# This statement details our school’s use of pupil premium (and recovery premium for the 2021- 2022, 2022 - 2023 and 2023 – 2024 academic year) funding to help improve the attainment of our disadvantaged pupils. It outlines our pupil premium strategy, how we intend to spend the funding in this academic year and the effect that last year’s spending of pupil premium had within our school.

## School overview

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| Detail | Data |
| School name | St Catherine of Siena |
| Number of pupils in school | 258 |
| Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils | 29 children 11% |
| Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers **(3 year plans are recommended)** | 2024/2025 |
| Date this statement was published | December 2024 |
| Date on which it will be reviewed | December 2025 |
| Statement authorised by | Nicola Kane  Headteacher |
| Pupil premium lead | Eleanor Kelly |
| Governor / Trustee lead | David Joyce |

**Funding overview**

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| **Detail** | **Amount** |
| Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year | £42 920.05 |
| 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 | £42 920.05 |

# Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

## Statement of intent

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| At St Catherine of Siena Catholic Primary School, we are committed to ensuring that each individual pupil receives the very best education allowing them to reach their full potential academically, emotionally and socially. When deciding how to spend the Pupil Premium Grant ('PPG') it is important that we look at the potential barriers to learning faced by Pupil Premium pupils in the context of our school. The reasons for underachievement are many and varied and could include: less support at home; social and emotional difficulties due to complex family situations; attendance and punctuality difficulties or specific learning requirements. Each child entitled to the PPG is unique in their situation and our response to their needs must reflect this. With this in mind, at St Catherine’s we aim to build the capacity and expertise to enable us to provide a highly personalised programme of support in order to allow each child to reach his/her full potential.  Our key objective in using the PPG is to diminish the difference between the attainment and achievement gap of those entitled to Pupil Premium and those not. Historically pupils at St Catherine’s achieve and attain well, often at levels much higher than those expected nationally. Through the high level of support offered, our PPG pupils also achieve and attain well – particularly in Key Stage 2. However, we continue to strive to diminish and remove this gap - particularly in Key Stage 1.  At the heart of our school lies the intent to provide an inclusive culture. We are a particularly diverse school, with over half our children being non-White British and 25 ‘Mother languages’ spoken at home. Equality, Inclusion and Diversity are central to our Mission. We know that the ability to read fluently provides pupils with confidence and access to the full curriculum.  In order to achieve our objectives, we will analyse the specific needs of our PP pupils to enable us to develop a program of support that will encompass the wide variety of identified needs. The EEF Teaching and Learning Toolkit has guided our decision making by exploring a range of approaches. In order to meet the specific needs of our PP pupils, we will continue to focus on Oral Language Interventions and Collaborative Learning groups. High quality first teaching will remain at the fore front of these approaches – providing pupils with timely and specific feedback on their achievements in class. This approach will also focus upon effective TA deployment, to ensure that learners are supported in class and through the running of interventions, such as precision monitoring and ELSA emotional support groups. Learning support groups will also address gaps in learning through the delivery of School Led Tuition. |

## Challenges

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

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| Challenge number | Detail of challenge |
| 1 | **Reading fluency, comprehension and attainment.**  Internal and external (where available) assessments indicate that reading attainment among disadvantaged pupils at St Catherines is below that of non-disadvantaged pupils but it is above National standards. However, this was not the case in KS1 where disadvantaged pupils performed below National standards. |
| 2 | **Development of oral language and phonics skills.**  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. Pupils generally have greater difficulties with phonics than their peers. This negatively impacts their development as readers. |
| 3 | **Maths support for pupils on identified gaps.**  Internal and external (where available) assessments indicate that maths attainment among disadvantaged pupils at St Catherines is below that of non-disadvantaged pupils in KS1. |
| 4 | **Lack of engagement of pupils with identified social/emotional need which is currently a barrier to learning**  Our assessments observations and discussions with pupils and families continue to identify social and emotional issues for many pupils. These challenges particularly affect disadvantaged pupils, including their attainment. |
| 5 | **Attendance**  Our attendance data in the last academic year (calculated to May half term) indicates that is at an average of 93% Vs Pupil Premium attendance of 89.6%. PP attendance has been impacted by pupils located oversees and unable to travel home combined with significant attendance difficulties for individual pupils. Support and advice has been provided for those families and daily communication forms part of the advice from our Attendance Officer. This is ongoing and will continue and evolve throughout 2022-2023. |

