



Primary Pupil Premium Strategy Statement_ 2024 to 2027

This statement details our school's use of pupil premium funding for the current academic year as part of the wider strategy 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

Metric	Data
School name	Appleton Academy
Pupils in school	347
Proportion of disadvantaged pupils	187 (53.9%)
Pupil premium allocation this academic year	£276,760
Academic year or years covered by statement	2024-2027
Publish date	January 2025
Review date	September 2025
Statement authorised by	Helen Jones
Pupil premium lead	Joanne Clayton
Governor lead	Cassandra Doyle

Primary Funding Overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£276,760
Pupil premium funding carried forward from previous years	£0
Total budget for this academic year	££276,760

Statement of Intent

At Appleton Academy there are no limits on learning for any child as we inspire, nurture and develop our children and young people through their primary years into secondary and beyond. We aim to ensure we spend our additional Pupil Premium Grant to ensure that we are making a positive difference to all learners enabling them to be their best. As a result of addressing disadvantage and identifying the many barriers to learning, we ensure that any difference in achievement and opportunity between those pupils who are disadvantaged and other learners, is diminished.

Our pupil premium strategy continues to incorporate strategies to support education recovery despite schools no longer receive funding offered through the National Tutoring Programme.

We want our disadvantaged pupils to:

- Develop high levels of literacy, language and communication skills
- Attain at least in line with their non disadvantaged peers
- Attend school regularly
- Access a broad and balanced curriculum
- Develop high levels of cultural capital and creative expression
- Be supported and nurtured at home by parents who understand and are confident in addressing their child's needs
- Demonstrate excellent levels of wellbeing

Challenges

Detail of Challenge	
A	Low level of child development particularly poor oral language skills in EYFS and KS1 are a barrier as children are not 'school ready'
B	Basic skills in reading, poor phonics, leading to low levels of fluency in reading compared with their peers.
C	Low levels of comprehension, deduction and inference compared to their peers. (Linked to A, E and G)
D	Low standards of development as regards verbal reasoning (linked to A, E and G), particularly in maths.
E	Poor attendance and punctuality rates including sporadic and persistent attendance which has not yet recovered to pre pandemic levels
F	Social, emotional and family issues which impact on concentration, motivation and resilience for a number of children across the school (many of these are eligible for PPG)
G	Low levels of parental education result in limited knowledge and skills alongside a lack of parental confidence in knowing how to support their child's learning disadvantages including those eligible for PPG. This is compounded by home learning environments that are not conducive for effective learning for a significant number of pupils including disadvantaged pupils
H	Limited range of experiences to support learning beyond the school day, during weekends and during holidays
I	Higher than NA mobility and transience mean children and young people enter the Academy mid-way through the year.
J	Limited parental engagement with school alongside a low level of aspiration for pupils and a home culture of low expectations.
K	More able disadvantaged pupils have developed a lack of flexibility in thinking and, as a result are more passive and lack resilience when approaching cognitively challenging activities. This is compounded by few opportunities within the home for critical thinking and debate.

