

Pupil premium strategy statement

This statement details our school's use of pupil premium (and recovery premium for the 2021 to 2022 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	Spa Academy Askern
Number of pupils in school	258
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	49.6% (128)
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers	2021-24
Date this statement was published	December 2021
Date on which it will be reviewed	December 2022
Statement authorised by	Emma Anderson
Pupil premium lead	Jack Wardle
Governor / Trustee lead	Rev. David Franklin Babs Lynds

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£163,418
Recovery premium funding allocation this academic year	£18,198
Pupil premium funding carried forward from previous years (enter £0 if not applicable)	None
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	£181,616

Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

Spa Academy Askern is ambitious for all of its pupils, particularly those that are disadvantaged. In our context, 48% of our pupils are disadvantaged and Askern is an area of high deprivation. School improvement priorities, in our context, are viewed through the lens of these disadvantaged pupils.

The school is determined to powerfully address social disadvantage by aiming to:

- Ensure our **curriculum intent is ambitious** and addresses our contextual barriers, including social disadvantage. It will be responsive to the emerging needs of our school community, including addressing the gaps in pupils' knowledge, skills, personal development and cultural capital.
- Relentlessly improving the quality of curriculum **implementation** so that disadvantaged pupils' attainment continues to improve, alongside that of their non-disadvantaged peers. High-quality teaching 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.
- Developing a **knowledge-led** and **literature-rich**, that begins with our Literature-Led Curriculum. Being able to read confidently and fluently, as well as developing a love of reading, ensures pupils, including those that are disadvantaged, to access the whole curriculum, without which the opportunity for future success, educational qualifications and career becomes limited. Reading is, therefore, at the heart of our strategy.
- Raising the **aspirations** of our pupils, **far beyond the academic**, allowing them to discover, explore and develop interests and talents. Our pupils have the right to have access to the same opportunities as all others. With this in mind, we strive to provide a wide range of opportunities, focused on opportunities that our disadvantaged pupils may not have otherwise been able to access.
- Develop a **highly-effective and collaborative community of staff, parents and pupils** who are all actively engaged and supportive of one another's efforts to increase the attainment of disadvantaged pupils.
- Addressing the key barriers identified for **education recovery**, for those pupils whose education has been worse affected, including non-disadvantaged pupils.

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	Reading On average, disadvantaged pupils make slower progress than their non-disadvantaged peers. Further exploration has identified that pupils access limited texts at home, are read to less than their non-disadvantaged peers. Following COVID-19, there are gaps in pupils' phonics knowledge, particularly in Years 3 & 4. In Years 5 & 6, there are pupils who continue to struggle with fluency.
2	Meta-cognition & Self-Regulation

	Observations show that pupils struggle to plan, monitor and evaluate their own learning. To improve pupil progress, building the resilience of pupils to take on challenging tasks and face these with resilience is a key priority.
3	<p>Wider Experiences & Cultural Capital</p> <p>Askern is an isolated village to the north of Doncaster. Social mobility is low and pupil voice highlights the community provides limited opportunities to develop interests and talents. Many pupils have limited aspirations, particularly those that are disadvantaged, and are unaware of potential future career options. Equally, limited wider experiences and cultural capital of pupils means that pupils, particularly the disadvantaged, have limited context for much of the National Curriculum content.</p>
4	<p>Gaps in learning, as a result of COVID-19 disruption to education</p> <p>Whilst disruption to education has been minimised by the school's remote education provision, there are groups of pupils (particularly disadvantaged pupils) who have gaps in their learning that will hinder progress through the school's curriculum. These gaps must be addressed rapidly in order for pupils to continue to progress and achieve highly across the curriculum.</p>
5	<p>Behaviour & Attendance</p> <p>Some children in receipt of funding show weakness in learning behaviours. These pupils physically and emotionally lack self-belief, determination, resilience and readiness to learn. They struggle with metacognition and self-regulation in their learning but also beyond the academic. Similarly, attendance continues to be a priority for the school. During the pandemic, the school's attendance has been in-line or above national and this needs to be sustained, particularly among disadvantaged pupils.</p>