## 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.

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| Intended outcome | Success criteria |
| Improvements in Reading fluency, comprehension and attainment | To be successful, we will have seen:   * Sustained improvements in the attainment of PP children in Reading in KS2 and KS1 SAT’s * Sustained improvements in the progress of PP children in Reading in KS1 and KS2 SAT’s * Increase in the number of PP children passing the Year 1 (Year 2 Catch up) phonics screening. |
| Improved oral language skills and vocabulary among disadvantaged pupils. | Assessments and observations indicate significantly improved oral language among disadvantaged pupils. This is evident when triangulated with other sources of evidence, including engagement in lessons, book scrutiny and ongoing formative assessment. |
| Improved maths attainment for disadvantaged pupils at the end of KS2. | KS1 & KS2 maths outcomes up to 2024/25 show disadvantaged pupils consistently meeting the expected standard. |
| To achieve and sustain improved wellbeing for all pupils in our school, particularly our disadvantaged pupils. | Sustained high levels of wellbeing from 2024/25 demonstrated by:   * qualitative data from student voice, student and parent surveys and teacher observations * quantitative data from wellbeing questionnaires/surveys * Analysis of impact from ELSA program and number of pupils requiring participation. |
| To achieve and sustain improved attendance for all pupils, particularly our disadvantaged pupils. | Sustained high attendance from 2024/25 demonstrated by:   * the overall absence rate for all pupils being no more than 97.5%, and the attendance gap between disadvantaged pupils and their non-disadvantaged peers being reduced by 2%. |

## 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: £ *20,000*

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| Activity | Evidence that supports this approach | Challenge number(s) addressed |
| Embedding of Phonics Scheme (LITTLE WANDLE)/ and Training of Phonics within Key Stage 1 and associated reading books.  Training of new staff on the delivery of this scheme. | Phonics has a positive impact overall (+5 months) with very extensive evidence. It is an important component in the development of early reading skills, particularly for children from disadvantaged backgrounds.  [Phonics | EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/phonics)  LITTLE WANDLE has been built around the update (Letters and Sounds improving rates of progress 2021) Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised also draws on the latest research into how children learn best; how to ensure learning stays in children’s long term memory and how best to enable children to apply their learning to become highly competent readers.  <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk> | 1,2 |
| Training for ECTs and targeted CPD for all staff.  Teacher mentoring –S Togher | Developing high quality first teaching requires investment in professional development, training and support for early career teachers. Ensuring an effective teacher is in front of every class, and that every teacher is supported to keep improving.  [EEF-Guide-to-the-Pupil-Premium-Autumn-2021.pdf (d2tic4wvo1iusb.cloudfront.net)](https://d2tic4wvo1iusb.cloudfront.net/documents/guidanceForTeachers/EEF-Guide-to-the-Pupil-Premium-Autumn-2021.pdf) | 1,2,3,4 |
| Training to improve vocabulary/ language skills in EYFS/KS1.  Purchase and delivery of NELI Early  Language  Intervention  Program | On average, oral language approaches have a high impact on pupil outcomes of 6 months’ additional progress. 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.  [Oral language interventions | EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/oral-language-interventions)  The Nuffield Early Language Intervention (NELI) is designed to improve listening, narrative and vocabulary skills. Three to five weekly sessions are delivered to small groups of children with relatively poor spoken language skills. The 20-week programme is delivered in reception only.  [Nuffield Early Language Intervention | EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/projects-and-evaluation/projects/nuffield-early-language-intervention) | 2 |
| Additional teacher employed to enable release of experienced staff to fulfil their core subject leader monitoring.  Release time for KS1 staff to ensure Little Wandle is delivered effectively and assessed consistently. Release time to enable the delivery of Little Wandle Catch Up and Keep Up Interventions. | Small group tuition has an average impact of four months’ additional progress over the course of a year. It is most likely to be effective if it is targeted at pupils’ specific needs. Formative assessments will be used to assess the best way to target support.  [Small group tuition | EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/small-group-tuition)  Phonics has a positive impact overall (+5 months) with very extensive evidence. It is an important component in the development of early reading skills, particularly for children from disadvantaged backgrounds.  [Phonics | EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/phonics) | 1,2 |
| Supply teacher recruitment to enable experienced teacher / Reading Lead to provide staff with support / team teaching and observations of high quality Guided Reading lessons. | The average impact of reading comprehension strategies is an additional six months’ progress over the course of a year. Successful reading comprehension approaches allow activities to be carefully tailored to pupils’ reading capabilities, and involve activities and texts that provide an effective, but not overwhelming, challenge  Lower attaining pupils appear to benefit in particular from the explicit teaching of strategies to comprehend text.  [Reading comprehension strategies | EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/reading-comprehension-strategies) | 1 |

