

Pupil premium strategy statement – The Winstanley 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	653
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	280 (42.9%)
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers (3 year plans are recommended)	2023-2026
Date this statement was reviewed and re-published	12/2025
Date this statement will be reviewed	11/2026
Mid Year Review	06/2026
Statement authorised by	Dave Bennett, Headteacher
Pupil premium lead	Pankaj Thacker, Assistant Headteacher
Governor / Trustee lead	Tim Rogers / Viv Evans, Co-Chairs of Governing Body

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£293,475
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	£293,475

Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

“..transforming the Valley of Trouble into the Gateway of Hope.”

*All of our PP learners will **SHINE brighter than they thought they could**. All of our PP learners will access the curriculum, be literate and express their views. All will have access to a wide variety of opportunities, belong to our community, be encouraged to be a leader and be successful in a number of different ways.*

High quality teaching is at the heart of our approach, with a focus on areas in which our 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.

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	Pupil Premium learners underperform When compared to peers our disadvantaged learners make less progress than other attaining learners across the whole school.
2	Gaps in Learning Many Pupil Premium learners would benefit from focused, timely support in English, Maths and Science to accelerate progress.
3	Behaviour for Learning A minority of Pupil Premium learners experience challenges with behaviour for learning that can affect access to the curriculum.
4	Low Literacy Levels Many of our PP learners arrive in Year 7 with weak literacy levels (including speaking and listening); low levels of literacy therefore delays their progress overall.
5	Low attendance rates Attendance rates for PP learners are below the target of 95% for all learners which mean they fall behind. PP learners are more likely to be PA.
6	Parental engagement We recognise that engagement with PP families requires adaptable approaches; our plan focuses on inclusive, responsive outreach and flexible opportunities to participate.
7	Lack of access to social experiences Some PP learners may hold beliefs that abilities are fixed, which can dampen aspirations and achievement.
8	Lack of world knowledge and awareness Access to a broad repertoire of experiences enhances understanding and curriculum engagement. Some PP learners may have fewer opportunities beyond the classroom, which can limit conceptual development

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
PP learners across KS3/4 have increased level of progress	PP learners are making as much progress as non PP learners across the key stages.
PP learners catch up and match outcomes for other learners nationally in GCSE especially in English, Maths and Science	PP learners at The Winstanley School do at least as well as learners nationally in English, Maths and Science. PP learners also show expected and more than expected progress in non core subjects. Interventions are tailored, and progress is reviewed regularly.
Behaviour for learning issues across the school are addressed and managed	More targeted, evidence-informed strategies to support full participation leading to improved progress for targeted learners and fewer behaviour issues recorded for PP learners. Reduced FTE, IE and On Calls for PP learners.
Progress of PP learners improve	Learners eligible for PP make more progress by the end of the year than other pupils so that at least 50% reach their aspirational target.
PP learners have higher reading ages	PP learners show improved reading ages / higher levels of engagement in reading at KS3.
Increased attendance for PP	Attendance of PP learners increases to 95% or above. Persistent absence (PA) for PP learners declines.
Increased prevalence of a growth mindset in PP learners	More explicit growth-mindset teaching, high expectations, and targeted routines that help students see effort, strategies, and gradual progress as the path to success. The number of PP learners choosing Level 3 courses at Post 16 increases. The number of PP NEETS continues to decline.
Increased exposure to / participation in a variety of new experiences to broaden	Further embedding varied experiences in planning, building local partnerships

<p>minds and facilitate increased access to the curriculum</p>	<p>and community links, and providing high-quality, inclusive resources with explicit links to learning objectives and regular progress checks. All Pupil Premium learners take part in at least one educational visit and one extra-curricular club.</p>
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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: £ 95,000

