

Pupil premium strategy statement - Mount Carmel RCP

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 outcomes for disadvantaged pupils last academic year.

School overview

Detail	Data
Number of pupils in school	454
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	35%
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers (3 year plans are	2023-2024
recommended – you must still publish an updated statement each academic year)	<u>2024- 2025</u>
	2025- 2026
Date this statement was published	December 2024
Date on which it will be reviewed	November 2025
Statement authorised by	Kirsty Seaborn Headteacher
Pupil premium lead	Kirsty Seaborn Headteacher
Governor / Trustee lead	John Boylan Chair of Governors

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£217, 560
Pupil premium funding carried forward from previous years	£ 0
(enter £0 if not applicable)	
Total budget for this academic year	£217,560
If your school is an academy in a trust that pools this fund-	
ing, state the amount available to your school this aca-	
demic year	

Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan Statement of intent

At Mount Carmel RC Primary, we are ambitious for all our learners and have high aspirations for each one of them. We believe that all children should be able to reach their potential, make good progress and achieve well throughout their entire learning journey. We strive for all our children to be successful and enabled to use their God given gifts and talents. Our Pupil Premium (PP) Strategy aims to support all disadvantaged pupils to achieve this ambition.

Some of our children encounter barriers to their learning. The barriers to learning which some of our vulnerable children face include: poor communication skills, English as an additional language, less support at home, lack of confidence and academic aspirations, lack of resources at home and those who come from deprived areas (91% of our children come from the top 30% most deprived areas in Manchester, including 12% in the top 1% and 38.7% in the top 5% of deprived areas).

Children enter school with very low attainment and the majority of children are not ready for school and lack essential personal, social and emotional skills. We also have some children who need extra nurturing and encouragement in school to achieve their full potential.

For our children in receipt of PP funding, including those we seem as being vulnerable, we aim to provide the support and guidance needed to overcome these barriers. Our strategy works towards a three tiered approach that balances approaches to improve quality first teaching, targeted academic support and pastoral support and wider strategies.

Our ultimate objectives are:

- Narrow the gap between disadvantaged and non- disadvantaged pupils through an ambitious curriculum.
- Boost the communication and language skills of all our pupils.
- Support our pupil's health and wellbeing so they can be successful, resilient, happy and equipped to access their learning.
- Raise aspirations across the school so children have hope, desire and ambition to achieve their potential.
- Support children and families who are challenged by SEMH issues, hardship or other barriers which prevent them from providing their children with opportunities to flourish in school.

We aim to do this through:

- Providing high quality teaching and learning which meets the needs of all pupils.
- Early identification of need and effective intervention and support put in place for vulnerable and disadvantaged pupils.
- Accelerating progress, moving children to at least age- related expectations
- Ensuring that pupils' emotional well- being is prioritised alongside their academic achievement.
- Provide SEMH and behaviour support for targeted pupils
- Provide opportunities, activities and experiences to enrich pupils' education

Collective responsibility for the outcomes achieved by all pupils, especially our disadvantaged.

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	The impact of the pandemic and loss of quality first teaching continues to have a specific impact on the academic
	attainment of PP pupils across the school, particularly in phonics, reading, writing and maths. Children entering the EYFS
	have low attainment and some children have significant need.
2	Poor language and communication skills on entry to school, as evidenced through 'on entry' assessments,
	observations and involvement from specialist speech and language therapist service. These gaps extend beyond the EYFS
	setting and disproportionately affect our disadvantaged children.
3	Increased transience means that education is interrupted for an increasing number of children. This transience has led to
	gaps in knowledge and understanding. Some children who are new arrivals to the country are less developed with their lan-
	guage, knowledge and understanding.
4	Social and emotional needs can inhibit learning. We are increasingly having to support children and adults whose mental
	health has a long term effect on the educational aspirations and achievements, particularly for the disadvantaged.
5	Lack of wider life experiences as a direct result of low income. It has led to a widening gap in knowledge and experiences
	and disproportionately affects our disadvantaged, SEN/D and vulnerable pupils.
	\ 44\
6	Attendance is a barrier to learning for some pupil premium pupils, which is negatively impacting on their progress and their
	ability to be motivated and resilient learners.
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/	The number of pupils who are in receipt of Pupil Premium and are also on the SEND register for cognition and learning and
	/or speech and language delay.

