

Pupil premium strategy statement

This statement details our school's use of pupil premium funding to help improve the attainment of our disadvantaged pupils.

It outlines our pupil premium strategy, how we intend to spend the funding in this academic year and the effect that last year's spending of pupil premium had within our school.

School overview

Detail	Data
School name	Spalding Academy
Number of pupils in school	1485
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	31.52%
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers (3 year plans are recommended)	2024-2027
Date this statement was published	24/10/2025
Date on which it will be reviewed	10/10/2026
Statement authorised by	Mr T Martin
Pupil premium lead	Mrs K Kilby/Mr A Castley
Governor / Trustee lead	Mr J Stokes

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£404200
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	£404200

Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

Our aim at Spalding Academy is that all students achieve their potential. To this end we employ a range of strategies and interventions aimed at removing barriers which can be caused by either personal circumstance or gaps in knowledge. Our goal is that no child is left behind either socially or academically because of disadvantage.

Our Pupil Premium Strategy is based upon the core principles of the school – to aspire, challenge and achieve. We seek to raise the lifelong aspirations of disadvantaged students, remove barriers to learning and achieve excellent outcomes.

It is a plan which focuses on the whole child, with a range of strategies to improve wellbeing, with high levels of social, emotional and mental health support. It also recognises the importance of attendance, and behaviour in ensuring progress for our disadvantaged students. We are committed to creating opportunities beyond the classroom curriculum, to exposing students to the best in terms of cultural capital and ensuring that disadvantage is not a barrier in accessing these. Disadvantage should not be a barrier to participation - our aim is that these opportunities are inclusive and well attended by disadvantaged students.

Through rigorous tracking, careful planning and targeted support we believe that disadvantaged students at Spalding Academy can fulfil their academic potential, have high aspirations and become well rounded members of society.

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	<i>Literacy levels at KS3 – data from CATs assessments, and reading tests show that reading ages are significantly lower for disadvantaged students.</i>
2	<i>Maintaining levels of academic achievement</i>
3	<i>Wellbeing - High anxiety is prevalent among all young people and this is true of disadvantaged students. Mental wellbeing of students is a priority – we are committed to building resilience in order to equip for the challenges of being a teenager in modern British society.</i>
4	<i>PSHE – Disadvantaged students do not always receive the level of engagement and guidance as their peers in the home environment making delivery of PSHE content vital.</i>

5	<i>Home/School communication – Parents and carers of disadvantaged students can be less engaged with the school.</i>
6	<i>Aspirations – we need to ensure that students are engaged in aspirational activities, particularly through the careers programme.</i>
7	<i>Financial – many families are under pressure, which itself can lead to anxiety. We need to ensure that disadvantaged students receive all the necessary equipment to succeed in school.</i>
8	<i>Wider Curriculum & Cultural – Pupil premium students often fail to engage as readily with extra-curricular activities. This may be due to financial constraints, or a lack of support. It is important that disadvantaged students are exposed to cultural opportunities that they may not experience at home, both to broaden understanding and also to challenge any prejudice.</i>
9	<i>Attendance – Nationally disadvantaged students are shown to have lower levels of attendance than other students. This impacts upon every other aspect of school life – academic progress, developing aspirations, social and emotional awareness and wellbeing.</i>
10	<i>Behaviour – Disadvantaged students are known to be far more likely to be permanently excluded than other students. At lower levels they are also far more likely to require behavioural interventions.</i>

