

Pupil premium strategy statement

This statement details our school's use of pupil 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 effect that last year's spending of pupil premium had within our school.

School overview

Detail	Data
School name	EC St James'
Number of pupils in school	187
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	41%
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers (3 year plans are recommended)	2023-2026
Date this statement was published	October 2025
Date on which it will be reviewed	September 2026
Statement authorised by	Adam Laskey
Pupil premium lead	Adam Laskey
Governor / Trustee lead	Kathryn Jackson

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£124,000
Recovery premium funding allocation this academic year	£0
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	£124,000

Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

- To improve childrens Speech and language development in early years
- Provide high quality phonics scheme for reading and writing in KS1 so all children are at ARE by the end of KS1
- For all children to access mental health and wellbeing and individual targeted support when required.
- Extend the opportunities for children outside the school day, including holidays

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	Some children entering Reception class have poor S&L development
2	PP children still need to close attainment gap with non PP children in M,R,W by the end of KS1
3	Phonics intervention is needed for the bottom 20% those PP who are not on track to meet the phonics screening standard and those that have not met standard
4	Childrens mental health and wellbeing being continues to be a challenge post Covid and cost of living crisis

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
To ensure speech and language deficits are remediated by the end of KS1	Children will be meeting ARE for speech and language
Gaps in attainment closed between PP and non PP	At least 70% of PP pupils at ARE for M,R,W
All pupils reach phonics screening standard by year 2	All pupils master phonics phases to level 6
For all pupils to access mental health and wellbeing at whole school level and individual when necessary	Ongoing indefinitely

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: £ 30000

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
R,W inc management / monitoring of staff and groups, training	See EEF report impact phonics	3
Language and communication lead teacher to co-ordinate speech and language interventions	See EEF effective implementation report	2
ELSA training for SEMHW team	Oldham Educational Psychologists	4

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

Budgeted cost: £ 35000

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
1xTA Level 3 to deliver phonics interventions every afternoon	See EEF effective use of teaching assistants	2
1x TA 3 deliver WELLcomm, NELI, BLAST every afternoon 0.4 teacher to lead assess and manage	See EEF WELLcomm, NELI, BLAST report	2

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

Budgeted cost: £ 45850

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
ELSA / Mental Health and wellbeing support 5 days a week	British Psychological society	4
My Happy Mind (Mental health whole school approach)	Our team brings together a wealth of experience in education design, leadership, social sciences and child psychology. All of our products are built based on positive psychology and neuroscience.	4
Forest school for all 2.5 days	EEF	4
Extra curricular provision after school and in the holidays	British Psychological Society	4

Total budgeted cost: £ 124,000

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 2024 to 2025 academic year.

Evidence in summer 2 data 2025 shows children who are PP are catching up with non PP. Percentage of PP pupils in current years 2,3,4,5,6 at ARE: in Reading 79%, Writing 74.2% and Maths 77.4% these % are above National Averages for ALL pupils. 90% of all pupils achieved phonics standard compared 80% of PP. 100% of non FSM passed screening, therefore the above PP interventions are still appropriate.

Further information (optional)

- During the summer holidays the school received funding from the LA to offer full time holiday clubs with a focus on sport and nutrition. The was offered to Pupil Premium children. We had on average 30 each day.
- From September 2021 school will run an evening club based on sports 5-6pm KS1 and 6-7pm KS2.