

PUPIL PREMIUM & CATCH UP PREMIUM STRATEGY STATEMENT 2023-24

This statement details our school's use of Pupil Premium funding (and Recovery Premium funding) for the 2021 to 2024 academic year, to help improve the attainment of our disadvantaged pupils.

It outlines our Pupil Premium strategy; how we intended to spend the funding in this academic year; and the effect that last year's spending of Pupil Premium funding had within our school. The report marks the end of an effective 3 year programme.

School overview current year

Detail	Data
School name	Sacred Heart High School
Number of pupils in school	1126 on 27.11.24
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers	Three Year Project 2021 - 2022 2022 -2023 2023 - 2024
Date this statement was published	January 2025
Date on which it will be reviewed	End of 3 Year Programme
Statement authorised by	Mrs Sharon O'Donovan Head Teacher
Pupil premium lead	Ms Marian Conran Deputy Headteacher
Governor / Trustee lead	Mr Glen Hodgson Chair of Governors

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£189,405
Recovery premium funding allocation this academic year	£50,818.50
Pupil premium funding carried forward from previous years (enter £0 if not applicable)	£00,000
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	£240,223.50

Part A: Pupil Premium Strategy Plan

Statement of intent

As a community of faith and learning based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ, his values and teachings, we seek constantly to improve everything we do so that we can make a difference for the young people who will shape the society of the future. Our intention is that all pupils, irrespective of their background or the challenges they face, and with a clear focus on diversity and inclusion, make excellent progress and achieve high attainment across the curriculum, particularly in EBacc subjects.

The focus of our pupil premium strategy is to support disadvantaged pupils to achieve that goal, including progress for those who are already high attainers. We will consider the challenges faced by vulnerable pupils, such as those who have a social worker, an ECHP or are young carers at home. The activity we have outlined in this statement is also intended to support their needs, regardless of whether they are disadvantaged or not.

High-quality teaching is at the heart of our 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. Implicit in the intended outcomes detailed below, is the intention that non-disadvantaged pupils' attainment will be sustained and improved alongside progress for their disadvantaged peers.

Our strategy is also integral to wider school plans for education recovery, notably in its targeted support through the National Tutoring Programme for pupils whose education has been worst affected, including non-disadvantaged pupils.

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

- ensure disadvantaged pupils are challenged in the work that they're set
- act early to intervene at the point need is identified
- adopt a whole school approach in which all staff take responsibility for disadvantaged pupils' outcomes and raise expectations of what they can achieve

Challenges Contextualised for SHHS

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	<p>Historic and current transitional data and diagnostic assessment of year seven pupils in English and Maths suggests that disadvantaged pupils arrive below age related expectations.</p> <p>On entry to year seven September 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 11.1% of our disadvantaged pupils arrive below age-related expectations in reading compared to 5.5% of non-disadvantaged.• 5.6% of our disadvantaged pupils arrive below age-related expectations in maths compared to 5.5% of non-disadvantaged

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
2	Our assessment, observations and discussions with pupils suggests that the gap between disadvantaged pupils lessens at KS4. Our historical and current data suggests the gap remains widest at KS3.
3	<p>Our assessments, observations and discussions with pupils and families suggest that the education and wellbeing of many of our disadvantaged pupils have been impacted by partial school closures to a greater extent than for other pupils. These findings are backed up by several national studies.</p> <p>This has resulted in significant knowledge gaps resulting in pupils falling further behind age-related expectations especially in English and Maths</p> <p>Post pandemic, year 9 have been most impacted in terms of learning loss on arrival at Sacred Heart</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In year 9, 10.9% fewer of the non-disadvantaged pupils are in the Low prior attainment band compared with disadvantaged pupils • In year 8, the difference is 7.5% • In year 7, the difference is 2.8%
4	<p>GCSE outcomes 2024 suggest that the gap between disadvantaged and the whole cohort has narrowed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.28 lower in their progress 8 score compared to 0.39 in 2023 • 7.9 lower in their attainment 8 score compared to 9.2 in 2024 • 27% lower in the percentage of students achieving the EBACC at grade 5 compared with 21% in 2023 • 0.86 lower in EBACC APS compared with 1.09 in 2024 • 3.3 % lower in the percentage of students achieving English and Maths at grade 5 compared with 4.4% in 2023 • Thus the gap is closing in all areas above except for the EBACC figures.
5	Our observations from IPM assessments, Team-Up English and Maths intervention and Learning Walks suggest many lower attaining disadvantaged pupils lack metacognitive / self-regulation strategies when faced with challenging tasks, notably in their monitoring and evaluation of their answers. This is indicated across the curriculum, particularly in English and Science
6	<p>Our assessments, observations and discussions with pupils and families continues to identify social and emotional issues for many pupils, such as anxiety, depression (diagnosed by medical professionals) and low self-esteem. This is partly driven by concern about catching up lost learning and exams/future prospects, and the lack of enrichment opportunities due to the pandemic. These challenges particularly affect disadvantaged pupils, including their attainment.</p> <p>In 2023-24 teacher referrals for support continues to show 25% from disadvantaged backgrounds and students require additional support with social and emotional needs.</p>
7	Our attendance data for the whole school 2023-2024 was: 92.5% which is +1.7% above the national average.