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.

achieved.	10 1 1 1
Intended outcome	Success criteria
Improved oral language and communication skills and vo- cabulary among disadvantaged pupils.	Elklan lead to be used to support and train staff in a range of strategies and whole school approaches for language development. A range of skills and strategies will be used across the school to support children's communication.
/ 5/	WellComm programme improves communication and language in the Nursery.
/G/	The NELI programme interventions improves communication outcomes in Reception.
	Blanks Level of Questioning to be adopted in the EYFS to help children develop key oral comprehension skills.
	SALT assessments and support for staff and parents in place across the curriculum.
1 = 1	Implement Voice 21 principles, research and training to enhance children's communication skills/ oracy into the whole curriculum.
Improved reading, writing and maths attainment for	Appropriate academic support in place via quality first teaching.
disadvantaged pupils across KS1 and KS2.	Regular provision mapping strategically identifies most need for interventions.
1.00	An increasing number of pupils achieve ARE for reading, writing and maths.
	Disadvantaged pupils close the gap on non-disadvantaged pupils.
	Little Wandle & Complete Comprehension continue to be delivered effectively, impacting on outcomes for PP children.
	Rapid Catch Up delivered effectively in KS2 to support children who require phonic support.

	Implement and embed the 'Mastering Number' programme, ensuring children gain fluency in number facts and a deep understanding of mathematical concepts in the EYFS and KS1.
To improve wellbeing, behaviour and mental health for all	Children are happy and enthusiastic learners.
our children so that it becomes less of a barrier to learning	17.
	High levels of wellbeing demonstrated by: qualitative data from student voice, student and parent surveys and teacher observations.
/20/	Children succeed in class and are given a range of strategies to cope with anxieties/ stress.
/9/	Children with SEMH needs are able to access whole class teaching and regulate their own behaviour successfully.
	Parents have extra support from Early Help and Mental Health support agencies, signposted from school.
13	Zones of Regulation used successfully to support SEMH needs and help children regulate across the school.
To achieve and sustain improved attendance for all pupils,	Improve attendance levels above 96%
particularly disadvantaged pupils. Attendance uis better	
than national.	Attendance and punctuality is monitored regularly and rigorously monitored.
	Poor attendance is challenged with communication with phone calls, a letter and invites to supportive meetings
	Home visits/ welfare visits undertaken
Children who arrive at school during the year are supported to settle quickly into their learning.	All new arrivals are made to feel welcome and initial assessments are carried out to identify any emerging needs.
	Provision mapping identifies needs and interventions required.

Improved wider life experiences	Children access experiences and cultural capital opportunities through curriculum visits and from visitors to school.	
SEND pupils are thriving; making good progress from their starting points & have access to a quality	Early intervention at the point SEND need is identified	
curriculum adapted to meet their needs.	Successful applications for emergency funding, SALT, EHCP	
	Quality CPD for TAs & teachers	
/ 5/ /	Acorn room established to meet individual needs of children with complex need.	
/_9/	SEND pupils spend quality time with their peers, accessing the curriculum adapted to meet their needs	
/ 9/	adapted to meet their needs	

Activity in this academic year

This details how we intend to spend our pupil premium funding this academic year to address the challenges listed above.

Teaching (for example, CPD, recruitment and retention) Budgeted cost: £7,900

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) ad-
		dressed
Continue SLA with 'Little Wandle' a DFE vali-	Phonics has a positive impact overall with very extensive evidence	1 + 2
dated synthetic phonics programme to secure	and is an important component in the development of early reading	
stronger phonics teaching for all pupils.	skills, particularly for children from disadvantaged backgrounds	
\\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \		
CPD for all staff on scheme, access to learn-	Phonics EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	
ing portals and assessment trackers		
Resources purchased to support scheme		
Dhanisa/Fasilah landarta musida angaira		
Phonics/ English leader to provide ongoing CPD for staff		
CFD 101 Stall		

Little Wandle SLA and resources £2000		
EYFS staff trained in NELI (Nuffield Early Language Intervention) and WellComm	Staff will be trained to deliver targeted interventions that will support those children who are entering school with lower than expected communication and language skills to make rapid progress,	2+3
Additional staff across the school trained in Elklan	with an aim to achieve expected in communication and language by the end of the EYFS.	
/ 3	Oral language interventions EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	
NELI £400	Nuffield Early Language Intervention Impact Nuffield Foundation	
All teachers to access high quality, relevant CPD- including that which is led in-house and externally	The best available evidence indicates that quality first teaching is the most important lever schools have to improve pupil attainment.	1
Ensure teachers have sufficient time to engage in CPD activities which are systematically planned in line with whole school priorities and reflect individual teacher 'career stage development'	EEF-Effective-Professional-Development-Guidance-Report.pdf (d2tic4wvo1iusb.cloudfront.net)	
CPD opportunities - £5,500	2	