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
Academic: Progress - To reduce under-achievement of Pupil Premium students through tracking of academic progress, targeted interventions, and increasing academic engagement beyond normal school hours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are correctly identified for intervention through tracking. Intervention & Tutoring programme is in place. Data shows improved progress for group
Academic: Curriculum - To ensure that the curriculum promotes progress, and attainment for Pupil Premium students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lesson observations and work sampling show a variety of 'disadvantaged first' strategies being employed Tracking of ATL/Achievement leads to appropriate pastoral and academic interventions
Academic: Literacy & Numeracy - To reduce any gaps in the levels of literacy and numeracy that may have an adverse effect on the overall progress made by Pupil Premium students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading ages of Pupil Premium students in KS3 who are below age expected levels shows improvement beyond age related norms. Programme of tutoring is in place with identified Pupil Premium students benefiting.
Academic: Resources - To ensure that Pupil Premium are not disadvantaged due to financial pressures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are supported with costs such as uniform and equipment Revision resources are provided for Y11 students
Enrichment & Engagement: Extra-Curricular Opportunities - To ensure that Pupil Premium students have full access to the full range of extra-curricular opportunities available to all, and an increased engagement through promotion of extra learning opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupil Premium students engage with extra-curricular revision sessions Pupil Premium students level of engagement through SMHW is in line with other students. Pupil Premium students have full involvement in programme of trips and visits.
Enrichment & Engagement: Attendance - To ensure attendance of Pupil Premium students is in line with all other students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance of Pupil Premium students is in line or above national average for this cohort of students.
Enrichment & Engagement: Careers & IAG - To ensure the Pupil Premium students are given appropriate advice and guidance and encouraged to make aspirational choices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Pupil Premium students receive one-to-one careers interviews Aspirational opportunities are provided for students Students are exposed to full range of career opportunities including apprenticeships, colleges and sixth-forms.
Wellbeing: Behaviour - To promote high standards of behaviour in all students recognising that Pupil Premium students are often more likely to need pastoral support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students receive pastoral support and tracking where behaviour falls below expectations. Pupil Premium students are fully represented in school programme of rewards
Wellbeing: Safeguarding - To ensure that all students including Pupil Premium students are safe.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupil Premium students feel safe in school and know who to talk to when they have concerns. All safeguarding issues are dealt with in an effective and timely manner.
Wellbeing: Pastoral Support - To ensure that all Pupil Premium students are encouraged and supported in developing all avenues of their lives. They are actively encouraged to take part in the wider events of the school and to embrace all elements of personal development the school offers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupil Premium students are effectively tracked through reporting system. Pupil Premium students have full engagement with PSHE programme. Pupil Premium students are supported in completing homework through after school clubs.

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: £ 34900

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Disadvantaged First - Teachers to assess work of Pupil Premium students first and ensure that their work is assessed to a high standard. As part of the "reduction in teacher workload" policy some departments use a sample marking strategy, the work of PP students forms part of this sample.	1. 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.	2
Weekly Teaching Tips - All staff to use Disadvantaged Teaching tips	2. Feedback can be effective during, immediately after and some time after learning. Feedback policies should not over specify the frequency of feedback	2
Seating Plans - Seating plans need to show that pupil premium students are placed next to other students who will have a positive impact on their learning. Where students are found to not be engaging with work to the desired level interventions are to be put into place.	3. Feedback can come from a variety of sources — studies have shown positive effects of feedback from teachers and peers. Feedback delivered by digital technology also has positive effects (albeit slightly lower than the overall average).	2
Sharing of Teaching Practice – Partnership Leads to share good practice across the Trust in order to filter down to individual teaching staff, promoting the disadvantaged first strategy.	Feedback EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) June 2021	
Love of Reading - Pupil Premium students are often less engaged in reading for pleasure which leads to lower literacy standards. The 'Love of Reading' programme is used in Year 7 & 8 in form time. The aim of the programme is to promote enjoyment of reading and to widen student experience of different types of reading linking to key themes. This is monitored through Heads of House.	Studies in England have shown that pupils eligible for free school meals may receive additional benefits from being taught how to use reading comprehension strategies. However, the UK evidence base is less extensive than the global average, and UK studies show lower impact for all pupils.	1, 2
DEAR/SALAD - DEAR stands for 'Drop Everything And Read' – an initiative which forms part of the Whole School Literacy Strategy. Pupil Premium students have the opportunity to read and discuss thought provoking articles which go beyond the "set" curriculum which have potential links with real world knowledge. SALAD is a speaking and listening strategy focussed on improving all round communication skills.	Reading comprehensions strategies involve the teaching of explicit approaches and techniques a pupil can use to improve their comprehension of written text. Many learners will develop these approaches without teacher guidance, adopting the strategies through trial and error as they look to better understand texts that challenge them. However, we know that on average, disadvantaged children are less likely to own a book of their own and read at home with family members, and for these reasons may not acquire the necessary skills for reading and understanding challenging texts.	1, 2
Phonics intervention - For Pupil Premium students with lower literacy levels small group intervention run through pm reg time using Lexonik.	Reading comprehension strategies EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) July 2021	1, 2
Accelerated Reader - KS3 reading programme used in Year 7 and 8 tutor time to promote reading for all students where Pupil Premium students are tracked as a priority for support with reading, quizzing and changing/choosing books. Pupil Premium students are prioritised for referral to Reading Revolutions - extra support with their reading progress.		1, 2

