

Sonning Church of England Primary School

Pupil Premium Strategy Statement



Introduction

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
School name	Sonning CE Primary School
Number of pupils in school	210
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	14 (10+2Service+2PCLA) 6.6% 10 PPG (4.6%) 2 service (1%) 2 PCLA/CLA (1%)
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers (3 year plans are recommended)	2025-2028 (Reviewed Sep.25)
Date this statement was published	September 2025
Date on which it will be reviewed	July 2026 July 2027 July 2028
Statement authorised by	Phil Sherwood, Headteacher
Pupil premium lead	Phil Sherwood / Ali Livingstone
Governor / Trustee lead	Gemma Walton

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year (2025/26)	<p>Funding received £18,480</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FSM x 10 (£1515 x 10 = 15,150) PCLA x 1 (£2,630.00 x 1 = 2,630) Service (£350 x 2 = 700) <p>Actual spend for eligible pupils post October census £19,995</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FSM x 11 (£1515 x 11 = 16,675)* PCLA x 1 (£2,630.00 x 1 = 2,630) Service (£350 x 2 = 700)

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	* Due to 1 child leaving at the end of Year 6 24-25, but 2 joining in 24-25 in Year 2.
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	£18,480.00

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Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

At Sonning CE Primary School, our Christian vision shapes all we do:

'Building strong foundations for the years ahead.'

Matthew 7:24-25

All members of the school community are committed to upholding the following Sonning CE Primary Christian values:

- Aspiration
- Respect
- Love
- Curiosity
- Courage

We believe that the highest possible standards can only be achieved by having the highest expectations of all learners. Some pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds require additional and bespoke support; therefore, we will use all resources available to provide equity of opportunity and to enable the children to build strong foundations for the future. It is also a key part of our Christian ethos to support all pupils, regardless of background; within this strategy, we will identify how we support disadvantaged pupils in our school (both those who have been noted as FSM, Ever 6, LAC, PCLA or Service children, as well as those considered disadvantaged by the school who can also benefit from this additional support).

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

Our approach will be responsive to common challenges and individual needs and rooted in robust diagnostic assessment and not assumptions about the impact of disadvantage. The approaches we have adopted complement each other to help all pupils excel. To achieve this, we will do the following:

- ensure disadvantaged pupils receive scaffolding in key areas so that they may access all learning
- ensure disadvantaged pupils are challenged in the work that they're set
- act early to intervene at the point need is identified
- adopt the DfE's 'menu of approaches' model
 - support high-quality teaching, such as staff professional development
 - provide targeted academic support, such as tutoring, including through the National Tutoring Programme (NTP)
 - tackle non-academic barriers to academic success, such as difficulties with attendance, behaviour and social and emotional wellbeing
- Adhere to the TKAT Strategy Overview and Sonning Action Plan

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Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	EAL/Vocabulary Assessments, observations, and discussions with pupils indicate underdeveloped oral language skills and vocabulary gaps among many disadvantaged pupils. These are evident from Reception through to KS2 and, in general, are more prevalent among our disadvantaged pupils than their peers.
2	Additional Needs Our assessments, observations and evidence indicate that some of our PPG pupils who also have an additional need which impacts their learning. These pupils require specific adaptations and support. In addition, a small number of our PPG pupils (PCLA) have significant and deteriorating physical difficulties. These difficulties impact daily life in school in areas such as social and emotional wellbeing and learning and attainment.
3	Reading, Oracy and Parental Engagement Internal and external assessments indicate that the reading attainment of some of our disadvantaged pupils is significantly below that of non-disadvantaged pupils. For some of our disadvantaged pupils, parental engagement with reading is minimal resulting in poor reading, comprehension and writing/vocabulary skills.
4	Social and Emotional Wellbeing Following discussions with pupils and families, increased CPOMS incidents and observations indicate that some disadvantaged pupils have social and emotional issues which have arisen from changes at home including parents separating.