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Evidence of Implementation	Challenge number(s) addressed
<i>Excellent Learning and Teaching for all</i>	<p>EEF toolkit and Sir John Dunford make clear that the most important factor in raising achievement for all learners is the quality of Teaching and Learning. The Sutton Trust states: 'For PP learners the difference between a good teacher and a bad teacher is a whole year's learning.' EEF Guide to The Pupil Premium adds: "Good teaching is the most important lever schools have to improve outcomes for disadvantaged pupils."</p> <p>"Teaching to the top has been a long standing principle of effective teaching from my perspective. If you crack it, you crack most other things too; the bar is raised for everyone." Tom Sherrington</p> <p>"It's all about the teaching. Leaders have to know what great teaching is like and how to improve it." Coulson in Blatchford (2020).</p>	<p>Observation cycles.</p> <p>Collaboration within MAT and outside of the MAT (Professional Pathways; XMAT meetings etc).</p> <p>EFA: TLC meetings, peer lesson visits and teacher action planning part of updated PIP process</p> <p>Peer observation within MAT and outside of the MAT.</p> <p>Role of Lead Practitioners / SLT.</p> <p>REALiFE Curriculum (over 40% PP).</p>	1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8

		<p>Embedding Formative Assessment is promoting Quality First teaching and will improve performance of all learners including PP</p> <p>Core4 Revision Strategies taught explicitly in subjects and during CREW QA Process.</p> <p>Authentic Experiences - making classroom learning relevant.</p> <p>Parents' Evenings.</p> <p>Challenge Partners Quality Assurance reports.</p>	
High quality, regular feedback	EEF Toolkit some research suggested: 'an impact of half of a GCSE grade per learner per subject is achievable, which would be in line with the wider evidence about feedback.'	<p>On-going CPD of staff.</p> <p><u>Examples:</u></p> <p>X MAT.</p> <p>Strategic planning.</p> <p>EFA TLC/ paired observations have a specific focus on assessment and feedback. Departmental assessment policies are being reviewed as a result of work with EFA</p>	1, 2, 4, 6

		<p>Departmental 360 Reviews are conducted to monitor the quality of teaching and learning and to inform departmental action planning.</p> <p>REALiFE Curriculum (over 40% PP) - Parent Showcase.</p> <p>Parents Evenings</p> <p>Challenge Partners Quality Assurance reports.</p> <p>Very explicit checking for understanding including whole school use of mini whiteboards</p>	
<p><i>Improve whole school literacy by prioritising reading in all year groups.</i></p>	<p>The aim is to make sure that all pupils are reading to improve their literacy levels. The use of this enables us to track a pupils reading log and their progress. Research from 'Closing the Gap' has heavily influenced our focus on literacy as a whole school.</p> <p>Hart and Risley (2003) found that children from lower socio-economic households have a word gap compared to those who live in professional households. Crucially, they also found that the number of words a child heard varied significantly depending on the household's socio-economic status. On average, children from families on welfare heard approximately 616 words per hour, while those from working class families heard approximately 1251. Children from professional families exceeded both,</p>	<p>Lexonik Leap and Advance as interventions for learners with reading scores that are below the national average.</p> <p>We are looking to train all staff in a new whole school reading initiative called Starling Vocabulary. Early findings from</p>	<p>1, 2, 4, 6, 7</p>

	<p>hearing approximately 2153 words per hour. This gap means that some pupils will start their school having heard 30 million fewer words than other children their age.</p> <p>“We place a particular focus on developing pupils’ vocabulary, as vocabulary knowledge is a predictor of achievement and is often related to socio-economic status.” Dixons Kings Academy. EEF Guide to the Pupil Premium.</p> <p>“Left unchallenged, this and a narrower vocabulary remain a barrier for many throughout the primary years.” Dixons Kings Academy. EEF Guide to the Pupil Premium.</p> <p>“The language gap is the disadvantage gap; tackling it is the closest you can come to a golden ticket” Marc Rowland</p> <p>“When we are safe and when we are well we have the freedom to talk. For those who often struggle with reading and writing, talking and debating the ideas and the knowledge first is also the perfect strategy to make the writing flow.” Hyman in Blatchford 2020.</p>	<p>secondary pilots indicate exceptionally high vocabulary retrieval rates.</p> <p>Sparx Reader embedded into our new Independent Study Programme. Crew Leaders trained to support learners to achieve high comprehension scores</p> <p>Speaking and Writing Mats are being developed in all subject areas following training with David Didau that stressed the importance of having learners communicating in the ‘academic register’ throughout their school day.</p>	
<i>PP learners have quality personalised support in all subjects and all year groups</i>	<p>John Dunford speaks about the need for ‘Forensic Personalisation’. This is especially true for PP learners. Middle Leaders, Teachers, Tutors and behaviour and attendance support need to work together to ensure that the individual needs of each PP learner are met. EEF Toolkit some research suggested: ‘an impact of half of a</p>	<p>Raising Standards Leader, Assistant Headteacher for Learning & Teaching, Heads of Department and Pupil Premium Lead will oversee this.</p>	<p>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6</p>