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

Budgeted cost: £ 175,050

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) ad-
		dressed

Additional phonics sessions targeted at disadvantaged pupils who require further phonics support. £90,000 cost of 3 TAs delivering interventions across both sites	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 EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	1+7
Early Morning Phonics (KS1) and Maths (Y6) Interventions. Targeted before school provision for identified PP pupils who are making less than expected progress in maths or reading. Freckle Programme EM Maths £1,800	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 EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) Targeted deployment, where teaching assistants are trained to deliver an intervention to small groups or individuals has a high impact on pupil outcomes: Teaching Assistant Interventions EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	1 + 2 + 3+7
All EYFS pupils screened for language development delay and pupils requiring support identified and targeted with Wellcomm and NELI £9,000 cost of TA to deliver these sessions	These targeted interventions will support those children who are entering school with lower than expected communication and language skills to make rapid progress, with an aim to achieve expected in communication and language by the end of the EYFS. Oral language interventions EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) Nuffield Early Language Intervention Impact Nuffield Foundation	2 + 3+7

Elklan intervention and approaches to be used successfully across the whole school with pupils identified and targeted for additional support.	Oral language interventions can have a positive impact on pupil's language skills. Approaches that focus on speaking, listening a combination of the two show positive impacts on attainment: https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evi-	2+ 3+7
Voice 21- £2,750	dence/teaching-learning-toolkit/oral-language-interventions	
Teaching assistant deployment and interventions - for example, by supporting high quality provision within the classroom and delivering targeted interventions	Strategic deployment of teaching assistants is important to ensuring that priority pupils are supported. Targeted deployment, where teaching assistants are trained to deliver an intervention to small groups or individuals has a high impact on pupil outcomes:	1 + 2 + 3+7
£45,000	Teaching Assistant Interventions EEF (educationendow-mentfoundation.org.uk) Making Best Use of Teaching Assistants EEF (educationendow-mentfoundation.org.uk)	
Provision of Educational Psychologist to sup- port children who appear to have specific gaps in understanding that may indicate an underly- ing SEND need	Through consultation with the school's SENDCo and each class teacher, children who meet the threshold for Educational Psychology support will be prioritised for involvement. The aim is identifying specific needs and implement a plan to address the next steps identified.	2 + 3 + 4+ 7
Catalyst Educational Psychology £22,000 SALT £4,500	EEF Special Educational Needs in Mainstream Schools Guidance Report.pdf (d2tic4wvo1iusb.cloudfront.net) (Recommendation 2)	

Wider strategies (for example, related to attendance, behaviour, wellbeing) Budgeted cost: £ 36,500

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
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Embedding principles of good practice set out in the DfE's Working Together To Improve Schools Attendance. Audit and attendance admin lead to manage attendance and chase up attendance £6,000	The DfE guidance has been informed by engagement with schools that have significantly reduced levels of absence and persistent absence: Working together to improve school attendance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)	4+6
Caritas Social worker to work with children and families that require specialist intervention. Caritas Social Worker will not only support vulnerable children but also with our vulnerable families, particularly with those going through crises. This will help support emotional and behavioural needs so that they are in school and accessing their learning to make better progress.	There is extensive evidence associating childhood social and emotional skills with improved outcomes at school and in later life (e.g., improved academic performance, attitudes, behaviour and relationships with peers): Social and emotional learning EEF (educationendow-mentfoundation.org.uk)	4+5+6
Drama Therapist to work in every KS2 class delivering sessions in resilience, self-monitoring and wellbeing. Drama therapist will support vulnerable children to manage anxiety and provide strategies to cope with emotions in class so they are happier and can access learning and make better progress. Drama Therapist £12, 500	There is extensive evidence associating childhood social and emotional skills with improved outcomes at school and in later life (e.g., improved academic performance, attitudes, behaviour and relationships with peers): Social and emotional learning EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	4 + 6

There is extensive evidence associating childhood	2 + 3 + 4 + 6+7
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(educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	
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to raising standards and improving pupils' personal,	
social and emotional development:	~ /
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(educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)	/
	There is extensive evidence associating childhood social and emotional skills with improved outcomes at school and in later life (e.g., improved academic performance, attitudes, behaviour and relationships with peers): Social and emotional learning EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) Special Educational Needs in Mainstream Schools EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) The DfE guidance has been informed by engagement with schools that have significantly reduced levels of absence and persistent absence: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance Learning outside the classroom contributes significantly to raising standards and improving pupils' personal, social and emotional development: Arts participation EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)

Total budgeted cost: £219, 450

Part B: Review of the previous academic year

Outcomes for disadvantaged pupils

Gaps in understanding are addressed and pupils have developed a range of strategies to support their own learning.