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
Disadvantaged children develop high levels of literacy, language and communication skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupil language and communication deficits are identified on entry and at regular interval and enriched learning and intervention is identified for pupils requiring support PP pupils show improved levels of oracy, increased confidence in communication and use of wider breadth of vocabulary Pupils' reading, phonics and writing fluency improves with outcomes in line with non-PP nationally including greater depth. Learning environments are rich in language, planning identifies the vocabulary focus and the progression in vocabulary development is clear. All lessons, learning environments and PP pupils read daily at school and more regularly at home with increased skill and fluency (as evidenced by reading records, assessments) and develop a love of reading.
Disadvantaged pupils develop an attendance habit attending school on time and regularly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disadvantaged pupils' attendance is inline or better than non-disadvantaged children nationally Disadvantaged pupils and their parents understand the importance of good attendance and enjoy coming to school Attendance challenge and action plans are in place for all identified pupils with a focus on children becoming '5 day a weekers' Bespoke support is provided for disadvantaged families as required Disadvantaged pupils attend school promptly and increasingly attend Breakfast Club Uniform, lunch vouchers, clothing support and learning resources are provided for those in need
Disadvantaged pupils attain at least in line with their non disadvantaged peers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The curriculum is ambitious for disadvantaged pupils In all years disadvantaged children attain at least in line with their non-disadvantaged peers in R,W,M Disadvantaged pupils consistently achieve highly in EY, KS1 & KS2 More able disadvantaged pupils in all areas of school make good progress in line with prior attainment Disadvantaged children receive targeted intervention to accelerate progress. Attendance of disadvantaged pupils at enriched schooling is high Teachers and leaders are aware of the attainment, progress and well timed intervention ensures pupils remain on track
Disadvantaged children develop high levels of engagement in learning and develop a thirst for knowledge of the world around them	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disadvantaged pupils have access to a wide, rich range of enriched opportunities and experiences aimed at developing their talents and interests Take-up by disadvantaged pupils of the extra-curricular opportunities provided by the school are at least in line with their non-disadvantaged peers Subsidised places mean that all disadvantaged pupils access school trips and enrichment opportunities planned as part of the curriculum offer Disadvantaged pupils' have fresh opportunities beyond their local environment and appreciate the world beyond. Disadvantaged children are exposed to a wide range of social, cultural, enrichment and sporting experiences within (and outside) the school day
Disadvantaged children are supported and nurtured at home by parents who understand and are	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents are provided with information about supporting their child's learning at home, including information about the school's method of teaching reading and how to help their children learn to read All disadvantaged pupils engage with remote learning

confident in addressing their child's needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents know what their child is learning and how to help them improve Parents feel involved in, and actively contribute to, the life of the school Parents are better equipped to support their children's emotional needs and help them to regulate at home The school is the first port of call for families in crisis and engage with the school and support quickly provides a range of support from the school and external agencies
Disadvantaged children demonstrate positive well-being and know how to seek support when required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disadvantaged pupils consistently have highly positive attitudes and commitment to their education More able disadvantaged pupils demonstrate a growth mind set and resilience when approaching cognitively challenging activities Disadvantaged pupils consistently report high levels of wellbeing in school Monitoring shows that disadvantaged pupils are highly motivated and persistent in the face of difficulties Disadvantaged pupils make a highly positive, tangible contribution to the life of the school and the wider community Disadvantaged pupils actively support the wellbeing of other pupils Disadvantaged pupils access MHST support and receive priority via the triage process Highly trained pastoral staff, and online reporting mechanisms mean disadvantaged pupils seek help at an early stage

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: £ 48,326

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge
Work with the English Hub to evaluate phonics teaching, identify a new SSP and a plan to improve effectiveness of delivery through CPD and highly effective intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research for the OFSTED Framework highlights the point that if pupils cannot read, they will not be able to access the curriculum, and will be disadvantaged for life. Education Endowment Foundation – Phonics + 4 months Phonics approaches have been consistently found to be effective in supporting younger readers to master the basics of reading, with an average impact of an additional four months' progress. 	A,B,C
Continue to employ Speech and Language Therapist support for disadvantaged pupils who work alongside EKLAN trained school staff and other language-based interventions to improve language development, communication and oracy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Endowment Foundation Oral Language Interventions - + 5/6 months All pupils appear to benefit from oral language interventions, but some studies show slightly larger effects for younger children and pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds (up to six months' additional progress). 	A,C,D

<p>Review and further improve approaches to language development including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPD relating to Explicit development of language and communication rich environments • Development of language rich learning environment • Short, focussed vocabulary intervention 	<p>Education Endowment Foundation –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral language interventions +5 /6 months • Overall, studies of oral language interventions consistently show positive impact on learning, including on oral language skills and reading comprehension. On average, pupils who participate in oral language interventions make approximately five months' additional progress over the course of a year. 	A,B,C,D
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Targeted academic support (for example, tutoring, one-to-one support structured interventions)