	<p>GCSE grade per learner per subject is achievable, which would be in line with the wider evidence about feedback.'</p> <p>"Know every child. Knowing a child enables a response that can work for that child." Coulson in Blatchford (2020).</p> <p>"Inclusion is as much about adapting the school to the child as it is about adapting the child to the school. Settings are most effective when they embed inclusive and effective leadership in both their vision and their day-to-day actions." Gilbert in Blandford 2019.</p>	<p>Year 11 targeted Support</p> <p>Tutors know their tutees and share relevant information with Heads of House / Heads of Department / SENDCo / PP Lead as necessary to enable personalisation of support.</p> <p>SEND.</p> <p>LABS Meetings.</p> <p>Free revision materials and subsidised equipment provided in many curriculum areas e.g. kit in PE.</p> <p>Subsidised access to fieldwork visits and residential trips (Geography Birmingham fieldwork trip, Kenilworth Castle trip, Cornwall residential, Outwoods Bounds trip)</p> <p>Access to Brightside Mentoring</p> <p>REALiFE Curriculum (over 40% PP).</p> <p>Analysis meetings after tracking for KS4/KS3 with Raising Standards Leader.</p>	
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		<p>PP Lead will work with Heads of House / Attendance Officer after each tracking.</p> <p>PP Lead to ensure that it is regularly discussed at ML meetings.</p>	
<p><i>Use the Gatsby Benchmarks to ensure all PP learners have high quality careers education</i></p>	<p>Clear evidence from the Gatsby Benchmarks that strategies it contains ensures that learners are much less likely to be NEET at the end of school.</p>	<p>Careers Leader (BJA) has worked with our Enterprise Adviser and Careers Adviser (MGO) to organise a comprehensive careers programme across the five years of school which will benefit all learners but especially PP learners. PP priority for all careers meetings etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University trips • Open Days • SHINE Brighter events • CV Writing Workshops • Mock Interviews • Skills Workshops • Sessions to support PS16 applications • Guest Speakers 	<p>1, 3, 6, 7, 8</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PP specific programme - <i>We Discover</i> to support aspirations and futures decision-making throughout Y11 (continued from last year in Y10) • Starting this year <i>We Discover</i> to grow to include PP girls for additional careers support starting in Y8 and then progressing through the school with those learners <p>SHINE Centre: college transition / collaborative work; work experience.</p>	
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Targeted academic support (for example, tutoring, one-to-one support, structured interventions)

Budgeted cost: £ 95,000

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Evidence of Implementation	Challenge number(s) addressed
<i>Raise performance of Year 10 and 11 learners in English and Maths</i>	<p>EEF toolkit states that: (the) 'evidence indicates that one to one tuition can be effective, on average accelerating learning by approximately five additional months' progress.'</p> <p>Financial limitations mean that we cannot afford 1:1 tuition but will focus on small group teaching for those who need extra support.</p>	<p>English revision guides & set texts provided</p> <p>After school extra maths classes offered to all learners with PP learners targeted for extra support.</p> <p>Targeted tutor time intervention in Maths and English to give priority to PP learners (2 mornings week).</p> <p>Calculators and equipment (full pencil cases) provided in maths as needed.</p> <p>SPARX maths used to provide out of class support.</p> <p>Sparx Reader to improve reading skills and so improve English performance.</p> <p>Reading groups to improve reading skills and so improve English performance.</p> <p>Whole school focus on Independent Learning to develop learners working at home. Study club after school to support learners who find it difficult to do at home.</p> <p>Class teacher tracking to inform intervention and reflect on impact.</p>	1, 2, 4, 6

