

Arnbrook Primary School

Pupil premium strategy statement

This statement details our school's use of pupil premium (and recovery premium for the 2024 to 2025 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 and the effect that last year's spending of pupil premium had within our school.

School overview

Detail	Data
School name	Arnbrook Primary School
Number of pupils in school	163 on roll
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	42%
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers (3 year plans are recommended)	24/25-26/7
Date this statement was published	18.12.24
Reviewed on	18.12.24
Date on which it will be reviewed	Dec 2025
Statement authorised by	Robert Maddams Headteacher
Pupil premium lead	Emma Stringfellow Assistant Headteacher
Governor / Trustee lead	Graham Boyd Trust CEO

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£114, 380
Recovery premium funding allocation this academic year	£0 withdrawn for 24/25
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	£114, 380

Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

At Arnbrook Primary School, we believe that all children are entitled to an education which allows every child to achieve their potential regardless of their starting point in life or personal circumstances.

We aim to remove the barriers that stand in the way of our children achieving their full potential regardless of whether they are disadvantaged or not. We support our vulnerable children by being aware of the individual challenges they face and tailoring the curriculum to them. The support we offer takes on many different forms inside and out of the classroom, but with an emphasis on quality first teaching of a full and in-depth curriculum.

Our strategy is an integral part of the recovery program. Every aspect of the curriculum and the children's lives that has been affected by the pandemic and other external challenges such as the rising cost of living have been considered and strategies put in place for all children. Vulnerable children's well being and progress is a whole school approach and everyone's responsibility. The strategies we implement work together to give our children the best possible chance to succeed.

We will provide experiences they might not otherwise have, through engaging practical sessions, trips, visitors and a broad, hands on curriculum tailored to the needs of our children. We will support their emotional wellbeing and physical health through keeping them active and educating the children and their families on a healthy balanced lifestyle, as we believe all children have the right to not go hungry.

We support our children, but their families as well to improve their lives and equip them with all they need to succeed in life.

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	Poor attendance and punctuality – many of our disadvantaged pupils have poor attendance and punctuality, caused by a range of factors including attitude towards education, distance from school and issues at home.

2	Poverty of language (poor spoken English & limited vocabulary knowledge), alongside poverty of experience and aspiration in relation to experiences which can be drawn upon in their writing and lack of exposure to high quality stories and texts at home. Across the school but particularly in EYFS.
3	Disadvantaged pupils with particular areas of weakness in reading, writing and/or maths; gaps in their learning or misconceptions which prevent further progress.
4	Poor emotional wellbeing and mental health due to a range of factors including chaotic home life & traumatic life experiences.
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic for years 4, 5 & 6:	
5	Significant gaps in pupils' skills and knowledge due to lack of daily teaching and daily practice.
6	Pupils have missed significant experiences affecting their cultural capital and ability to make connections in their learning.
7	Widening attainment gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils due to lack of daily teaching and appropriate intervention
8	Lack of engagement with home learning during school closure/self-isolation
9	Poor speech and language; lack of opportunity for regular, sustained dialogue with range of peers/adults and appropriate modelling of vocabulary from adults.
10	Home environments lacking structure, routines and appropriate boundaries during school closure - affecting pupils' behaviour for learning and mental health
11	Mental health/wellbeing issues affecting our pupils' wellbeing and academic performance. Alongside a rise in safeguarding and child protection issues, including "Hidden" safeguarding and child protection risks and harms.

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
Significantly raise attendance levels for disadvantaged pupils.	Target of 97% for all pupils is met, the gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils' attendance eliminated and reduction in the number of persistently absent pupils (below national average).
Improving the quality of teaching and learning in writing to address the needs of disadvantaged pupils & improve their achievement in writing.	Eradicate the gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils achieving both the 'Expected standard & Greater Depth, within school and in comparison to national figures. The number of disadvantaged pupils achieving greater depth increases.

Diminishing the difference between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils in relation to outcomes in reading, writing and maths across the school, to ensure they are ready for the next stage in their education.	Program of cost-effective interventions in place which ensure that disadvantaged pupils catch up quickly & ensure most able disadvantaged pupils achieve well.
Improved maths attainment for disadvantaged pupils at the end of Key Stage 2	Proportion of disadvantaged pupils achieving expected + at the end of KS2 rises and is in line with National.
Improved reading attainment among disadvantaged pupils.	An increase in proportion of disadvantaged pupils meeting expected and greater depth standard, to ensure they are prepared for the next stage in their education.
Improved reading and maths attainment for most able pupils at the end of Key Stage 1.	An increase in proportion of disadvantaged pupils meeting greater depth standard, to ensure they are prepared for the next stage in their education.
To improve the Oracy skills of pupils across the school but particularly in EYFS; expressive and receptive vocabulary, listening and narrative skills; to ensure they are ready for the next stage in their education.	Targeted pupils will have improved their communication and language skills, with particular improvements in vocabulary, listening and narrative skills and diminish the difference between disadvantaged pupils and non disadvantaged pupils.
Improve the emotional health and well-being of disadvantaged pupils across the school	<p>Program of interventions and approaches used swiftly and appropriately. Children can articulate how to identify when they need help with their mental health and how to get it.</p> <p>Vulnerable and younger children to have effective strategies for communicating and expressing their feelings and concerns.</p>
To broaden the range of and access to engaging learning experiences to diminish poverty of experience.	Pupils experience an increased number of such experiences. Disadvantaged pupils have sufficient cultural capital to prepare them for life in modern Britain.
To rapidly improve KS1 pupils' ability in phonics & reading fluency; phonological awareness and letter-sound knowledge, oral blending, sight reading of phonetically irregular words, their ability to read fluently.	To rapidly improve KS1 pupils' ability in phonics & reading fluency; phonological awareness and letter-sound knowledge, oral blending, sight reading of phonetically irregular words, their ability to read fluently.

