

Pupil premium strategy statement

This statement details our school's use of pupil premium (and recovery premium for the 2023 to 2024 academic year) funding to help improve the attainment of our disadvantaged students.

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	Leasowes High School
Number of students in school	1119
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible students	32% - 361 students
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers	2023/24 – 2025-26
Date this statement was published	January 2024
Date on which it will be reviewed	January 2026
Statement authorised by	C. Papadopoulos Headteacher
Pupil premium lead	Jade Beetison, Deputy Headteacher
Governor / Trustee lead	Vicki Kelly Vice Chair of Governors

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£318,150
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	£318,150

Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

Our intention is that all students, irrespective of their background or the challenges they face, make good progress and achieve high attainment across the curriculum, particularly in both core and the EBacc subjects.

The focus of our pupil premium strategy is to support disadvantaged students to achieve their goal and expected outcomes, including attainment for those who are already high attainers. We will consider the challenges faced by our most vulnerable students, such as those who have a social worker or are young carers. The activity we have outlined in this statement is also intended to support the needs of all students, regardless of whether they are disadvantaged or not.

Quality first teaching is at the heart of our approach, with a focus on areas in which disadvantaged students require the most support and intervention. This is proven to have the greatest impact on closing the disadvantage attainment gap and at the same time will benefit the non-disadvantaged students in our school. Implicit in the intended outcomes detailed below, is the intention that non-disadvantaged students' attainment will be sustained and improved alongside progress for their disadvantaged peers.

Our approach will be responsive to common challenges and individual needs, rooted in robust diagnostic assessment, not assumptions about the impact of disadvantage. The strategies we have adopted complement each other to help students excel and make the necessary progress. Enabling these strategies we will:

- ensure disadvantaged students are challenged in the work that they're set.
- act early to intervene when support is required.
- adopt a whole school approach in which all staff take responsibility for disadvantaged students' outcomes and raise expectations of what they can achieve.
- allow all students the opportunity to have access to the support, guidance and curriculum in order to narrow the disadvantage gap and increase achievement and engagement in school.

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	Attainment of our disadvantaged students and especially those with SEN are significantly lower than non-disadvantaged/non-SEN students
2	The attendance of disadvantaged students is lower than that of non-disadvantaged students. This includes both at overall absence and persistent absence.
3	From our assessment and observations, we have seen disengagement from learning following lockdown coupled with a breakdown of relationships with some students.
4	Low aspirations from some of the disadvantaged students and engagement with their families, results in social and emotional challenges and the need to further enhance aspiration with them.
5	Low literacy and numeracy levels and reading ages across the lower school due to the impact of missed curriculum and assessment at primary on entry to secondary school.

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
Progress 8	Improve outcomes from 2022 data (-0.67 provisional) null and void for 2025 and 2026 as no end of KS2 SAT data
English Progress 8	Improve outcomes from 2022 data (-0.69 provisional) null and void for 2025 and 2026 as no end of KS2 SAT data
Maths Progress 8	Improve outcomes from 2022 data (-0.94 provisional) null and void for 2025 and 2026 as no end of KS2 SAT data
Percentage gaining English Grade 4+	Improve outcomes from 2022 data (57.4%)
Percentage gaining Maths Grade 4+	Improve outcomes from 2022 data (37.7%)
Attainment 8	Improve outcomes from 2022 data (35.8)
Attendance	Improving attendance to national averages at both absence and persistent absence and

	to be consistently above national over three years.
Increasing wider curriculum engagement of students in enrichment.	Engagement in opportunities sees improvement in attendance and behaviour.

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: **£114,000 (2024/2025)**

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
High expectations in teaching and learning and with teachers that is reinforced by quality assurance processes and walkthru CPD, with focus on behaviour and expectations, questioning and curriculum. Quality first teaching- in-house CPD/Inset using strengths in school	High expectations including uplift transmits high expectations to students and an aspirational approach to high achievement. https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/support-for-schools/school-improvement-planning/1-high-quality-teaching Including additional resources, especially visual aids (eg, visualisers, whiteboards etc) to assist	2,3
Developing metacognitive, self-regulation and co-construction skills in all students. This will involve ongoing teacher training.	Teaching metacognitive strategies to students can be an inexpensive method to help students become more independent learners. https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/metacognition-and-self-regulation	2,3
Supporting curriculum planning and student learning through the provision of student revision guides.	The provision of revision guides addresses the gaps in learning and knowledge that may be present as a result of poor engagement or poor attendance. It also addresses it economic disadvantage which may prevent families providing these.	2,3,5
Teachers to focus on vulnerable groups	Having a focus on specific group of students improves interaction, improves the quality of feedback and the quality of teaching learning. It	2,3