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

Budgeted cost: £ 80,000

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Evidence of Implementation	Challenge number(s) addressed
<i>Behaviour for learning issues across the school are addressed and managed</i>	<p>The EEF toolkit finds mentoring less effective than many other interventions. Our own evidence from 2020-21 would suggest that our mentoring system has considerable impact and so we will continue to use it.</p> <p>“You have to acknowledge misinterpreting pupil behaviour - requires leaders with great sensitivity, both with children and helping colleagues develop more refined approaches with different children.” Coulson in Blatchford (2020).</p>	<p>Behaviour and Attendance reset across the whole school to ensure consistency.</p> <p>Assistant Headteacher ensures that it is a regular agenda item on SLT meetings.</p> <p>Parents’ evenings and meetings - extra intervention / priority appointments / parental communication.</p> <p>SLT / HOHs / mentors / PP Lead will meet regularly with learners; especially PP learners they are assigned to.</p> <p>Progress will be monitored regularly at morning inclusion meetings.</p> <p>Mental Health and Wellbeing team will meet fortnightly.</p> <p>CREW leads know their tutees and share relevant information with Heads of House / Heads of Departments / SENDCO / PP Lead as necessary to enable personalisation of support.</p> <p>Genesis provision launched in 2025.</p> <p>Support from external agencies.</p>	1, 3, 6

		A series of Family Support Workshops led by JSC/LSC/SBR/JW	
<i>Increase attendance rates for PP learners and decrease PA in PP learners</i>	The support ensures that they are able to get to school. The NFER briefing on raising performance of PP learners states: 'more successful schools set up rapid response systems to address poor attendance. This includes staff contacting home immediately when a pupil fails to arrive on time. If the problem persists, staff work with families to address any barriers they face in getting their children to school.'	<p>Assistant Headteacher to work with PP Lead to lead HOHs and Attendance Improvement Manager to ensure that attendance strategies are implemented.</p> <p>CREW Leads to monitor PP learners' attendance closely and liaise with the Attendance Improvement Manager over any concerns.</p> <p>House competitions; attendance charts on all walls; certificates in assembly; letters home with attendance contract; assemblies; tutor time intervention; home visits; liaison with School Inclusion Team.</p> <p>Family Support Worker</p> <p>A series of Family Support Workshops led by JSC/LSC/SBR/JW</p>	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
<i>Challenge fixed mindsets and raise aspirations</i>	<p>Little research has been done in the UK to establish the success of this approach. However, a Stanford University study of students in Chile showed: 'Growth mindset tempers the effects of poverty on academic achievement.'</p> <p>"Belief that all can succeed - the mark of a great leader is how far they can persuade colleagues that outcomes can be different from what currently looks likely." Coulson in Blatchford (2020).</p>	<p>SHINE Character and Culture Programme:</p> <p>Whole school events: #helloyellow; Black History Month; Remembrance; Anti Bullying; Holocaust; Stephen Lawrence; Online Safety Week; National Sports Week and LGBTQ (Pride).</p> <p>Assemblies for all at the beginning of the year. Re-visit through the year.</p> <p>Raise aspirations specifically for Year 11 through 'Raising Achievement</p>	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

		<p>Assemblies', 'Maximising Potential' Talks.</p> <p>Outside speakers.</p> <p>Variety of career events for all years.</p> <p>SHINE Brighter events.</p> <p>KS4 Careers Interviews (PP a priority).</p> <p>University visits / workshops in school; trips and wider curriculum offer.</p> <p>Group of Year 10 disadvantaged learners taking part in a University of Leicester programme to raise aspiration</p> <p>KS3 Evolve</p> <p>White Ribbon Workshop</p> <p>Love4Life workshops</p> <p>Junior Leadership Team.</p> <p>Leicester Citizens.</p> <p>Curriculum coverage (RSE Audit).</p>	
<p><i>All PP learners have access to a wide variety of experiences</i></p>	<p>Research hasn't been undertaken on all types of educational visits, however the EEF toolkit does consider outdoor education visits and states: 'Overall, studies of adventure learning interventions consistently show positive benefits on academic learning, and wider outcomes such as self-confidence.' Our own evidence suggests that learners taking part in visits and extra-curricular activities improve their learning skills and also increase their motivation in school.</p>	<p>Assistant Headteacher and Pupil Premium Lead will decide on the level of subsidy on visits and a central spreadsheet will be kept to monitor learner access.</p> <p>The ASPIRE programme (privately funded through sponsorship and community) provides learners with opportunities to access clubs and wider curriculum activities after school every day. They are also provided with some hot food at the end.</p>	<p>1, 3, 7, 8</p>

