

Pupil Premium Strategy Statement

This statement details our school's use of pupil premium (and recovery premium for the 2025 to 2026 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	Priory Woods School & Arts College
Number of pupils in school	205 (inc 3 in Nursery & 52 in Post 16)
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	81 – 54% (not inc Nursery & Post 16)
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers (3 year plans are recommended)	September 2025 to July 2026 September 2026 to July 2027 September 2027 to July 2028
Date this statement was published	December 2025
Date on which it will be reviewed	October 2026
Statement authorised by	Emma Fox
Pupil premium lead	Susan Robinson & Emma Fox
Governor / Trustee lead	Jenny Dalby

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£100,732
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	£100,732

Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

Priory Woods believes that financial status or CLA status should not predetermine pupil outcomes. We also recognise that for our pupils these factors are not the primary barrier to learning, which makes it even more crucial that PP funds are well targeted.

Although our strategy is focused on the needs of disadvantaged pupils, it will benefit all pupils in our school where funding is spent on all whole school approaches, such as the Family Liaison Officer and Behaviour Manager.

We will also provide disadvantaged pupils with support to develop independent life and social skills and strive to provide high quality work experience.

Strategic planning enables us to identify key priorities such as the need to provide resources to support the learning of our increasing population of pupils with complex ASD.

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	Outcomes and progress can be significantly related to student emotional literacy and functioning, behaviour presentation, sensory needs, ability to communicate and/or physical development and medical needs
2	Erratic attendance due to changing or challenging home circumstances, health issues and the volume of medical appointments
3	Time to conduct bespoke language programmes for those students that require such access
4	Time to complete targeted, bespoke and tailored interventions for those students that have been identified as having a need for them
5	Inability to focus and engage in learning due to hunger. Poor self-regulation and emotional literacy/understanding. Anxiety, inappropriate behaviours demonstrated and an inability to self-regulate
6	Students usually start school without phonics skills.

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
Pupils will develop communication skills which will support engagement in learning and in developing independence.	This will be measured at an individual level via a range of assessments including phonics assessments, SOLAR and Evidence for Learning (EfL)
Pupils with ASD will develop attention skills and behaviour which enables them to be better placed to access learning.	Progress and will be evidenced with EfL and SOLAR
Pupils will access a range of interventions, including, where appropriate, accessing a Systematic Synthetic Phonics Programme, which will help them develop reading skills. These will support the development of identified skills and next steps.	Phonics progression Evidence from SOLAR
An additional carer in hydro allows class staff more time to focus on the intended outcomes for individuals in the pool.	Improvements as measured through pupil assessment.
Children who have not had breakfast will be more ready to learn after enjoying some in school.	Noted improvements in engagement in lessons and less episodes of dysregulation linked to hunger.
Family liaison officer supports families to provide the best outcomes for their children, e.g., through benefits advice, parenting advice, attendance monitoring etc.	Cases of families supported and evidence of outcomes.
Transport from after school clubs will enable more pupils to access extended learning.	Number of families accessing this support.
Children and young people will have increased self-esteem, self-confidence, communication skills, resilience and develop their independence and preparation for adult skills as a result of attending residential.	Improvements as measured through pupil assessment and progress towards PfA goals.

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: **£40,171**

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>50% of cost of specialist Lead Teacher: Promoting the development of reading for identified pupils through the use of an identified systematic synthetic phonics programme; Developing the independent communication of specific targeted students within school; Ongoing training delivered to staff. £40,171</p>	<p>Augmentative communication with aids bespoke to individual children has many benefits to the children involved. Case studies in school evidence this.</p> <p>Students with limited means to communicate preferences are using an Eye Gaze to achieve to make choices and realise that they can communicate and influence the world. This impacts on their outcomes and emotional wellbeing and ability to develop relationships within school.</p> <p>Phonics assessments carried out in the Summer Term showed that good progress was being made by the majority of pupils following the Little Wandle programme. Many pupils now consider themselves to be 'readers.'</p>	<p>1,3,4, 6</p>

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

Budgeted cost: **£39,559**

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed

<p>Provide bespoke timetabled interventions within smaller groups with HLTAs.</p> <p>50% of HLTA costs. particularly literacy. To accelerate progress with the identified pupils and ensure that the needs of gifted and talented pupils are also met.</p> <p>£18,026</p>	<p>Pupils make accelerated progress in reading when following a SSP</p>	<p>1,3,4, 6</p>
<p>Additional carer to support the care required for children and young people accessing the hydrotherapy pool.</p> <p>£21,533</p>	<p>Hydrotherapy has well documented benefits to our pupils. https://www.specialneedsguide.co.uk/news/benefits-of-hydrotherapy-for-children-with-complex-needs. Having a care assistant to support the pupils in being changed before and after a session enables more pupils to access the pool as class staff are released from this task.</p>	<p>1,5</p>