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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
<p>EAL/Vocabulary</p> <p>Improved vocabulary and language comprehension for some disadvantaged pupils so that they can independently access the teaching and learning, comprehend texts and resources, use a wider range of vocabulary in their writing and become more confident in communicating their needs.</p>	<p>Assessment of pupils' vocabulary and language comprehension shows a reduction in the disparity in outcomes between disadvantaged pupils and their peers in Reading and Writing and, for one particular pupil, rapid progress from 'working below' year group expectations to 'working at'.</p> <p>For targeted disadvantaged pupils: An increase in Writing and Reading attainment from ARE to GD.</p>
<p>SEND</p> <p>Reactive and bespoke scaffolding and support in place for pupils with additional needs and/or physical difficulties to enable them to access learning, ensure progress, maintain confidence and dignity and support with social skills.</p>	<p>Pupils with additional needs access the curriculum effectively and are included in school life. Pupils with additional needs benefit from focused support in Reading to help them 'keep up, not catch up'.</p> <p>Pupils with physical difficulties feel supported and able to access the teaching and learning. They make good progress and are confident and proud of their achievements. They socialise with independence but have support where needed during play and lunchtimes.</p>
<p>Reading, Oracy and Parental Engagement</p> <p>Disadvantaged pupils make rapid progress in reading from receiving 1:1 tutoring, additional comprehension interventions and from an improvement in parental engagement with children being heard read at least three times a week.</p>	<p>An increase in the number of disadvantaged pupils meeting ARE or GD in Reading:</p> <p>2025 Data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R: 92.9% (13) ARE+, 21.4% (3) GD • W: 85.7% (12) ARE+, 7.1% (1) GD • M: 92.9% (13) ARE+, 28.6% (4) GD • RWM: 78.6% (11) ARE+, 7.1% (1) GD <p>Baseline assessments and 1:1 phonic tutoring records evidence rapid progress in Reading.</p> <p>Pupils are provided a wider range of opportunities to develop a love of reading.</p>
<p>Social and Emotional Wellbeing</p> <p>Disadvantaged pupils feel positive and secure leaving parents in the morning and come into school to begin learning promptly. Clearly communicated strategies are agreed by school staff and both parents to ensure consistency and security.</p>	<p>A reduction in the number of disrupted mornings and distress felt by some disadvantaged pupils.</p> <p>Pupils speak with familiar adults when they need to.</p> <p>Social and emotional needs are met by staff in school and a 'toolkit' is deployed when wellbeing is affected by any issues at home.</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: £4,336.45

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>RWI training package (£1400) CPD for all teaching and support staff to deliver a synthetic, systematic phonics programme from EYFS until pupils have completed the scheme.</p> <p>Training for 4+ Fast Track Tutors to deliver daily phonics support intervention for pupils who are not making the required progress in reading.</p> <p>CL to support RWI staff (£2,090) Refresher Training for all staff on Speed Sound lessons, spelling, Storybook sessions and Fast Track Tutoring.</p> <p>Peer-support – observations between staff members provides coaching to refine delivery of phonics sessions.</p> <p>Purchasing of additional phonics resources to enhance the teaching of daily phonics sessions and 1:1 tutoring.</p> <p>CPD training for all staff on the reading assessment PM Benchmark.</p>	<p>‘When phonic and reading lessons are of the highest standard, the number of pupils who need extra support reduces dramatically.’ Read, Write Inc. Fast Track Tutoring Handbook – Ruth Miskin</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. EEF Toolkit - Phonics</p>	<p>1, 3</p>
<p>Staffing to support physio (£846.45) Training for the delivery of regular physio sessions for pupils with physical difficulties.</p> <p>Provide physio sessions 3xweek to pupils with physical difficulties. These sessions are bespoke and activities are directly from the pupils’ physiotherapist and after discussion with the SENDCo.</p>	<p>An exercise program should be adapted to the person’s specific needs and abilities and adjusted as the condition progresses. Exercise and physical therapy are important for managing the symptoms of Friedreich’s ataxia (FA), and they have been shown to help people with FA improve their overall fitness. Freidrich's Ataxia News</p> <p>The studies in the Toolkit focus primarily on academic outcomes, but it is important to</p>	<p>2</p>