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
	<p>Our attendance data for our disadvantaged students 2023-24 was: 90.1% which is lower than non-disadvantaged students this year but + 4.7% above the national average, which is significant. This follows the positive figures from last year of +5.3%</p> <p>Refining the data further showed that attendance for disadvantaged students varied across year groups; Key Stage 3 were significantly above national average, with Year 11 bucking the trend.</p> <p>Year 7 +2.5%</p> <p>Year 8 + 2.6%</p> <p>Year 9 + 3.1%</p> <p>Year 10 + 2.2%</p> <p>Year 11 -0.5%</p> <p>It is also worth noting that there is a cross over with SEN and EHCP students who are also disadvantaged. Attendance for the whole school SEN students was 86.9% which is +1.3% above national average. Attendance for ECHP students was 89.4% which is +7.6% above national average which is significant.</p> <p>Persistent absence continues to be a national issue.</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
Continued Improved attainment among disadvantaged pupils across the curriculum at the end of KS4, with a focus on EBacc subjects.	<p>By the end of our current plan in 2024/25, 60% or more of disadvantaged pupils achieve a level five plus in English Baccalaureate (EBacc).</p> <p><u>The average for the last three years in 30%.</u></p> <p><u>EBACC 5+ for 2022 was achieved by 44% of disadvantaged students</u></p> <p><u>EBACC 5+ for 2023 was achieved by 16% of disadvantaged students</u></p> <p><u>EBACC 5+ for 2024 was achieved by 30% of disadvantaged students</u></p> <p><u>2024/25 KS4 outcomes forecast that disadvantaged pupils will achieve an average Attainment 8 score of 42.8 compared with 47.5 for all pupils.</u></p> <p>(There will be no Progress 8 data in 2025)</p>
Improved reading comprehension among disadvantaged pupils across KS3.	<p>Reading tests show that the reading age gap reduces from year 7 to year 9. In Year 7 the gap is 0.7 years, in year 8 the gap is 0.6 years and in year 9 the gap is 0.2 years. Learning walks, book scrutiny and achievement points for lesson engagement provides evidence.</p>

	Further evidence is clear in the GCSE English Language and Literature outcomes 2024.
Improved metacognitive and self-regulatory skills among disadvantaged pupils across all subjects.	HPL requires students to be able to self-regulate. Teacher reports and class observations suggest disadvantaged pupils are more able to monitor and regulate their own learning. This finding is supported by homework completion rates across all classes and subjects.
To achieve and sustain improved wellbeing for all pupils, including those who are disadvantaged.	<p>Sustained high levels of wellbeing from 2023/24 demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • qualitative data from pupil voice, pupil and parent surveys and teacher observations. • a significant increase in participation in enrichment activities, particularly among disadvantaged pupils. Significant success with Arts week activities, giving students a wide range of creative opportunities over the last 2 years. • Use google surveys to generate data effectively • PASS Survey Headlines autumn 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On all indicators, disadvantaged students scored lower average satisfaction levels than the whole cohort - This was most pronounced on the following areas: attitudes to attendance; general work ethic; confidence in learning; feelings about school - And was least pronounced in the following areas: response to curriculum demands, self-regard as a learner; attitudes to teachers - Thus there is still work to be done in this area
To achieve and sustain improved attendance for all pupils, particularly our disadvantaged pupils.	<p>Sustained higher attendance from 2023/24 demonstrated by:</p> <p>The overall absence rate for all students is 7.5% which is an increase on last year. The overall absence rate for disadvantaged students is 9.9% which is a difference of 2.4% with non-disadvantaged, overall this is an increase on last year. Persistent absence term absence can be attributed to the increase. This continues to be a national picture. The whole school attendance strategy implemented in September 2024 aims to combat such absences.</p>