Budgeted cost: £ 156,417

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge
<p>To establish structured small group interventions, to support pupils who have fallen behind furthest to make accelerated progress towards their individual targets</p>	<p>Education Endowment Foundation – Small group tuition– +3months</p> <p><i>Taken from the EEF summary of recommendations (Improving Literacy in Key Stage 1).</i></p> <p><i>'Use one-to-one and small-group tutoring ideally involving structured interventions. There is consistent evidence the approach supports children struggling with aspects of literacy.'</i></p>	A,B,C,D,K
<p>Targeted small group phonics intervention in KS1 and in Year 3</p>	<p>Education Endowment Foundation – Small group tuition– +3months</p> <p><i>Taken from the EEF summary of recommendations (Improving Literacy in Key Stage 1).</i></p> <p><i>'Use one-to-one and small-group tutoring ideally involving structured interventions. There is consistent evidence the approach supports children struggling with aspects of literacy.'</i></p>	B
<p>1 to 1 reading for our vulnerable/disadvantaged pupils to take place for 30 minutes daily with skilled adults</p>	<p>Education Endowment Foundation –One to one tuition. – +5months</p> <p><i>One to one tuition involves a teacher, teaching assistant or other adult giving a pupil intensive individual support.</i></p>	B,C
<p>Deploy Learning Mentor to deliver precision teaching for phonics and high frequency words to KS2 target group (disadvantaged).</p>	<p>Education Endowment Foundation –One to one tuition. – +5months</p> <p><i>One to one tuition involves a teacher, teaching assistant or other adult giving a pupil intensive individual support.</i></p>	A,B,C,D,K
<p>Provide designated, highly qualified and skilled KS2 teachers (including highly skilled, Deputy Head Teacher) to teach English and Maths daily to identified vulnerable groups (mainly PP pupils) in, Year 6.</p>	<p>Education Endowment Foundation – Small group tuition– +3months</p> <p><i>Taken from the EEF summary of recommendations (Improving Literacy in Key Stage 1).</i></p>	A,B,C,D,K

	<p>'Use one-to-one and small-group tutoring ideally involving structured interventions. There is consistent evidence the approach supports children struggling with aspects of literacy.'</p>	
Provide additional high quality intervention for R,W and M from highly trained learning mentors and teachers throughout Years 2 to 5	<p>Education Endowment Foundation – Small group tuition– +3months</p> <p><i>Taken from the EEF summary of recommendations (Improving Literacy in Key Stage 1).</i></p> <p>'Use one-to-one and small-group tutoring ideally involving structured interventions. There is consistent evidence the approach supports children struggling with aspects of literacy.'</p>	A,B,C,D,K
Provide additional intervention from EKLAN trained nursery nurse throughout the school to support pupils with speech and language deficits	<p>Education Endowment Foundation +5months</p> <p><i>Needs, provision, and intervention for preschool children from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds.</i></p> <p><i>Oral Language Interventions of this nature have been identified to have potential gains in progress of +5months by the EEF.</i></p>	A,B

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

Budgeted cost: £ 72,017

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge
Employment of a social worker, an attendance office and development of the parental involvement team	<p>The Department for Education (DfE) published research in 2016 which found that:</p> <p>The higher the overall absence rate across Key Stage (KS) 2 and KS4, the lower the likely level of attainment at the end of KS2 and KS4</p> <p><i>Pupils with no absence are 1.3 times more likely to achieve level 4 or above, and 3.1 times more likely to achieve level 5 or above, than pupils that missed 10-15% of all sessions</i></p>	E,G,J
Parental workshops run to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote attendance • support parents with W,R,M skills to enable greater home support • provide mental health drop in sessions • support for e-safety 	<p>Education Endowment Foundation – Parental Engagement - +3months</p> <p><i>Two recent meta-analyses from the USA suggested that increasing parental engagement in primary and secondary schools had on average two to three months' positive impact.</i></p> <p><i>There is some evidence that supporting parents with their first child will have benefits for siblings.</i></p>	E,G,H,J
Training and deployment of Mental Health Lead, Mental Health First Aiders and Mental Health Champions alongside the further deployment of MHST teams into primary	'On average, Social and Emotional Learning interventions have an identifiable and significant impact on attitudes to learning, social relationships in school, and attainment itself.'	F,C,G