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

Budgeted cost: £ *18,000*

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| Activity | Evidence that supports this approach | Challenge number(s) addressed |
| Purchase of an adult led, research based structured interventions in Maths and English to support children with PP to make effective progress | Small group tuition has an average impact of four months’ additional progress over the course of a year.  Small group tuition is most likely to be effective if it is targeted at pupils’ specific needs. Assessment will be used to plan the best way to target support.  [Small group tuition | EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/small-group-tuition) | 1,2,3 |
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| Purchase and delivery of the NELI Early Language Intervention Program | On average, oral language approaches have a high impact on pupil outcomes of 6 months’ additional progress. 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  The Nuffield Early Language Intervention (NELI) is designed to improve listening, narrative and vocabulary skills. Three to five weekly sessions are delivered to small groups of children with relatively poor spoken language skills. The 20-week programme is delivered in reception only.  [Nuffield Early Language Intervention | EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/projects-and-evaluation/projects/nuffield-early-language-intervention) | 2 |
| Continued resource of LW scheme including purchase of all additional books added to sceme. Phonics Scheme (LITTLE WANDLE) and associated books and resources. | Phonics is an important component in the development of early reading skills, particularly for children from disadvantaged backgrounds. Targeted phonics interventions to improve decoding skills more quickly for pupils who have experienced these barriers to learning. | 1,2 |
| Enhancement of our maths teaching and curriculum planning in line with DfE and EEF guidance.  SLT & PM participation in Maths Mastery Developing Fluency program  ST attending “Leading Primary Maths in current times.”  CTs and TAs attending Maths Hub Training Program.  We will fund teacher release time to embed key elements of guidance in school and to access Maths Hub resources and CPD (including Teaching for Mastery training). | Herts for Learning maths advisers have been leading the Developing Fluency Stage of Mastery Readiness stage of the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics (NCETM) Teaching for Mastery Programme.  During the year, Developing Fluency leads work with 2 teachers from each school (the project teams) as well as the Headteachers. The project team participate in half-termly workgroups and collaborate with teams from other schools as well as receiving half termly school visits. The school visits are personalised to the needs of each individual school and support is based around the five areas of Mastery Readiness, also called the Catalysts of Change. There is ‘space not pace’ for learning and going slow meant children are able to make connections to previous learning.  Specialist Knowledge for Teaching Mathematics (SKTM), attended by four Primary Teaching Assistants (in person and online sessions).  [Mastery readiness – taking small steps to make a big difference | Herts for Learning](https://www.hertsforlearning.co.uk/blog/mastery-readiness-taking-small-steps-make-big-difference)  [Mastery learning | EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/mastery-learning) | 3 |
| Structured, precise and impactful feedback through effective marking and feedback policy – SMB – and peer/self-assessment, oral feedback.  Training new staff on SMB – feedback and marking policy. | Providing feedback is a well-evidenced and has a high impact on learning outcomes. Effective feedback tends to focus on the task, subject and self-regulation strategies: it provides specific information on how to improve  [Feedback | EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/feedback) | 1,2,3,4 |
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**Wider strategies (for example, related to attendance, behaviour, wellbeing)**