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
The school significantly narrows the gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils in reading, writing and maths.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - End of KS2 combined outcomes in 2023/24 for disadvantaged pupils is in line with the national average for this group. - Disadvantaged pupils achieve highly across the curriculum, as reflected through pupil voice, observations and external reviews.
Disadvantaged pupils become lifelong readers, able to access, be challenged by and enjoy the whole curriculum, through a culture of reading being embedded across the school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - End of KS2 reading outcomes in 2023/24 for disadvantaged pupils is in line with the national average for this group - Disadvantaged pupils read regularly and for a wide range of purposes. Qualitative data (pupil voice, parent voice and observations) demonstrate that pupils read regularly for pleasure.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pupils make rapid progress through phonics intervention in Year 3 & 4, with a significant reduction in those requiring intervention beyond Year 3.
Disadvantaged pupils access an ambitious and demanding curriculum , delivered expertly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disadvantaged pupils achieve highly across the curriculum, in line with their non-disadvantaged peers, as reflected through data, pupil voice, observations and external reviews. - The curriculum provides disadvantaged pupils with explicit and effective opportunities to provide context to the knowledge being taught as well as equipping them with the cultural capital they need to succeed in life.
Disadvantaged pupils are able to explore, develop and nurture interests and talents that would normally be inaccessible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 90% of disadvantaged pupils take part in the school's after-school programmes, competitions or extra-curricular activities. - There is a reduction in behaviour incidents of all pupils and qualitative data (student voice, observations, book reviews) highlight increased engagement of all pupils, particularly among disadvantaged pupils.
To achieve and sustain improved attendance for all pupils, particularly our disadvantaged pupils.	<p>Sustained high attendance from 2023/24 demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The overall absence rate for all pupils and the attendance gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged peers being reduced to in-line with national data. - The percentage of all pupils who are persistently absent and the gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged peers being reduced to in-line with national data.

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)

Budget: £83,116

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>Purchase of a DfE validated Systematic Synthetic Phonics programme to secure stronger phonics teaching for all pupils.</p> <p>Purchase of RWI Fresh Start to support reading comprehension.</p>	<p>Phonics approaches have a strong evidence base that indicates a positive impact on the accuracy of word reading (though not necessarily comprehension), particularly for disadvantaged pupils:</p> <p>Phonics Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF</p> <p>Reading Comprehension Strategies - Education Endowment Foundation</p>	1,4
<p>Embedding the use of diagnostic testing across the core curriculum. For example, using the DfE Ready-to-Progress criteria in maths and YARC in reading. Funding for release time of teaching and support staff.</p>	<p>When used effectively, diagnostic assessments can indicate areas for development with individual pupils or across classes and year groups. Some methods can also help teachers isolate the specific misconceptions pupils might hold.</p> <p>Diagnostic Assessment - Education Endowment Foundation</p>	1,2,4
<p>Embedding dialogic activities across the school curriculum. These can support pupils to articulate key ideas, consolidate understanding and extend vocabulary.</p> <p>We will purchase resources and fund ongoing teacher training and release time.</p>	<p>There is a strong evidence base that suggests oral language interventions, including dialogic activities such as high-quality classroom discussion, are inexpensive to implement with high impacts on reading:</p> <p>Oral language interventions Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF</p>	1,2
<p>Senior & Subject Leadership. AHT to have non-class based responsibilities to further support middle leadership and add capacity to sustain school improvement towards self-improving. Cover provided for subject leaders to support curriculum development.</p>	<p>Sustaining the significant changes made since academisation and those that will continue to be made this year, to improve the quality of education, is a key priority. Ensuring leaders at all levels have the capacity to sustain these improvements is crucial.</p> <p>Sustaining School Improvement - Education Endowment Foundation</p>	All

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

Budgeted cost: £56,200

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Increased support staff deployment across school to allow for small group focus teaching, allowing for in-class ability grouping, to take place, focused on providing support and stretch.	The predecessor school's validated data shows that the school's attainment of the higher standard is well-below national average (in the lowest 20%). Unvalidated data in 2020 and 2021 of the new school shows this gap is narrowing in reading and maths. Group teaching – employed through a variety of approaches – aims to address this gap in attaining the higher standard at the end of KS2. Within class attainment grouping – EEF Evidence	1,4
Additional phonics sessions targeted at disadvantaged pupils who require further phonics support. This will be delivered in collaboration with our local English hub.	Phonics approaches have a strong evidence base indicating a positive impact on pupils, particularly from disadvantaged backgrounds. Targeted phonics interventions have been shown to be more effective when delivered as regular sessions over a period up to 12 weeks: Phonics Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF	1,4
Smaller class sizes for Cohort 2022 (Year 6) pupils, with smaller adult:pupil ratio	In Cohort 2022, 57% of pupils are eligible for PP. Leaders have identified that the PP gap in reading, writing and maths is wider here than in other year groups. Smaller class sizes have been used in this cohort. Smaller Class Sizes – EEF Toolkit Strand	1,4,
Engaging with the National Tutoring Pro-gramme 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.	Tuition targeted at specific needs and knowledge gaps can be an effective method to support low attaining pupils or those falling behind, both one-to-one: One to one tuition EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) And in small groups: Small group tuition Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF	1,4