<p>including Pupil Premium.</p> <p>This will be show through actions such as marking their work first, targeted questions, and specific seating arrangements.</p> <p>Use of driver and champion half termly meets to discuss and implement strategies for disadvantaged students</p> <p>Jan 2025 inset based on pooling strategies for quality first teaching</p>	<p>also addresses disengagement and fosters good relationships.</p> <p>Work already undertaken with live marking provides a strong base for the approach towards identifying individuals to make progress.</p> <p>https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/guidance-reports/feedback</p>	
<p>Improving literacy in all subject areas in line with recommendations in the EEF 'Improving Literacy in Secondary Schools' guidance.</p> <p>This will be reinforced by the use of Accelerated Reading, Bedrock, and Forensic Reading in Key Stage 3.</p> <p>Implementation of the phonics programme to students with low reading ages</p> <p>Implementation of the Lexia programme to students with low reading ages</p> <p>Embedding the guided reading programme during tutor for all learners</p>	<p>Acquiring disciplinary literacy is key for students as they learn new, more complex concepts in each subject.</p> <p>Improving Literacy in Secondary Schools</p> <p>Reading comprehension, vocabulary, and other literacy skills are heavily linked with attainment in Maths and English.</p> <p>Reading comprehension strategies Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF</p>	4
<p>Developing numeracy through the use of Sparx which will provide targeted work and individualised teacher input.</p> <p>Development also of a numeracy stream through afternoon</p>	<p>Individualised instruction is required to address misconceptions and gaps in knowledge which prevent skill acquisition at higher levels.</p> <p>Clear link that students who develop their basic numeracy skills on a daily basis will enable higher level mathematical understanding with subject skill teaching.</p>	4

form time to provide basic skill understanding.	https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/guidance-reports/maths-ks-2-3	
---	---	--

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

Budgeted cost: **£102,075 (2024/2025)**

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>Providing an academic mentor with a sole focus on disadvantaged students who will work with targeted students individually, in small groups or provide support in class.</p> <p>2024/2025 onwards: Funding no longer available through DfE</p>	<p>Individual and small group tutoring allows for gaps in knowledge and misconceptions to be addressed effectively. Small group tuition allows for catch-up activities to take place, especially in English and Maths.</p> <p>https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/mentoring</p>	2,3,4
<p>School led tutoring to provide a blend of tuition and mentoring for students whose education has been most impacted by the pandemic.</p> <p>2024/2025 onwards: Funding no longer available through DfE</p> <p>Tutoring will be delivered by teachers and non-teachers who will have received appropriate professional development through the support</p>	<p>Tuition targeted at specific needs and knowledge gaps can be an effective method to support low attaining students or those falling behind.</p> <p>One to one tuition EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)</p> <p>Small group tuition Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF</p>	3,4

of NTP and recovery premium. 2024/2025 onwards: Funding no longer available through DfE including recovery PP		
The provision of faculty-based interventions sessions outside of lesson time to enable catch-up to take place and address identified misconceptions.	Intervention targeted at specific needs and knowledge gaps can be an effective method to support low attaining students or those falling behind.	2,3,4
Academic Boards will have a focus on the achievement and progress of disadvantaged students and ensure appropriate strategies and interventions are put into place to address concerns. 2024/2025: implemented for all year groups	An overview of student performance across the curriculum allows strategic direction and application of effective intervention.	2,4
Disadvantaged students will be a focus for staff during parents evenings, and where necessary appointments will be made on behalf of parents.	Co-constructed actions plans and positive relationships with parents have a direct positive impact upon students achievement. https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/guidance-reports/supporting-parents	1,2,3,4,5
Provision of nurture interventions using both school and if appropriate external staff to ensure that students are able and ready to learn.	In order for students to learn other aspects of the hierarchy of needs to be addressed and secure.	1,2
Use of external assessment to support the curriculum gaps, using CATS testing	The use of external assessment allows for benchmarking both across the Multi Academy trust and nationally to show areas of knowledge gaps, but provides individual information for teachers to provide subject knowledge and intervention.	3,4

as well as PIE (Progress in English) at the end of year 9.	Standardised tests Assessing and Monitoring Pupil Progress Education Endowment Foundation EEF	
--	---	--