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: **£100,000**

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>Purchase of standardised diagnostic assessments. (PASS)</p> <p>Training will be provided for staff to ensure assessments are interpreted correctly.</p>	<p>Standardised tests can provide reliable insights into the specific strengths and weaknesses of each pupil to help ensure they receive the correct additional support through interventions or teacher instruction:</p> <p>Standardised tests Assessing and Monitoring Pupil Progress Education Endowment Foundation EEF</p>	<p>1, 2, 3</p>
<p>Developing metacognitive and self-regulation skills in all pupils as part of a philosophy of High Performance Learning</p> <p>This will involve ongoing teacher training and support and release time as part of the implementation of the teaching and learning action plan</p>	<p>Teaching metacognitive strategies to pupils can be an inexpensive method to help pupils become more independent learners. There is particularly strong evidence that it can have a positive impact on maths attainment:</p> <p>Metacognition and self-regulation Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF</p> <p>(NB staff training – 18.11.24)</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>Enhancement of our maths teaching and curriculum planning in line with DfE KS3 and EEF guidance.</p> <p>We will fund teacher release time to continue to embed key elements of the guidance in school, and to access Maths Hub resources and CPD offers (including Teaching for Mastery training).</p>	<p>The DfE non-statutory KS3 guidance has been produced in conjunction with the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics, drawing on evidence-based approaches:</p> <p>Teaching mathematics at key stage 3 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p> <p>To teach maths well, teachers need to assess pupils' prior knowledge and understanding effectively, employ manipulatives and representations, teach problem solving strategies, and help pupils to develop more complex mental models:</p> <p>KS2 KS3 Maths Guidance 2017.pdf (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)</p>	<p>1, 3, 4, 5</p>

<p>Improving literacy in all subject areas in line with recommendations in the EEF Improving Literacy in Secondary Schools guidance.</p> <p>We will fund an additional teacher, (0.4) professional development and instructional coaching focussed on each teacher's subject area.</p>	<p>Acquiring disciplinary literacy is key for students as they learn new, more complex concepts in each subject: Improving Literacy in Secondary Schools</p> <p>Reading comprehension, vocabulary and other literacy skills are heavily linked with attainment in maths and English: word-gap.pdf (oup.com.cn)</p>	<p>1,2,3</p>
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Targeted academic support (for example, tutoring, one-to-one support structured interventions)

Budgeted cost: **£78,000**

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>Adopting a targeted reciprocal teaching programme as a reading intervention for disadvantaged pupils who need additional help to comprehend texts and address vocabulary gaps.</p>	<p>Reading comprehension strategies can have a positive impact on pupils' ability to understand a text, and this is particularly the case when interventions are delivered over a shorter timespan:</p> <p>Reading comprehension strategies Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF</p>	<p>1,2</p>
<p>Engaging with the National Tutoring Programme 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.</p>	<p>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:</p> <p>One to one tuition EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)</p> <p>And in small groups:</p> <p>Small group tuition Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF</p>	<p>1, 2, 3,4</p>

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

Budgeted cost: **£60,000**

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>Adoption of a cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) intervention for specific pupils who require support with regulating their behaviour and emotions.</p> <p>Expansion of therapeutic services offered by the school. Training for identified staff.</p>	<p>There is evidence to suggest that CBT can have a high impact on risk behaviours and behavioural difficulties:</p> <p>Cognitive Behavioural Therapy - Youth Endowment Fund</p> <p>EIF's report on adolescent mental health found good evidence that CBT interventions support young people's social and emotional skills and can reduce symptoms of anxiety and depression:</p> <p>Adolescent mental health: A systematic review on the effectiveness of school-based interventions Early Intervention Foundation (eif.org.uk)</p>	5
<p>Embedding principles of good practice set out in DfE's Improving School Attendance advice.</p> <p>Staff will get training and release time to develop and implement new procedures.</p>	<p>The DfE guidance has been informed by engagement with schools that have significantly reduced persistent absence levels.</p> <p>New Strategy in progress – praise and reward; communication with parents</p>	6
<p>Contingency fund for acute issues.</p>	<p>Based on our experiences and those of similar schools to ours, we have identified a need to set a small amount of funding aside to respond quickly to needs that have not yet been identified.</p> <p>Eg Uniform; Duke of Edinburgh; Theatre trips; fun trips; additional academic catch-up, books and resources, equipment, instrumental lessons, LAMDA etc</p>	All

Total budgeted cost: £240,223.50

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 2023 to 2024 academic year.

Our internal assessments during 2023/24 suggested that the performance of disadvantaged pupils continued to be low as in the previous two years in key areas of the curriculum.