		<p>Raise aspirations specifically for Year 11 through 'Raising Achievement Assemblies', 'Maximising Potential' Talks.</p> <p>Outside speakers.</p> <p>Variety of career events for all years.</p> <p>KS4 Careers Interviews (PP a priority).</p> <p>University visits; trips and wider curriculum offer.</p> <p>Rewards Trips.</p> <p>Educational Visits</p> <p>Junior Leadership Team.</p> <p>Leicester Citizens.</p> <p>Big Get Together.</p> <p>Curriculum coverage (RSE Audit).</p> <p>Invitation only sports clubs in PE</p> <p>Additional support for instrumental tuition and extra access to the music room and instruments to rehearse.</p> <p>SHINE Centre: Appropriate Provision</p> <p>Provision theatre trips; sports trips; experiential learning; outdoor education etc.</p>	
<i>All PP learners have the resources needed to succeed</i>	PP learners in previous years have made clear how important it is that they are given resources to enable them to achieve.	<p>PP Lead will work with the Deputy Headteacher to monitor this to ensure that all learners have access to the resources they need including uniform and equipment.</p> <p>PP Lead to have a central database.</p>	1, 3, 6, 7, 8

		Letters home to parents explaining support on offer; section on all trip letters regarding support we can offer. Support with uniform and equipment LABS - triage to see what support can be offered (internal and external). SHINE Centre: sportswear; uniform; chromebooks.	
<i>Parental engagement of PP learners is strengthened</i>	The association between parental involvement and a child's academic success is well established.	Tutor Parents Evening at the start of the year to establish initial contact between tutor and parents/carers Parents Evenings - personalised contact (tutor; PP Lead). Use of Social Media. Rewards System. ADHD Parental Support Group. Parental Meetings. A series of Family Support Workshops led by JSC/LSC/SBR/JW	6
<i>Contingency fund for acute issues.</i>	Based on our experiences and 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.		All

Total budgeted cost: £ 270,000

Part B: Review of the previous academic year

Outcomes for disadvantaged pupils

Measure	2025 all learners* (48)	2025 Non-AP & Below 50% Att* (38)	2024 all learners (52)	2023 all learners (37)
KS2 APS	N/A	N/A	100	98
Av tt 8 grade	2.47	2.94	2.48	2.27
Progress 8	N/A	N/A	-1.18	-1.21
P8 gap	N/A	N/A	0.78	0.55
% 9 – 7 Eng. & Ma	0	0	0	0
% 9 – 5 Eng. & Ma	8.3	10.5	13.5	4.9
% 9 – 4 Eng. & Ma	20.8	26.3	15.4	19.5
% 9 – 7 Eng.	0	0	1.9	2.4
% 9 – 5 Eng.	18.8	23.7	15.4	14.6
% 9 – 4 Eng.	29.2	36.8	21.2	24.4
% 9 – 7 Ma	6.3	7.9	9.6	2.4
% 9 – 5 Ma	16.7	21.1	19.2	12.2
% 9 – 4 Ma	37.5	44.7	36.5	36.6
% 5 standard passes incl E&M	16.7	21.1	15.4	19.5
% 5 Strong passes incl E&M	6.3	7.9	11.5	7.3
% Entered for Ebacc	22.9	28.9	28.8	0
% Achieving Ebacc	0	2.6	7.7	0

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

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The impact of that spending on service pupil premium eligible pupils

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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.

The ASPIRE programme has been running for two years and provides all of our learners with opportunities to engage in sports and other activities that are fully funded by external grants/funds. These high quality extra-curricular activities boost wellbeing, behaviour, attendance and aspiration. They also help to build a positive connection with the school as all pupils can access them. All pupils gain access to a warm cooked meal at the end of the activity every day.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is being offered to all Year 9 learners and focuses on life skills such as confidence, resilience and socialising. Disadvantaged pupils are encouraged and supported to participate in the programme including in the residential activity.

We are taking part in a funded on-site Music AP programme as part of the SEN Intervention Fund through Leicestershire County Council. This provision is based around music therapy for students who are struggling, particularly those experiencing anxiety.