	(Teaching and Learning toolkit)	
Provide a free breakfast club place for deprived pupils providing a breakfast, nurturing and activities to provide a positive start to the day	There is significant research into the importance of a healthy breakfast in relation to cognitive development. We need to ensure all of our children start the day with a good breakfast to ensure maximum development.	E,F,G
Provide uniform, resources, winter clothing, shoes and PE kit for deprived pupils in need	EEF Teacher Toolkit reports that whilst wearing a uniform is not, on its own, likely to improve learning, it can be successfully incorporated into a broader school improvement process which includes the development of a school ethos and the improvement of behaviour and discipline. It is also recognised that lack of uniform can be a barrier to attendance	E,F,GI
Provide increased opportunities for PP pupils' experiential learning by subsidising educational trips, visits and residential. Part time allocation of an outdoor education coach to plan activities such as biking, cycling safety, orienteering, climbing and archery	Studies funded by the Nuffield Foundation, found taking part in activities after the formal school day can play a role in closing the attainment gap between children from economically disadvantaged backgrounds and those with more family resources. Research suggests after-school clubs and sports can improve the academic performance and social skills of disadvantaged primary school pupils.	E,H,K

Part B: Review of outcomes in the previous academic year

Pupil premium strategy outcomes

This details the impact that our pupil premium activity had on pupils in the 2024 to 2025 academic year.

