly positive effects on the learning of pupils. Staffing costs - £30,450	2, 3, 5
Implement the NELI programme for improving oral language	Oral language interventions are regularly shown (EEF and Hattie) to have positive impacts on pupils' outcomes. These are seen particularly in language comprehension, reading and writing. £4,200 Staffing costs NELI Programme funded by DfE	1, 4
Provision of pupil booklets for all disadvantaged Key Stage 2 pupils	Helping to provide a book-rich environment for pupils who live in households with lower incomes, has been shown by research to support improvements in academic outcomes. £1,000 – Pupil booklets for KS2	1, 2
Provision of Animal Support for pupils with high SEMH need.	Improvements in pupils' social/emotional wellbeing and their self-regulation have consistently high impacts on their learning outcomes. Kaplan's Attention Restoration Therapy (ART) as a concept that time spent in nature and with animals can help	2, 5



	<p>improve mental well-being and the ability to concentrate.</p> <p>£1,950 – Animal Support Sessions</p>	
<p>Provision of Canine Therapy for pupils with high SEMH need.</p>	<p>Improvements in pupils’ social/emotional wellbeing and their self-regulation have consistently high impacts on their learning outcomes. Kaplan’s Attention Restoration Therapy (ART) us a concept that time spent in nature and with animals can help improve mental well-being and the ability to concentrate.</p> <p>£3,900 – Canine Therapy</p>	<p>2, 5</p>
<p>Provision of appropriate therapeutic support</p>	<p>Improvements in pupils’ social/emotional wellbeing and their self-regulation have consistently high impacts on their learning outcomes.</p> <p>£1,125 – Talk Therapy/Counselling</p>	<p>2, 5</p>



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

Budgeted cost: £17,140

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Provide free places at Breakfast and After-School Clubs.	Pupils' general needs being met has a significant impact on their ability to learn. Through both the BC and the ASC, pupils are provided with food and stimulation to ensure that they are best prepared to start the day/provided with social interactions to support their SEMH and self-regulation. £10,500	2, 3, 4, 5
Provide free/supported places at extra-curricular activities and school curriculum trips/visits	As part of the broad, knowledge-rich curriculum that the school is committed to offering, pupils need to be given the opportunities to access experiences and visits that without the school's support, they would not have a chance to access. Through access to these experiences, the life-chances of these pupils will be improved. Residential trips - £1,000 Non-residential trips and visits - £300 Sporting Events for high needs pupils - £2,500 – Costed through Sports Premium	2, 3, 5
Employment of Attendance Officer	As poor attendance is habitual, prevention and early intervention is crucial (DfE Mar 22), Attendance Lead and officer's weekly data monitoring leads to early intervention and consistently applied formal procedures. DfE research shows a clear and relevant link between regular school attendance and improved outcomes (as much as 1.6x more likely to be ARE if 0 absence than pupils with 15-20% absence). £5,040	4
Attendance incentives	As part of the school-wide culture of promoting excellent attendance, the use of rewards to celebrate improvement in attendance is a DfE recommended strategy (DfE March 22) £300	4

Total budgeted cost: £212,226



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 2023 to 2024 academic year.

Despite the efforts that the school has put into improving the outcomes for disadvantaged pupils across the school, their performance in both statutory and internal assessments in reading, writing and mathematics remains below age expected expectations for many. However, the life chances of these pupils have been improved by the targeted strategies and support put in place during the 2023-24 academic year.

Developing the school's curriculum, including delivery, is its primary driver for improvement. Ofsted guidance promotes deep and careful consideration of school curricular, including ensuring that underpinning principles are clear and firm. At WPS, we aim to provide a knowledge-rich, subject-based curriculum that is equitable for all pupils and prepares them to excel at secondary school. Through the predominantly single year-group teaching structure of the school and maintenance of this over-time, the school has been able to develop a 2-year rolling curriculum that ensures substantive and disciplinary progress across the breadth of subjects. Disadvantaged pupils are exposed to a rich, aspirational, and inspirational curriculum that continues to be developed over time. "Pupils are well prepared for their future lives." (Ofsted 2023)

Through development of consistent approaches to teaching, *all* pupils will be supported in being able to concentrate fully, understand the expectations and have access to intelligently planned learning sequences. "Pupils benefit from staff's determination for each child to succeed." (Ofsted 2023)

Where schools have the greatest student cultures (as evidenced in the Exemplary Leadership Programme), outcomes for disadvantaged pupils improve. Through the development of these at WPS, we intend to provide all of our pupils with the self-confidence and aspiration to achieve through their focussed, hard-work. Internal monitoring and external visitors highlight this as a key feature of the school; the calm, purposeful atmosphere permeates the classrooms and supports disadvantaged pupils in accessing the lesson content (SIA visits, Ofsted 2023).

