

Pupil premium strategy statement – Birch C of E (VA) 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	130
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	10% (13 pupils)
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers (3 year plans are recommended)	2024-2027
Date this statement was published	November 2024
Date on which it will be reviewed	September 2025
Statement authorised by	Rebekah May
Pupil premium lead	Kate Atkinson
Governor / Trustee lead	Paul Sturgeon

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£24, 545 <i>(Taken from the budget plan for 2024/25)</i>
Recovery premium funding allocation this academic year	£667 <i>(Taken from the budget plan for 2024/25)</i>
Pupil premium (and recovery premium*) funding carried forward from previous years <i>(enter £0 if not applicable)</i> <i>*Recovery premium received in academic year 2021 to 2022 can be carried forward to academic year 2022 to 2023. Recovery premium received in academic year 2022 to 2023 cannot be carried forward to 2023 to 2024.</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>	£25, 212

Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

At Birch C of E (VA) Primary School, we pride ourselves on our 'Success for all' ethos. We want our Christian school to be a welcoming, caring, happy and stimulating place, where everyone is encouraged to:

- Reach high standards of achievement
- Feel valued and have confidence in their own abilities
- Act kindly and respectfully towards others
- Develop their potential for the benefit of all

Through the core values of wisdom, trust and friendship, we are committed to enabling every child to reach their full potential. This includes improving the outcomes for disadvantaged children and other pupils who face additional challenges and require extra support.

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	Attendance and safeguarding concerns
2	Mental health and wellbeing
3	Access to technology and educational materials (including extra-curricular activities)
4	Foundations in learning, including the impact of COVID-19

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
Closely monitor attendance and safeguarding concerns for all pupils, including those eligible for PP.	All pupil attendance to be above 90% Safeguarding procedures followed by all employees/volunteers and full governing body

Increase wellbeing support for all pupils, including those eligible for PP.	Increase strategies pupils have to feel resilient, safe and positive.
Ensure there is no educational disadvantage for pupils eligible for PP.	Disadvantaged pupils will have access to the same opportunities as their peers, including access to technology and educational materials (including extra-curricular activities).
Monitor the teaching and learning of Phonics so that it meets the precise and individual needs of all pupils, including those eligible for PP.	Achieve national average expected standard in Year 1 Phonics Screening Check (<i>national average: 79% in 2023</i>).
Identify gaps in learning, including the impact of COVID-19. Focus group – current Year 5 cohort.	Achieve national average scores in all standardised tests.

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
Early Years Practitioner Networking Group	The Tiptree & Stanway Schools Consortium Core Training Package 2024-25	4
Moderation meetings for Y2/Y4/Y6	The Tiptree & Stanway Schools Consortium Core Training Package 2024-25	4
Computing with Eastern Education Group	The Tiptree & Stanway Schools Consortium Core Training Package 2024-25	4
Staffing, including proportion of TAs and SENCo allowance	Education Endowment Foundation	4

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

Budgeted cost: £2,500

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Small group tuition, including Number Stacks intervention	Education Endowment Foundation Essex Year of Numbers 2023-2024	4
RWI Fresh Start (Phonics programme for KS2 pupils)	Validated by DfE	4

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

Budgeted cost: £

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Use of CPOMS to monitor and record safeguarding concerns/behaviour log	Widely recognised holistic approach	1
Safeguarding training	Annual training for all employees and full governing body Level 3 Child Protection Designated Person training Safeguarding briefings	1
Use of SIMS to monitor and record attendance		1
Continue to review attendance policy and procedures	Attendance specialist team (ECC/LA)	1
Resiliency training (Sept 2024)	Educational Psychology Service – Local offer	2
World Mental Health Day/NSPCC resources	Global initiative	2

Referrals e.g. CAMHS, Kids Inspire	Multi-agency approach	2
Trauma Perceptive Practice/Mental Health Ambassadors	Local offer	2
No Outsiders resources/PSHE curriculum	The Tiptree & Stanway Schools Consortium Core Training Package 2023-24 Jigsaw PSHE – widely recognised educational programme	2
Forest School	Widely recognised approach	2

Total budgeted cost: £22,500

Part B: Review of the previous academic year

Outcomes for disadvantaged pupils

This details the impact that our pupil premium activity had on pupils in the 2023 to 2024 academic year:

Overall attendance improved from 94% to 95% in 2023-2024 following on from a clear strategy, involving regular attendance meetings.

100% of pupils in EYFS eligible for PP (1 out of 1 pupils) reached a Good Level of Development (GLD) at the end of Reception.

100% of pupils in Year 1 eligible for PP (1 out of 1 pupils) passed the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check.

100% (3 out of 3) pupils eligible for PP did not reach the expected standard in reading, writing and maths combined at the end of KS2 (with 1 pupil on our SEND register).

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***

Pupils eligible for service PP had the option to have lunch with the Headteacher each Friday.

Our tuition offer also focused on service families.

The impact of that spending on service pupil premium eligible pupils

This targeted allocation of time each week enabled pupils to come together to share similar experiences through a supportive and collaborative approach.

Our tuition offer helped service pupils to address misconceptions/consolidate their learning, with the ultimate goal of helping them to settle into a new school system.

Further information (optional)

We aim to equip pupils to become more aware of current issues in the news and on social media. We make use of resources such as Newsround to support this and continue to make links with the wider community. For example, supporting Colchester Foodbank and the Parish News. We regularly invite parents/carers into school to talk to the children about their professional roles and have worked alongside the Essex County Fire & Rescue Service to provide educational workshops linked to Cyber Safety and Home Safety. Resources to further enhance our collective worship offer, including iSingPop and Prayer Spaces in Schools, have also been prioritised.

A proportion of the school's PP budget has been set aside to help fund music lessons, school trips/clubs and residential trips for pupils eligible for PP. We also endeavour to assist with access to technology where at all possible.

After completing Level 3 Forest School Leader training in 2022-2023, our Headteacher continues to offer dedicated teaching time to 'Forest School' with core groups such as Early Years and Year 6.

Year 6 will again be completing their Archbishops' Young Leaders Award in 2024-25. This is an opportunity for our young people to grow in leadership, faith and character alongside our Headteacher.