Budgeted cost: £14,000

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| Activity | Evidence that supports this approach | Challenge number(s) addressed |
| ELSA – Emotional Support Group | Through the successful implementation of our behaviour management policy we continue to develop a positive school ethos, which also aims to support greater engagement in learning. We are now implementing a specialised program – ELSA – which supports pupils with specific behavioural issues.  [Behaviour interventions | EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/behaviour-interventions) | 4 |
| Engagement of external agencies to provide ‘play therapy’ and counselling and mentoring sessions to meet specific pupil needs. E.g. Chessbrook and Acorn. | According to data from the Department for Education, pupils who receive Free School Meals are more likely to receive a permanent or fixed period exclusion compared to those who do not. The most common reason for exclusion is persistent disruptive behaviour. Pupil behaviour will have multiple influences, some of which teachers can directly manage though universal or classroom management approaches. Some pupils will require more specialist support to help manage their self-regulation or social and emotional skills  Targeted or one-to-one approaches, delivered by trained school staff or specialists. These approaches can promote better engagement with teaching and learning by reducing challenging behaviour and improving pupil engagement.  [Behaviour interventions | EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/behaviour-interventions) | 4 |
| Catholic Children’s Society Rainbows program bereavement / support program for children and their families. | The aim of the Rainbows program is to bring hope and change to children and families living in poverty, as well as those experiencing emotional and psychological distress. The program seeks to address material, relational and spiritual poverty.  Through the Rainbows services we aim to help children overcome disadvantage, achieve their full potential and have better chances in life.  The Rainbow’s vision is of a just society in which the voices of the poor and vulnerable are listened to and acted upon. | 4 |
| Embedding principles of good practice set out in the DfE’s [Improving School Attendance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-attendance/framework-for-securing-full-attendance-actions-for-schools-and-local-authorities) advice.  This will involve training and release time for staff (CB) to develop and implement new procedures and liaising with attendance/support officers to improve attendance. | The DfE guidance has been informed by engagement with schools that have significantly reduced levels of absence and persistent absence.  The DfE guidance provides a list of  [Improving school attendance: support for schools and local authorities - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-attendance/framework-for-securing-full-attendance-actions-for-schools-and-local-authorities#school-leaders)  [Parental engagement | EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/parental-engagement) | 5 |
| Providing access to wrap around care – additional childcare provision. Enabling:   * Pupils to have a healthy breakfast to set them up for a day of learning * Pupils to engage in activities before school (e.g. brain gym/golf) * Pupils to Engage in physical activity after school * Parents to access school without financial constraints in an aim to improve attendance. | The DfE guidance has been informed by engagement with schools that have significantly reduced levels of absence and persistent absence.  The DfE guidance provides a list of  [Improving school attendance: support for schools and local authorities - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-attendance/framework-for-securing-full-attendance-actions-for-schools-and-local-authorities#school-leaders)  [Parental engagement | EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/parental-engagement) |  |
| Contingency fund for acute issues. | 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. | All |

**Total budgeted cost: £***42 928.82*

# 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.

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## 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*

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| Programme | Provider |
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# Further information

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| **Additional activity**  Our pupil premium strategy will be supplemented by additional activity that is not being funded by pupil premium or recovery premium. That will include:   * offering a wide range of high-quality extracurricular activities to boost wellbeing, behaviour, attendance, and aspiration. Activities will focus on building life skills such as confidence, resilience, and socialising. Disadvantaged pupils will be encouraged and supported to participate.   **Planning, implementation, and evaluation**  In reviewing our pupil premium strategy, we evaluated what has been effective and impactful in the past. Alongside specific interventions that have been purchased, personalised provision has historically improved attainment and progress for PP pupils. Targeted support - with specific objectives - enables pupils to achieve their next step in learning and remove potential barriers to future learning objectives. To evolve this strategy, first quality teaching and a renewed focus on the needs in Key Stage One will be required.  We triangulated evidence from multiple sources of data including assessments, engagement in class book scrutiny, conversations with parents, students and teachers in order to identify the challenges faced by disadvantaged pupils. We also used the EEF’s families of schools database to view the performance of disadvantaged pupils in schools similar to ours and contacted schools with high-performing disadvantaged pupils to learn from their approach. [St Catherine of Siena Catholic Primary School, WD25 7HP, East of England | Families of Schools Database | Education Endowment Foundation | EEF](https://v2.educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/tools/families-of-schools-database/st-catherine-of-siena-catholic-primary-school-wd25-7hp/#yourFamily)  We looked at a number of EEF reports, studies and research papers 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 studies about the impact of the pandemic on disadvantaged pupils.  We used the [EEF’s implementation guidance](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/guidance-reports/implementation) to help us develop our strategy, particularly the ‘explore’ phase to help us diagnose specific pupil needs and work out which activities and approaches are likely to work in our school. We will continue to use it through the implementation of activities.  We have put a robust evaluation framework in place for the duration of our three-year approach and will adjust our plan over time to secure better outcomes for pupils.  During this academic year, our five objectives will remain in place as part of our three year strategy. Through pupil progress meetings with existing staff and ongoing data analysis, targeted support will be implemented for all pupil premium children. The School Led Tutoring program has made a significant impact and could be extended through additional support in Reading and closer liaison with class teachers and staff delivering Catch Up and Keep Up Interventions. Regular monitoring of pupil premium children will take place in a range of ways – pupil voice, conversations with teaching staff, ‘book looks’ in all subject areas and liaison with Subject Leaders about these pupil groups. This will be particularly important to ensure ongoing consistency with new staff members.  The March 2022 Guidance for School Leaders stipulates focussing on the following areas:    Many of these approaches are already in place, however we will endeavour to focus on the above areas and feed them into our action plan for next year. |