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

Budgeted cost: £62,516

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
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<p>To support the costs of breakfast club and the fruit trolley to ensure that pupils are ready to learn.</p> <p>£3,000</p>	<p>It is well recognised that hungry children do not learn well</p> <p>https://www.family-action.org.uk/our-voices/2019/10/04/the-impact-of-breakfast-on-learning-in-children/</p>	<p>1,3,5</p>
<p>50% funding of a full-time Family Liaison Officer to support families/ parents, signpost to support agencies, address and action attendance issues, contributed to safeguarding.</p> <p>Deliver and support families with behaviour and programmes where appropriate.</p> <p>£18,000</p>	<p>Our Family Liaison Officer has evidence of how her input has had a positive impact on outcomes for pupils with regards to attendance, safeguarding, support for families around benefits and finance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance- FLO ensures she makes contact with every family if there has been no reason given for absence on a daily basis. She supports and challenges families as appropriate- this has had an improvement in attendance for targeted pupils. • Safeguarding- FLO works closely with the safeguarding team in school and plays a leading role having the face to face contact that others cannot. She builds cases when we have concerns and this has resulted in strategy meetings and input from social care with positive impact on the pupils concerned. • Working alongside Citizen's Advice, she has supported families to 	<p>1,2,5</p>

	<p>access benefits that they are entitled to. This helps lift children out of poverty which will improve outcomes across all areas.</p>	
<p>Behaviour support specialist to relieve pressure in classrooms by supporting pupils who are in a dysregulated state.</p> <p>£34,516</p>	<p>Classes are often disrupted by pupils who are dysregulated. The Behaviour support specialist will work with these pupils, enabling classroom staff to focus on teaching and learning activities.</p> <p>Supporting individual pupils to regulate. also supports their access to learning.</p>	1,5,6
<p>Residentials</p> <p>£5,000</p>	<p>EEF - Evidence that residentials involving physical activity impact on confidence and self-esteem leading to improved student progress.</p> <p>For our pupils residentials also offer an opportunity to put functional and independence skills developed in school in 'real world' practice. Pupils, staff and families report that pupils' resilience and independence are improved by attending residentials.</p>	1,5
<p>Transport for after school clubs</p> <p>£2,000</p>	<p>We had identified that lack of transport inhibits some pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds from attending after school enrichment activities. This puts them at a disadvantage when compared to children whose families are able to collect them from school</p>	1,2,5

	and not rely wholly on school transport.	
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Total budgeted cost: £ 142,246

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.

IMPACT OF PP PRIORITIES 2024-25		
TEACHING		
Measure	Activity	Impact
Priority 1	50% of cost of specialist Lead Teacher: Promoting the development of reading for identified pupils through the use of an identified systematic synthetic phonics programme; Developing the independent communication of specific targeted students within school; Ongoing training delivered to staff.	Little Wandle is used across school and all staff are trained to deliver high quality phonics sessions. Pupils are making good progress in their phonetic knowledge. More children now consider themselves to be 'readers'. Ofsted could see that reading is now a high priority in school.
TARGETED ACADEMIC SUPPORT		
Measure	Activity	Impact
Priority 2	Bespoke timetabled, small group interventions plus resources. Targeted primarily on accelerating progress in literacy for identified pupils and ensuring that the needs of gifted and talented pupils are met.	Accelerated progress in phonics and reading for targeted pupils as evidenced by reading scores.

	50% of HLTA costs in Upper School	
Priority 3	Additional carer to support the care required for children and young people accessing the hydrotherapy pool.	More pupils able to use the pool and use for longer sessions to gain more benefit.
WIDER STRATEGIES		
Measure	Activity	Impact
Priority 1	To support the costs of Breakfast Club and the fruit trolley to ensure that pupils are ready to learn.	Social situation which encourages independence and communication as well as ensuring pupils are ready to learn.
Priority 2	50% funding of a full –time Family Liaison Officer to support families/parents, signpost to support agencies, address and action attendance issues, contribute to safeguarding. Set up programme alongside Citizen’s Advice to provide support to families around welfare benefits	FLO continued to play a vital role in supporting families, monitoring attendance and CP concerns, providing resources and ‘checking in’ on families. Families received all benefits to which they were entitled, helping to support lifting children out of poverty.
Priority 3	Behaviour support specialist to relieve pressure in classrooms by supporting pupils who are in a dysregulated state.	Supports class staff to focus on teaching and learning activities, rather than dealing with dysregulated behaviour.
Priority 4	Funding towards residential	Pupils, staff and families report that pupils’ resilience and independence were improved by attending residential.

		Pupils who would not have previously attended, were supported with costs
Priority 5	Transport for after school clubs	More pupils have accessed after school clubs.

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	N/A

Service pupil premium funding (optional)

For schools that receive this funding, you may wish to provide the following information:

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)

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.