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: £47,000

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>Development & monitoring of the Curriculum; subject leaders given regular leadership time each half term to monitor and evaluate standards in their subject and implement further improvement alongside Trust and school senior leaders. Feedback is then given and relevant high quality CPD and training is delivered during INSET to support staff and continue to drive the quality teaching and learning forward.</p> <p>This will ensure the quality of education is of a high standard, broad and balanced which builds upon the pupils' cultural capital, addressing pupil's poverty of language.</p> <p>Funding used to cover the cost of releasing teachers.</p>	<p>The curriculum is key to providing opportunities for our disadvantaged pupils to have experiences they may not otherwise have. It must broaden their horizons and give them new aspirations and opportunities to achieve the best they can.</p> <p>https://d2tic4wvo1iusb.cloudfront.net/production/documents/guidance-for-teachers/pupil-premium/guide to the pupil premium - 2024.pdf?v=1727884053</p>	2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
<p>All staff members to attend extended Read Write Inc. training to ensure phonics is taught systematically and effectively. Teachers in higher year groups have the knowledge of phonics and of how children have been taught to read in order to support children in their classes when necessary.</p> <p>All staff have access to 'Oxford Owl' phonics online programme which includes resources.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Phonics EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)</p>	3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12

<p>Additional teacher in Y6 to ensure that year 6 pupils receive appropriate level of challenge in maths, guided reading and writing.</p> <p>Additional teacher in Y2/3 mixed class to ensure Y2 pupils receive appropriate level of challenge across the curriculum.</p>	<p>Small group tuition has an average impact of four months' additional progress over the course of a year https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/small-group-tuition</p>	<p>2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9</p>
<p>Class novels and top reads for each year group updated to reflect a diverse range of authors, characters and themes.</p>	<p>Reading comprehension strategies are high impact on average (+6 months). Alongside phonics it is a crucial component of early reading instruction.</p> <p>It is important to identify the appropriate level of text difficulty, to provide appropriate context to practice the skills, desire to engage with the text and enough challenge to improve reading comprehension.</p> <p>Reading comprehension strategies EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)</p>	<p>2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12</p>
<p>Learning mentor to provide bespoke pastoral support for individual and groups of pupils.</p>	<p>Social and emotional learning approaches have a positive impact, on average, of 4 months' additional progress in academic outcomes over the course of an academic year. This finding, however, has very low security, so schools should be especially careful to monitor the efficacy of SEL approaches in their settings.</p> <p>The studies in the Toolkit focus primarily on academic outcomes, but it is important to consider the other benefits of SEL interventions. Being able to effectively manage emotions will be beneficial to children and young people even if it does not translate to reading or maths scores.</p> <p>https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/teaching-learning-toolkit/social-and-emotional-learning/</p>	<p>1, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11</p>

Additional support staff in Year 1 to support vulnerable pupils	<p>Small group tuition has an average impact of four months' additional progress over the course of a year. Small group tuition is most likely to be effective if it is targeted at pupils' specific needs. Diagnostic assessment can be used to assess the best way to target support.</p> <p>https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/pupil-premium-guide/</p>	3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12
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Targeted academic support (for example, tutoring, one-to-one support structured interventions)

Budgeted cost: £46,325


Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
AHT teaching and lead intervention groups of targeted disadvantaged pupils who are at risk of not reaching ARE or targeted for greater depth, twice per week in Y2 & Y6	<p>Additional small group support can be effectively targeted at pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds, and should be considered as part of a school's pupil premium strategy.</p> <p><u>Individualised instruction EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)</u></p>	3, 4, 5, 6, 7
1:1 phonics top-up sessions (daily sessions) for identified pupils in EYFS, Y1 & Y2 who need additional support to pass phonics screening check. Support provided for parents to be able to support their child easily at home with resources to help.	<p>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</p> <p>https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/teaching-learning-toolkit/phonics/</p>	3, 5, 7, 12