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<p>Social and physical support provided in the playground and during lunchtime when necessary. This may be in the form of physical support when entering/exiting the building or to provide social support when pupils are playing with others or when physical needs prevent this without adult support e.g. use of adventure playground.</p>	<p>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>EEF Toolkit - Social and Emotional Learning 4+mths progress</p> <p>There are many things that students and teachers can do to help a student with Friedreich's Ataxia cope with the challenges of this disease. Having sensitivity to the person's self-image and self- esteem is probably the greatest guide to providing assistance.</p> <p>National Ataxia Foundation</p>	
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Targeted academic support (for example, tutoring, one-to-one support structured interventions)

Budgeted cost: £13,405

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>Phonics 1:1 (£4,232.25) 1:1 Phonics Fast Track Tutoring for pupils who require additional support to improve their reading (lowest 20%)</p>	<p>‘Pupils will make fast progress if they receive a few months of intensive daily teaching at their specific level.’ The Reading Framework</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>Tuition is more likely to make an impact if it is additional to and explicitly linked with normal lessons. EEF Toolkit - One to One Tutoring +5 months</p>	1, 3
<p>Additional TA support for pupils (£3,950.10) Pre-learning sessions to clarify understanding and introduce subject specific Tier 2 and 3 vocabulary.</p> <p>Teachers model language forms that pupils might not encounter away from school, as well as introducing potentially unfamiliar vocabulary, returning to key words and phrases to embed new knowledge. This might include teachers reframing pupils’ spoken language and asking pupils to repeat back the reframing.</p> <p>One-to-one, focused oral language interventions which include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> targeted reading aloud and book discussion explicitly extending pupils’ spoken vocabulary; 	<p>Knowledge of language, which includes linguistic knowledge like vocabulary and grammar, as well as knowledge of the world for comprehension, underpins progression in spoken language, reading and writing.</p> <p>A range of research has found that this word gap exists between pupils from different socio-economic backgrounds and within different socio-economic groups Research Review Series: English</p> <p>The studies in the Toolkit indicate that language interventions with frequent sessions over a sustained period may have a larger impact, overall. Approaches that are delivered one-to-one also have larger impacts. EEF Toolkit - One to one Tuition 5+mths progress</p> <p>On average, oral language approaches have a high impact on pupil outcomes of 6 months’ additional progress. EEF Toolkit - Oral Language Interventions 6+ mths progress</p>	1, 3

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the use of structured questioning to develop reading comprehension the use of purposeful, curriculum-focused, dialogue and interaction. <p>Oral rehearsal support Oracy Framework: Voice 21 (£5,643) Carefully planned opportunities for pupils to take part in both 'exploratory talk', which enables the speaker to try out ideas, and 'presentational talk', which focuses on accurate communication.</p>		
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Wider strategies (for example, related to attendance, behaviour, wellbeing)

Budgeted cost: £5,905

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>Nurture Assistant support (£564.30) Provide Nurture Assistant support for disadvantaged pupils who require focused support during difficult times. 1:1 once a week 40 mins</p> <p>Ensure children are aware of a safe and familiar adult in the classroom and outside on the playground to whom they can talk to if needed.</p> <p>Plan and adapt PSHCE lessons on managing challenging feelings towards those who are struggling</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.</p> <p>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>The evidence indicates that there is particular promise for approaches that focus on improving social interaction between pupils. EEF Toolkit - Social and Emotional Learning 4+mths progress</p> <p>Involving students in decisions that impact on them can benefit their mental health and wellbeing by helping them to feel part of the school, college and wider community and to have some control over their lives.</p>	<p>4, 5</p>