The school's internal monitoring and statutory data indicated that pupils at WPS have performed less well in mathematics than other pupils nationally over the past few years. As a result of a strategic review of the curriculum, the ARK Maths Mastery programme was selected to provide the foundation for a new mathematics curriculum across the school. This was launched in September 2021 and embedded throughout the academic years (2022-2023 and



2023-2024) with staff immersing themselves in the PD resources provided by ARK. Continued staff development in the delivery of the ARK Maths Mastery Programme has enabled teachers to secure their understanding of the principles and strengthen their delivery of lessons. Last Year, new staff were supported in developing their expertise and improving their delivery of Mathematics lessons. Internal monitoring has been used to continue to improve standards of mathematics teaching and a consistent approach has been ensured across the school. Use of mathematical vocabulary and appropriate manipulatives remain consistent in supporting conceptual understanding. Daily fluency sessions are consistently implemented through the use of NCETM Mastering Number resources in KS1 and ARK/White Rose resources in KS2. Evidence from internal monitoring continues to show that the improvements in vocabulary and use of manipulatives was evident for *all* pupils with disadvantaged pupils being particularly impacted. Following a review of Early Reading data and teaching early in the academic year, the school adopted a DfE accredited Phonics Scheme (Sounds Write). EYFS and Year 2 rolled out Sounds Write Phonics teaching in February 2022 and EYFS and Key Stage 1 have been teaching with full fidelity to the Sounds Write scheme since September 2022. Twelve teachers and eleven teaching assistants have been trained in Sounds Write. 63% of children in Year 1 achieved the phonics screening test which is an improvement on the previous year and demonstrated significant progress since the start of the year. 88% of children had passed the Phonics screening check by the end of Year 2. 61% of EYFS children achieved good level of development in literacy. "Learning to read starts as soon as children join the school. Adults teach phonics accurately and confidently. Teachers quickly notice those pupils who are at risk of falling behind and give them extra help to keep up." (Ofsted 2023)

Thirty one pupils were supported through funded provision at Breakfast and After-School clubs, which provided those pupils with a positive start to the day and appropriate sustenance both before and after school. This provision came at a cost of £16,960 to the school.

One pupil was supported through provision of school uniform with a cost of £6.

Twenty seven pupils were supported in attending school trips and visits, including residential experiences at a cost of £1024. These pupils would not have had these experiences without this use of the funding.

Scope and progression of each of the humanities curriculum has been mapped out in detail from EYFS to Year 6 and is being taught across the school. Writing outcomes/ types have been identified within each unit across the humanities curriculum to ensure breadth and opportunities within the reading and writing curriculum. 46/79 (58%) Pupil Premium pupils achieved ARE in reading, a significant increase from the previous year, and 60/79 (63%) Pupil Premium pupils achieved ARE in writing, which is also an increase on the previous year.

The NELI programme had a positive impact on all of the pupils with one of the two PPF pupils involved, achieving an age-appropriate level on the OxEd & Assessment Language Screen by



the end of the intervention/academic year. Impact was noted in day-to-day informal assessments and in progress towards meeting the ELGs for oral language, reading and writing. ELG attainment for the three NELI PPF pupils: 1/2 achieved speaking, 0/2 listening; 1/2 comprehension; 0/2 reading; and 0/2 achieved writing. Despite these pupils having not met GLD, they did all make progress from their individual starting point.

The school employs an attendance officer for 1 day per week to track and monitor attendance across the school and works alongside the Deputy Head to identify concerns and necessary actions (attendance letters, pastoral meetings, parent contract meetings).

During 2023-24, the Attendance Lead met parents/carers of identified Pupil Premium children with poor attendance, in either pastoral meetings or parent contract meetings. As a result of the meetings, several children have received support from the ESA, five children have received free places at Breakfast Club or After School Club, six children have had reward systems. The meetings and strategies led to an improvement of pupil's attendance in at least the short-term of ten of the twelve pupils.

The social and emotional support provided by the school's Emotional Support Assistant has positively impacted 27/58 (46%) Pupil Premium pupils from across the school. This support has enabled them to access the learning within the classroom and make progress from their individual starting points. A direct impact of the support given to these twenty-seven pupils is that 100% of the disadvantaged pupils across the school have remained in the classroom, alongside peers and experiencing a knowledge-rich curriculum. These pupils have been supported in developing the tools and strategies they need to regulate their emotions enabling them to be in the classroom and not need extended periods away from learning. This has also ensured that the learning of the other pupils in the class is not being disrupted. For two disadvantaged pupils, behavioural interventions have meant that they are supported in making positive choices and therefore coping with social situations in a more positive manner.

3/79 pupil premium pupils across the school (3.8%) have received animal support work with either the school's Emotional Support Assistant or Inclusion Lead. This support has supported pupils in the development of communication and interaction skills. Pupils have experienced social interactions which have directly impacted on their confidence and well-being. Through working with animals, these pupils have developed strategies to develop emotional regulation alongside accessing a knowledge rich learning environment. The cost of this provision was £1365. In addition, 4/79 pupil premium pupils across the school (5.1%) have received Canine Therapy with a qualified therapist which has had a positive impact on their emotional wellbeing. The cost of this provision was £3900.

A continuing focus on WPS Principles of Instruction through weekly Professional Development meetings and appraisal targets has ensured consistent teaching approach across the school. Visiting professionals (United Learning, SIP, LA advisers, Ofsted 2023) have commented on the consistency across classes in terms of behaviour & its management, lesson structure and visible, explicit vocabulary teaching.



The ECTs followed a programme involving an instructional coaching model. Through regular self-study, clinics and regular meetings with their in-school mentors, ECTs were supported to deliver a progressive, well-structured and well-resources curriculum for all pupils. Explicit modelling and rehearsal of high impact teaching techniques as well as regular observations, ensured staff were seen to display teaching approaches consistently in line with the school’s principles of instruction. Paired walkabouts with SMT enabled ECTs to reflect on their own practice and analyse others, furthering understanding of the POIs.

In addition to the funding budgeted for academic year 2023 – 2024, the school spent £560 on individualised therapeutic work for identified pupils.

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
n/a	

Service Premium

Total funding received - £1,340

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Provision of Emotional Support Assistant support for Service Pupils	SPP should be used to can offer mainly pastoral support during challenging times and to help mitigate the negative impact on service children of family mobility or parental deployment. £1,340 cost of E.S.A.	2, 5