We have analysed the performance of our school's disadvantaged pupils during the previous academic year, drawing on national assessment data and our own internal summative and formative assessments.

By the end of KS2 disadvantaged children performed above all groups and significantly above national. Our disadvantaged children performed significantly higher than the national average for disadvantaged pupils at the expected level and at greater depth. E.g.

- Disadvantaged at the expected level compared to national disadvantaged- Reading 93.8% (national 62%), Writing 75% (national 58%) Maths 87.5% (national 59%)
- Disadvantaged at greater depth compared to national disadvantaged at greater depth- Reading 34.4% (18% national) Writing 15.6% (national 6%) and Maths 50% (national 13%)

Internal tracking of our disadvantaged pupils' performance indicates that we are meeting expectations. The data shows a consistent narrowing of the attainment gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils throughout their 7 year journey at Mount Carmel.

			EYF	FS GLD			
Disadvantaged			Non Disadvantaged				
92.9%			58.7%				
			Pho	nics Y1			
Disadvantaged			Non Disadvantaged				
63.6%				83.7%			
	Read	ing		Writ	Writing Maths		ths
	Disadvantaged	All	Disa	dvantaged	All	Disadvantaged	All
Year 1	54%	69%	38%		59%	38%	63%
Year 2	50%	35%	30%		48%	35%	50%
Year 3	73%	78%	49%		47%	74%	78%
Year 4	77%	73%	55%		63%	57%	67%
Year 5	80%	72%		36%	49%	72%	85%
Year 6	93.8%	87%		75%	72%	87%	87%

The school has implemented a range of targeted strategies to support disadvantaged pupils, ensuring their progress is closely monitored and needs are effectively addressed.

- Pupil Progress Meetings and Intervention Mapping: Disadvantaged pupils were closely tracked, and their progress was discussed in depth during pupil progress meetings. These meetings informed strategic provision mapping to identify areas of greatest need for intervention.
- Targeted Tuition: Tuition was prioritised for Pupil Premium (PP) children, and pupil progress meetings demonstrated its positive impact on their progress, even if some pupils did not achieve Age-Related Expectations (ARE).
- Phonics and Early Intervention: Daily early morning phonics groups, along with 1:1 and group support sessions, were implemented to help children keep up. A full-time Teaching Assistant (TA) in the Infant Department was allocated to support children who were not on track, with a specific focus on PP pupils. The school is pleased with the progress achieved by these children.
- Little Wandle Rapid Catch-Up in KS2: A TA was deployed for 2.5 days per week to deliver the Little Wandle Rapid Catch-Up program for KS2 pupils requiring additional phonics support. This initiative resulted in accelerated progress, with many pupils becoming confident, fluent readers and transitioning off the program.
- Year 6 Maths Club: A Maths club operated four days a week for Year 6 pupils, regularly attended by 50-60 pupils, including many PP pupils.
 This focused support positively impacted attainment at the end of KS2.
- Educational Psychologist Support: An Educational Psychologist worked with pupils across the school, conducting assessments and assisting with applications for statutory assessments. Specific targets and tailored support plans were implemented for children with complex SEND needs. An Assistant EP worked with targeted children in nursery for a 6 week period (half a day per week) to develop play plans and introduce appropriate interventions.

Through these initiatives, the school has continued to close the gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils. While progress is evident, this work remains an ongoing priority.

Improved wider life experiences

Last year pupils participated in a variety of educational visits and experiences including:

- Attending a theatre performance and a musical concert at the Hallé.
- Museum trips, author visits, and visits to places of worship.
- Trips to a restaurant
- Hands-on science and history workshops held at school.
- Geography field trips, a seaside visit, a river study and a trip to a farm

- A team-building outdoor residential for Year 6 pupils.
- · Sessions with guest speakers focusing on personal development.
- Careers Day
- Young Enterprise Project

Each activity was purposefully chosen to enhance pupils' wider life experiences, particularly benefiting PP children, while also supporting curriculum learning.

After-School Clubs: Pupil premium children were actively encouraged to participate in a wide range of after-school clubs, which included:

- Sports clubs: gymnastics, yoga, cheerleading, dance, jujitsu, taekwondo, and boxing.
- Creative and academic clubs: choir, art, computing, and the GIFT team.

These enrichment opportunities not only supported the holistic development of PP pupils but also fostered their engagement and confidence across various areas.

Improved language and communication skills.