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<p>with their mental health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Teachers to deliver Wellbeing units of work to support social and emotional health and regulation.</p> <p>Teachers to focus on disadvantaged pupils when class decisions are being made. Encourage their voice and, in some cases, raise their profile within the class.</p>	<p>Promoting Children and Young Peoples Mental Health and Wellbeing - Gov.uk</p>	
<p>Club and trip offer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FSM/CLA pupils offered one paid club per term (£2,973) • Service pupils offered one paid club per term (£462) • FSM/CLA pupils' trips are paid for (service pupils are not offered trips paid for) (£1,500) • Internal clubs offered (no cost) 	<p>This opportunity allows our pupils additional chances to increase cultural capital and ensure they have access to a rich range of experiences. This also allows our pupils to have access to a range of external clubs in which to pursue their interests and/or talents. The approximate cost of the school trips is £1442.00.</p>	3, 4
<p>Awesome books(£0 cost)</p> <p>Targeted support for parents of disadvantaged pupils – additional resources, question prompts and focus on weekly reading objectives.</p> <p>Additional books purchased to be shared at home which will engage disadvantaged pupils, widen vocabulary and enhance reading enjoyment. £50 inclusive books</p> <p>Regular library visits to widen story choices and inspire reading at home.</p>	<p>Parental engagement has a positive impact on average of 4 months' additional progress. It is crucial to consider how to engage with all parents to avoid widening attainment gaps.</p> <p>Approaches where a parent works directly with their child one-to-one typically show greater impact (+5 months). Lower attaining pupils appear to benefit in particular.</p> <p>EEF Toolkit- Parental Engagement 4+mths progress</p> <p>Consider what support you can give to parents to ensure home learning is of high quality. For example, providing practical</p>	1, 3

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<p>Parent phonics support videos and resources sent home to engage and inform. Drop-In session available to encourage further questions or support. 5 hrs CL</p>	<p>strategies with tips, support, and resources to assist learning at home may be more beneficial to pupil outcomes than simply gifting a book to pupils or asking parents to provide generic help to their children. EEF Toolkit - Parental Engagement +4mths progress</p>	
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Total money given by PPG fund (via census): £18,480

Total budgeted cost (based on current pupil numbers): £19,995

Total actual cost: £23,661.10

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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 2024-2025 academic year.

PPG funding received by the school in the academic year 2024-25, was used to target our most disadvantaged pupils and ensure their rapid progress and emotional wellbeing. Evaluation of academic outcomes and access to learning experiences have identified the strengths below:

- Assessments during 2024-25 evidenced the good outcomes for our disadvantaged pupils who all made progress.
- Ongoing difficulties at home for two of our pupils meant that additional support was required and this will continue in 2025-26.
- Regular communication from class teachers and the Head ensured an improvement in attendance and punctuality in our disadvantaged pupils.
- Fast Track phonics tutoring had a huge impact on pupils receiving it with many only needing it for a short time before the gap was narrowed and they could 'keep up' with the main teaching.
- Pupils received first choice of access to extra-curriculum provision and received support to enable them to attend school trips.
- Targeted pastoral support enabled pupils to have equality of access to all aspects of school life and they received consistent and safe adult support in school.

The data demonstrates that our allocation of funding to support disadvantaged pupils last year was successful and had a positive impact on the pupils' wellbeing and attainment.

The number of pupils in receipt of PPG funding remains relatively stable with two additional PCLA pupils. The strategy has been revised to accommodate them and their needs.

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
Oracy Framework	Voice 21
Read, Write Inc.	Ruth Miskin
PM Benchmark	Scholastic

Service pupil premium funding

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**

Small group intervention support with reading comprehension
1:1 support with strategies for test situations and answering questions. Aiming for GD
School trips were paid for with the funding

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The impact of that spending on service pupil premium eligible pupils

One pupil in receipt of Service Child Funding was given additional support with reading and maths with the aim of achieving GD at the end of Y6, and one in Y4 for GD as well. The funding allowed targeted interventions in these areas and, although they did not meet GD, they made good progress within the ARE band.