Despite being on track during the first year (2018/19), the outcomes we aimed to achieve in our previous strategy by the end of 2020/21 were therefore not fully realised. However, by 2024 GCSE data showed the gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged is closing significantly, and the score is significantly above national average.

Our assessment of the reasons for these outcomes points primarily to Covid-19 impact, which disrupted all of our subject areas to varying degrees. As evidenced in schools across the country, partial closure was most detrimental to our disadvantaged pupils, and they were not able to benefit from our pupil premium funded improvements to teaching and targeted interventions to the degree that we intended. The impact was mitigated by our resolution to maintain a high quality curriculum, including during periods of partial closure.

Although overall attendance for disadvantaged students in 2023-24 was significantly higher than national average, it took a dip in terms of historical school date. We continue to be concerned about the increase in persistent absence and therefore introduce a whole school attendance strategy from September 2024. This includes working with London boroughs, external agencies and parents.

Our assessments demonstrated that pupil behaviour, wellbeing and mental health were significantly impacted last year, primarily due to COVID-19-related issues for students when they were lower down the school. The impact was particularly acute for disadvantaged pupils. We used pupil premium funding to provide wellbeing support for all pupils, and targeted interventions where required.

A real significant improvement should be celebrated: by 2024 pupil premium and disadvantaged students achieved outstanding progress at GCSE with Progress 8 of 0.5 which was significantly higher than the previous year's negative figure and significantly higher than the national average. The represents the impact of the third year of interventions and funding directly targeted at these students to mitigate the impact of Covid. There is no longer any catch-up funding. The school will look at ways to improve interventions despite lack of funding and seek to deliver outstanding teaching and learning in the classroom to bridge the gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged students.

Externally provided programmes

Programme	Provider
One to one and small group intervention English and Maths (69 pupils)	Manning Tutors
One to one and small group intervention English and Maths (24 pupils)	Team Up
Catch up English and Maths, revision skills and wellbeing (48 pupils)	Skills for Learning Programme

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Service Pupil Premium funding (optional)

Measure	Details
How did you spend your service pupil premium allocation last academic year?	N/A
What was the impact of that spending on service pupil premium eligible pupils?	N/A

Further information

Additional activity

Our pupil premium strategy was be supplemented by additional activity that is not being funded by pupil premium or recovery premium. That included:

Training for staff supported understanding of the range of challenges faced by disadvantaged pupils:

- ensuring students understood our ‘catch-up’ plan by providing information about the support they will receive (including targeted interventions listed above), how the curriculum was be delivered, and what was expected of them. Parents and carers were informed by interventions via school comms and Edulink. This helped to address concerns around learning loss - one of the main drivers of pupil anxiety.
- utilising support from our partnership with MIND to support pupils with mild to moderate mental health and wellbeing issues, many of whom were disadvantaged.
- extending our own in-house therapeutic provision and support systems.
- offering a range of high-quality extracurricular activities to boost wellbeing, behaviour, attendance, and aspiration. Activities (e.g., The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award; Rowing; Netball; Wimbledon Ball Girl Training; Music, Dance and Ballet), focused on building life skills such as confidence, resilience, and socialising. Heads of Year and group leaders were asked to encourage disadvantaged students to participate and engage in opportunities.
- 2023-2024 saw an increase in investment in on-line learning platforms such as Seneca, to provide students with access to online study, resources and revision materials.

Planning, implementation, and evaluation

In planning our new pupil premium strategy, we evaluated why activity undertaken in previous years had not had the degree of impact that we had expected.

We triangulated evidence from sources of data including assessments, conversations with parents, pupils and teachers in order to identify the challenges faced by disadvantaged pupils. We also used the EEF’s families of school’s database to view the performance of disadvantaged pupils in school similar to ours.

We looked at a number of reports and studies about effective use of pupil premium, the impact of disadvantage on education outcomes and how to address challenges to learning presented by socio-economic disadvantage. We also looked at a number of studies about the impact of the pandemic on disadvantaged pupils.

We used the EEF's implementation guidance to help us develop our strategy and will continue to use it through the implementation of our activities.

We put a robust evaluation framework in place for the duration of our three-year approach and adjusted our plan over time to secure better outcomes for pupils. The evidence of success is the Progress 8 score of 0.5% for disadvantaged students. While is this 0.2% lower than the school non-disadvantaged students it is significantly above national average. This report is evidence of challenging disadvantaged students in the classroom and beyond the curriculum, demonstrates timely and successful interventions, and proves the effectiveness of the whole school approach devised in 2021.