The school implemented the NELI (Nuffield Early Language Intervention) programme and WellComm screening, which had a significant positive impact on Communication, Language, and Literacy (CLL) among a targeted group of Pupil Premium (PP) pupils in Reception and Nursery. This was especially important given the very low starting points on entry.

SALT assessments were conducted across the school, with a focus on Early Years. These assessments:

- Provided teachers with insights to deliver targeted, personalised support.
- · Offered detailed feedback to parents, enabling them to support their child's development at home.
- Contributed to applications for Education, Health, and Care Plans (EHCPs) for children with complex needs.

The EYFS lead completed Elklan Level 3 training, equipping them to support colleagues with effective strategies for language development. Training on Blank's Levels of Questioning was rolled out, enhancing staff's ability to support children's progress in speaking, listening, attention, and understanding again leading to the improvement of ELG in speaking and listening.

Key Outcomes from NELI/ Eklan and other language work across the EYFS

Targeted Intervention: 21 Reception pupils identified through screening participated in the NELI programme.

Progress Achieved: Listening, attention, and understanding: 44% of pupils were on track at the start of the year, rising to 77% achieving the Early Learning Goal (ELG). Speaking: 41% were on track initially, increasing to 77% achieving the ELG by year-end.

This work is part of the school's ongoing commitment to developing a whole-school approach to language, communication and oracy, ensuring long-term benefits for all pupils.

Attendance is in line with national expectations for all disadvantaged pupils

The school has maintained strong attendance rates, exceeding the national average across all groups, while continuing to address challenges related to persistent absenteeism.

Attendance Data (End of Year) Overall attendance: 95.72%

Pupil Premium (PP) attendance: 94.95% Persistent absenteeism (PA): 9.82%

Persistent absenteeism among PP pupils: 16.56%

Actions Taken to Improve Attendance

- Regular Monitoring and Tracking
- Attendance is reviewed regularly and monitored through a newly implemented database, which tracks families of concern.
- A thorough audit was conducted to identify key issues and inform targeted strategies.
- Letters and invitations to supportive meetings were issued to families with attendance concerns.
- Fixed penalty notices were introduced as necessary, while Early Help support was offered to assist families in improving attendance.
- Raising the Profile of Attendance: Attendance has been given a higher profile in the school community. Rewards and celebrations are now included in assemblies to encourage and recognise good attendance.

While significant progress has been made, a group of parents continues to struggle with regular attendance for their children. This remains an area of focus, with ongoing efforts to provide support and address barriers.

Mental health issues in children and in adults are less of a barrier to learning.

The school has made significant strides in addressing mental health challenges for children reducing these as barriers to learning and creating a supportive environment for all.

School invested in a Caritas social worker and a drama therapist. These professionals provided additional support for pupils' needs many of whom are PP children. This provision has meant that children who are in crisis received therapeutic support and for some it has enabled them to remain in school, avoiding the need for suspensions.

In KS2 a drama therapist delivered a programme which covers: promoting resilience across the school; managing emotions in Year 4; being the best you can be in Year 5 and being kind to yourself in Year 6. The therapist held weekly drop-in sessions for all other pupils which gave them a safe space to discuss concerns over personal issues and mental health. This support helped children to manage anxiety and gave children strategies to cope with emotions in class and access work.

Our Caritas social worker works not only with our vulnerable children but also with our vulnerable families, particularly with those going through crises. Once again this allows us to support children and to keep them in school when they might have had time off in the past.

School achieved the Sandwell Wellbeing Charter Mark, supported by Catalyst Psychology. The impact of this is improvements in our provision for mental health and welfare across our school family.

School has worked with Bridgelea AP special school, Bowker Vale Outreach, M thrive to support PP children with complex mental health needs. Their support and advice has helped support children until assessments have been complete and manage mental health in school.

Wellbeing sessions run across KS1 and KS2 in the spring term. This gave children strategies to manage anxiety.

Zones of Regulation training rolled out to all staff

This work is ongoing.

Children who arrive at school during the year are supported to settle quickly into their learning.

New arrivals were closely monitored and discussed at pupil progress meeting and the provision mapping from these meetings strategically identified the most need for intervention. These children accessed tuition, catch up and interventions if needed.

Externally provided programmes

Please include the names of any non-DfE programmes that you used your pupil premium (or recovery premium) to fund in the previous academic year.

Programme	Provider
Freckle	Renaissance Learning
Little Wandle	Little Wandle Letters and Sounds
My Maths	Oxford University Press
GL Progress Tests	Renaissance Company

TTRS	Maths Circle
Abacus Evolve	Pearsons
Ten Ten: Life to the Full+	Ten:Ten