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

Budgeted cost: **£102,075 (2024/2025)**

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Provision of pastoral support for behaviour and wellbeing. This will include individual or small group work and working with the family and external agencies as appropriate.	In order for students to learn other aspects of the hierarchy of needs to be addressed and secure. https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/behaviour-interventions	1,2,3
2024/2025: Embedding programme from Ethos to support wider needs of children	Charity belongs to Grace Foundation and reports show evidence of impact.	
Provision of mentoring to address behavioural concerns.	In order for students to learn other aspects of the hierarchy of needs to be addressed and secure. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/behaviour-in-schools	2
Increasing participation in wider opportunities within the school. These includes clubs, sports activities and trips.	The development of affiliation towards the school reduces disengagement and promotes achievement. https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/aspiration-interventions	2,3
Dedicated pastoral support to address first day absence and associated issues.	In order to promote attendance and address fundamental causation it is necessary to work closely with families and build good relationships. Improving School Attendance	1

	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/securing-good-attendance-and-tackling-persistent-absence/securing-good-attendance-and-tackling-persistent-absence	
Disadvantage students engage with and are represented in the student leadership body.	The development of affiliation towards the school reduces disengagement and promotes achievement. https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/aspiration-interventions	2,3
Rooms staffed and available for students to use until 4pm Monday – Thursday.	Economic disadvantage often prevents the provision of support materials and an appropriate workplace for students. https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/homework	5
The provision of revision guides and if necessary ICT equipment to develop and enable learning at home.	Economic disadvantage often prevents the provision of support materials and an appropriate workplace for students.	5
Contingency fund for acute issues including uniform, travel passes and trips.	Experiences of similar schools to ours indicates that it is necessary to have a small amount of funding available to respond quickly to unidentified needs. https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/school-uniform	1,2,3,4,5
Disadvantaged students provided with a music lesson subsidised by school.	Playing of a musical instrument helps develop and foster a discipline in children, as well as provide opportunity that may not previously be afforded. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/research-review-series-music	2,3,5

Total budgeted cost: £318,150 (2024/2025)

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 students in the **2023 to 2024** academic year.

Provisional data from **2024** outcomes has been used to provide a review on pupil premium activity for **23/24**.

Student outcomes in **2024** did not make the expected progress for pupil premium students. Their overall P8 and A8 declined from previous years and was lower than expected. English P8 and A8 declined and Maths P8 declined but A8 is improving. English and maths attainment combined is showing signs of improving in all measures for PP. **Fewer** students were entered for EBacc than in previous years with an aspiration to further add to this in future years **however, curriculum changes designed to personalise learning**. The students continued to be disrupted from Covid-19 through absence which was then reflected in outcomes data, as many curriculum areas were ensuring content of examination syllabus was still being taught rather than having opportunity to reflect on retention of knowledge.

Attendance during **2023/2024** for disadvantaged students was low, including Persistent Absence **however the gap is narrowing**. Data released from the DFE for attendance showed there was a national concern with absence – the school were in line with these or better. Attendance continues to be a focus of our current plan as data shows it is not at previous years data.

Increasing participation in wider opportunities was exceptionally difficult to develop in the environment school was operating and therefore remains an ongoing target. As the restrictions in schools lessened post-Covid, during **2023/2024** more students began to attend extra curricular events, and the school have increased parental sessions following parents evenings for 3 years in some year groups. These remain an area for development as the intention is for all students to be participating in wider activities.

Our assessments demonstrated that student behaviour, wellbeing and mental health were significantly impacted the previous two years, primarily due to COVID-19-related issues. The impact was particularly acute for disadvantaged students. We used pupil premium funding to provide wellbeing support for all pupils, and targeted interventions where required. We are building on that approach in our new plan.

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	

Further information

A Disadvantaged Committee will meet on a regular basis to consider bids from faculties aimed at improving the experiences and achievement of disadvantaged students. The discretionary funding this represents is accounted for via the contingency fund placed in the 'Wider experiences' section.