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

Budget: £42,300

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>Innovation Lead appointed with responsibility for equity and diversity as well as developing ASPIRE programme (focused on personal and character development) and integrate this in to the curriculum, prioritising PE.</p>	<p>Research shows that engagement with extra-curricular activities can increase engagement with school as well as attainment.</p> <p>EEF Research on the impact of the Children's University</p>	2,3,5
<p>Subsidy programme in place for school trips to ensure that 100% of disadvantaged pupils are able to attend and access these, as part of the curriculum offer.</p>	<p>This fund allows the school to provide a broad range of trips and events that support the contextualisation of the curriculum and contribute to pupils' cultural capital.</p>	3,4
<p>Whole staff training on behaviour management and anti-bullying approaches with the aim of developing our school ethos and improving behaviour across school.</p>	<p>Both targeted interventions and universal approaches can have positive overall effects:</p> <p>Behaviour interventions EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)</p>	5
<p>Breakfast Club to be provided for free for all disadvantaged pupils and that effective liaison will encourage our most vulnerable pupils to attend.</p>	<p>Breakfast Club - Education Endowment Foundation</p>	1,3,4,5
<p>Work with partners within Doncaster to provide functional skills programmes for our parents.</p> <p>Spa to design, implement and evaluate two parent courses: one based around supporting early reading (aimed at LKS2) and one based around supporting pupils to read at home (aimed at whole-school).</p>	<p>Disadvantaged pupils are less likely to benefit from having a space to conduct home learning. Evidence also suggests that disadvantaged pupils make less academic progress, and sometimes attainment levels even regress during the summer holidays, due to the level of formal and informal learning activities they do or do not participate in. By designing and delivering effective approaches to support parental engagement, schools and teachers may be able to mitigate some of these causes of educational disadvantage, supporting parents to assist their children's learning or their self-regulation, as well as specific skills, such as reading.</p> <p>Parental Engagement - Education Endowment Foundation</p>	1,4
<p>Social & Emotional Interventions</p>	<p>Evidence suggests that children from disadvantaged backgrounds have, on average, weaker SEL skills at all ages than their more affluent peers. These skills are likely to influence a range of outcomes for pupils: lower SEL skills are linked with poorer mental health</p>	5

	<p>and lower academic attainment.</p> <p>SEL interventions in education are shown to improve SEL skills and are therefore likely to support disadvantaged pupils to understand and engage in healthy relationships with peers and emotional self-regulation, both of which may subsequently increase academic attainment.</p> <p>https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/social-and-emotional-learning</p>	
<p>Family Liaison Officer to provide support to vulnerable families.</p>		<p>5</p>

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 2020 to 2021 academic year.

Recognising that the school, which academised in June 2021 has no validated data, the school has worked with governors, the Trust and Local Authority to validate end of year judgements.

- Attainment and progress is **improving towards the national averages** in reading, writing and maths.
- The gap in achievement for disadvantaged pupils **has narrowed in writing and maths. Disadvantaged pupils outperformed non-disadvantaged pupils by 5%.**
- There is a **1% difference between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged** pupils' attainment in reading, writing and maths combined – compared to a 2019 national gap of 21% (reflected also in the attainment of those eligible for Free School Meals).
- The **disadvantaged gap is wider in reading** (non-disadvantaged pupils outperforming by 19%), a distinct difference to the performance of writing and maths (where disadvantaged pupils outperformed their peers).

Subject	Disadvantaged		Spa Gap	National 2019	FSM		Spa Gap	National 2019
	Dis (26)	Non-D (30)			FSM (20)	Non-FSM (56)		
Reading	54%	73%	+19%		55%	69%	+14%	
Writing	65%	60%	-5%		70%	58%	-12%	
Maths	65%	60%	-5%		65%	61%	-4%	
Combined	54%	53%	-1%	+20%	55%	53%	-2%	+21%

Quality of Education

- The quality of teaching has continued to rapidly improve, despite the pandemic. Governors, Trust & Local Authority have quality-assured the rapidly improving teaching profile. This is having a positive impact on narrowing the gap and raising the attainment of disadvantaged pupils.
- Targeted support continued throughout periods of remote education. Disadvantaged pupils were encouraged to attend school. The school issues over 100 digital devices to pupils and provided ongoing support.

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

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?	
What was the impact of that spending on service pupil premium eligible pupils?	

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.