	<p>Tuition is more likely to make an impact if it is additional to and explicitly linked with normal lessons.</p> <p><u>One to one tuition EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)</u></p>	
<p>Purchase of a program to improve listening, narrative and vocabulary skills for disadvantaged pupils who have relatively low spoken language skills. Links made with Nottingham university and feeder secondary schools. Time given for SLT to attend meetings and for Staff training to be delivered.</p>	<p>On average, Oral language approaches have a high impact on pupil outcomes of 6 months additional progress.</p> <p><u>Oral language interventions EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)</u></p>	2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9
<p>Engaging with the National Tutoring Program to provide a blend of tuition, mentoring and school-led tutoring for pupils whose education has been most impacted by the pandemic. A significant proportion of the pupils who receive tutoring will be disadvantaged, including those who are high attainers.</p>	<p>On average, one to one tuition is very effective at improving pupil outcomes. One to one tuition might be an effective strategy for providing targeted support for pupils that are identified as having low prior attainment or are struggling in particular areas.</p> <p><u>One to one tuition EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)</u></p> <p>And in small groups:</p> <p>Small group tuition has an average impact of four months' additional progress over the course of a year.</p> <p><u>Small group tuition Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF</u></p>	2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12

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

Budgeted cost: £21,055

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Continue mental	Targeted approaches to SEL seem to have greater impacts on average, approaches should not be viewed in opposition, as	4

health program across the school through. Stormbreak surge program	<p>most schools will want to use a combination of whole class SEL learning, and targeted support for pupils with particular social and emotional needs.</p> <p>Improvements appear more likely when SEL approaches are embedded into routine educational practices and supported by professional development and training for staff.</p> <p>https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/social-and-emotional-learning</p>	
Free breakfast club places	<p>The findings suggest that, where improvements are seen, it is not just eating breakfast that delivers improvements but attending a breakfast club. This could be due to the content of the breakfast itself or to other social or educational benefits of the club.</p> <p> Magic Breakfast EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)</p>	1, 4, 10, 11
Attendance prizes and incentives Weekly SLT Pastoral meetings	<p>This is essential for pupils to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances. The pupils with the highest attainment at the end of key stage 2 and key stage 4 have higher rates of attendance over the key stage compared to those with the lowest attainment. At KS2, pupils not meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths had an overall absence rate of 4.7%, compared to 3.5% among those meeting the expected standard.</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/66bf300da44f1c4c23e5bd1b/Working_together_to_improve_school_attendance_-_August_2024.pdf</p> <p>Time allocated for weekly pastoral meetings involving SLT & attendance support worker to monitor, discuss & implement strategies to support good attendance.</p>	1, 10, 11
Guitar & ukulele tuition & instrument hire	<p>Music is a cornerstone of the broad and balanced education that every child should receive. It touches hearts and minds, it celebrates and challenges, and it connects us and moves us. In the same way that we teach children literacy and numeracy to prepare them for adult life, we must also give them the musical tools they need for a lifetime of music-making and enjoyment.</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/62bc1242d3bf7f292040d364/The_Power_of_Music_to_Change_Lives.pdf</p>	4, 6
Attendance support worker to help improve pupil's attendance.	<p>The attendance support worker provides continuity for parents who need support and keeps the profile and expectations of attendance at the school high.</p> <p>Attendance support worker also attends the weekly pastoral meetings with SLT to monitor, discuss and implement strategies to promote good attendance.</p>	1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11

Attendance meetings with the Headteacher	Time for meetings with parents and children identified as at risk of low attendance and punctuality in order to pinpoint the individual barriers to good attendance.	1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11

Total budgeted cost: £114,380

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.

The impact of school closures during the covid pandemic is still evident in pupil outcomes, but our own analysis shows our strategies have been effective in mitigating this.

In the Y1 phonics screening check, 75% of disadvantaged pupils achieved the expected standard. This was above the national average of 67%.

When analysing the end of KS2 results, a higher percentage of disadvantaged pupils achieved expected plus and high score in reading, writing, maths and EGPS when compared to all children. However reading remains an area for further development.

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 and our determination to help our disadvantage pupils access the curriculum we provided and support them during lockdown. Please refer to previous year's statement to reference the strategies included during COVID.

We have a relentless focus on ensuring high attendance for all our pupils. This year's attendance as of Dec 2024 is in line with previous year's data. However, we saw a spike in absence due to increased level of unauthorised absence for term time holiday. We fully recognise the need for further improvement in this area, hence it's inclusion in our latest strategy.

Our assessments and observations indicated that pupil behaviour, wellbeing and mental health were significantly impacted last year, primarily due to cost of living 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. The continued use of the Storm break program is a direct response to the decrease in children's mental health and well being as a result of the current cost of living crisis. The majority of children who spend time with our learning mentor are disadvantaged.

Externally provided programmes

Programme	Provider
N/A	

Service pupil premium funding (optional)

Measure	Details
How did you spend your service pupil premium allocation last academic year?	N/A
What was the impact of that spending on service pupil premium eligible pupils?	N/A

Further information (optional)