Intended Outcome	Success Criteria	Outcomes 2025
Disadvantaged children develop high levels of literacy, language and communication skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupil language and communication deficits are identified on entry and at regular interval and enriched learning and intervention is identified for pupils requiring support PP pupils show improved levels of oracy, increased confidence in communication and use of wider breadth of vocabulary Pupils' reading, phonics and writing fluency improves with outcomes in line with non-PP nationally including greater depth. Learning environments are rich in language, planning identifies the vocabulary focus and the progression in vocabulary 	<p>All children are screened in EY and pupils with C&L delay are referred for speech therapy.</p> <p>Children with S&L delay affecting phonics acquisition receive additional support by EKLAN trained staff</p> <p>Phonics Outcomes Follow the move to Little Wandle SSP in January 2025, phonics outcomes have improved by 8% PP pupils 74% of PP pupils reached the standard which is an improvement of 16%. The 9 children not reaching the standard were all PP however 2 had just joined the school. Of the 12 children receiving intensive intervention, 5 reached the threshold however the all pupils improved their baseline score. These pupils will continue to receive intensive intervention for S&L and phonics in Year 2. See also 'Disadvantaged pupils attain at least in line with their non disadvantaged peers'</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> development is clear. All lessons, learning environments and PP pupils read daily at school and more regularly at home with increased skill and fluency (as evidenced by reading records, assessments) and develop a love of reading. 	
Disadvantaged pupils develop an attendance habit attending school on time and regularly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disadvantaged pupils' attendance is inline or better than non-disadvantaged children nationally Disadvantaged pupils and their parents understand the importance of good attendance and enjoy coming to school Attendance challenge and action plans are in place for all identified pupils with a focus on children becoming '5 day a weekers' Bespoke support is provided for disadvantaged families as required Disadvantaged pupils attend school promptly and increasingly attend Breakfast Club Uniform, lunch vouchers, clothing support and learning resources are provided for those in need 	<p>PP pupils have priority places for Breakfast Club which is subsidised.</p> <p>All PP pupils have school uniform and PE kit and are supported with warm clothing where necessary during winter months.</p> <p>All children from families identified to work with SHS are PP.</p> <p>5 primary PP children were identified for targeted support and intervention due to either being PA or at risk of becoming PA. They were allocated a key person who liaised with parents and worked with families to support in improving attendance.</p> <p>At the start of the academic year the average baseline attendance for the group was 79.3% (taken from the previous end of year) and the average end of year was 87.6%. This is an average improvement of 8.3% which is equivalent to 16 school days.</p> <p>The attendance for PP children has continued to increase however they remain 5.4% below non PP children due to their increasing attendance.</p>
Disadvantaged pupils attain at least in line with their non disadvantaged peers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The curriculum is ambitious for disadvantaged pupils In all years disadvantaged children attain at least in line with their non-disadvantaged peers in R,W,M Disadvantaged pupils consistently achieve highly in EY, KS1 & KS2 More able disadvantaged pupils in all areas of school make good progress in line with prior attainment Disadvantaged children receive targeted intervention to accelerate progress. Attendance of disadvantaged pupils at enriched schooling is high Teachers and leaders are aware of the attainment, progress and well timed intervention ensures pupils remain on track 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KS1 reading: intensive support for pupils lacking fluency in Y1 means gap now 3%. Gap in writing is now 8%, an improvement from 2024. Y4MTC: PP pupils performance improved by just 12% in 2025, and is now above both the of non PP pupils and the NA. KS2: 70% of cohort are PP In KS2 reading, outcomes for PP pupils improved 13% at ARE and 12% at GDS. Fall of 8% in writing ARE, and an increase of 4% at GDS, The fall at ARE is likely to have been impacted by mobility. A 3% fall YOY at ARE in Maths with a 12% improvement YOY at GDS 13% fall YOY in GPAS ARE with an improvement of 10% YOY at ARE at GDS
Disadvantaged children develop high levels of engagement in learning and develop a thirst for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disadvantaged pupils have access to a wide, rich range of enriched opportunities and experiences aimed at developing their talents and interests 	<p>The curriculum in all year groups is enriched with both in school experiences and external visits including a Y6 residential.</p>

<p>knowledge of the world around them</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take-up by disadvantaged pupils of the extra-curricular opportunities provided by the school are at least in line with their non-disadvantaged peers • Subsidised places mean that all disadvantaged pupils access school trips and enrichment opportunities planned as part of the curriculum offer • Disadvantaged pupils' have fresh opportunities beyond their local environment and appreciate the world beyond. • Disadvantaged children are exposed to a wide range of social, cultural, enrichment and sporting experiences within (and outside) the school day 	<p>All trips are subsidised for pupils and school staff liaise with parents to encourage attendance and remove barriers to enrichment.</p> <p>Attendance at after school clubs is prioritised for PP children and those from low income families.</p> <p>A range of outdoor learning activities take place in all year groups using specialist coaches who support pupils to problem solve and succeed. This includes sports days, competitions and OAA.</p>
<p>Disadvantaged children are supported and nurtured at home by parents who understand and are confident in addressing their child's needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents are provided with information about supporting their child's learning at home, including information about the school's method of teaching reading and how to help their children learn to read • Parents know what their child is learning and how to help them improve • Parents feel involved in, and actively contribute to, the life of the school • Parents are better equipped to support their children's emotional needs and help them to regulate at home • The school is the first port of call for families in crisis and engage with the school and support quickly provides a range of support from the school and external agencies 	<p>Inclusion and pastoral staff support parents with the following:</p> <p>I -2 – I bespoke support from the school based social worker and parental support officer</p> <p>In school opportunities to develop parental confidence to support their children at home with a range of activity including reading, maths, outdoor activity and wider home learning.</p> <p>Attendance at parents evening is good and teachers follow up with parents who are unable to attend and offer additional information.</p>