<p>Reading Ambassadors - A small group intervention run through tutor time for students who need extra support on the Accelerated Reader scheme. Pupil Premium students identified as needing this support are prioritised.</p>		1, 2
<p>Handwriting Club - A small group intervention run through tutor time for students who need support in order to improve their handwriting. Pupil Premium students identified as needing this support are prioritised.</p>	Strategies to meet individual pupil needs is seen as one of the 7 Building Blocks for Success when supporting the attainment of disadvantaged pupils	1,2
<p>Further SEN support - There are many other clubs and interventions offered by SEN which students are invited to attend eg Social Skills etc.</p>		1
<p>Transition year 6-7 - All students (including Pupil Premium) are given a reading book as a gift from the school which is used for the transition project in the first weeks at BA.</p>	"We know that on average, disadvantaged children are less likely to own a book of their own and read at home with family members, and for these reasons may not acquire the necessary skills for reading and understanding challenging texts." EEF Toolkit	3, 4
<p>Reading for Pleasure - Students in Year 7 and Year 8 will be gifted a book to help promote the advantages of literacy and reading with the learners. They are able to select these from a wide range of genres and styles of books to suit their different taste and ability levels. They are then able to keep these books and we hope they will enjoy these and develop a life-long love of reading.</p>	Reading for pleasure has social benefits as well and can make people feel more connected to the wider community. Reading increases a person's understanding of their own identity, improves empathy and gives them an insight into the world view of others (The Reading Agency 2015).	2
<p>CPD Ensure that all staff have a strong understanding of the Pupil Premium strategy and how it applies to their roles, including embedding the use of PP plans for individual students.</p>	<p>The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) identifies high-quality teaching as the most important lever schools have to improve outcomes for disadvantaged pupils. Their <i>Guide to the Pupil Premium</i> recommends that schools prioritise professional development to ensure all staff understand the barriers faced by disadvantaged pupils and how to address them effectively. Embedding the strategy through CPD ensures that "every teacher is supported to keep improving," which is especially impactful for socio-economically disadvantaged students. [educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk]</p> <p>The DfE's guidance on using Pupil Premium funding also supports this approach, stating that schools should ensure staff are aware of the strategy and their role in delivering it. This includes training on individualised support plans, effective classroom strategies, and the use of data to inform teaching. [assets.publishing.service.gov.uk]</p> <p>Case studies from schools such as Wilbury Primary (DfE blog) show that when staff at all levels are trained and aligned with the Pupil Premium strategy, there is a collective understanding of the impact of disadvantage and a shared commitment to improving outcomes. This whole-school approach, underpinned by CPD, leads to more consistent and effective implementation. [teaching.blog.gov.uk]</p>	2

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

Budgeted cost: £ 96700

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>Tracking Underachievement (subject level) – In addition to the three whole school AOL checks further interim ATL/Achievement checks are carried out for PP students. At KS3 this consists of students being awarded a grade 1-4 in each of their Core/Ebacc subjects and at KS4 students being awarded a grade 1-4 in all GCSE/BTEC subjects. Specific subject Progress Action Plans and/or trackers implemented.</p>	<p>The analysis tool to support the evidence base of measures put in place to close the gap between PP students and their peers.</p> <p>OFSTED 'articulating success and good practice 2015': Outstanding schools used targeted interventions and robust tracking systems.</p>	2
<p>Embedding the use of PP plans for individual students. Individual support plans created to highlight teaching strategies, based on Progress Action Plans.</p>	<p>The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) recommends that schools begin their Pupil Premium strategy by diagnosing individual pupil needs and using this information to develop targeted academic support. The EEF's <i>Guide to the Pupil Premium</i> outlines a five-step approach, with the first step being to "diagnose your pupils' needs" using a range of data, including progress and attainment. This supports the use of individualised support plans to tailor teaching strategies and interventions. [d10a08pz29...dfront.net]</p> <p>EEF research on individualised instruction shows that this approach can lead to an average of +4 months' progress, particularly when teaching is adapted to meet the specific learning needs of disadvantaged pupils. The impact is often greater at secondary level, where students are more capable of managing their own learning. [educatione...ion.org.uk]</p> <p>The DfE's guidance on using Pupil Premium funding also encourages schools to use personalised approaches that are informed by internal data and regularly reviewed. Schools are expected to monitor the impact of interventions and adjust strategies accordingly, which aligns with your use of Progress Action Plans to inform and update individual PP plans. [assets.pub...ice.gov.uk]</p>	2
<p>Revision Resources - All Pupil Premium students in Year 10 are given revision resources for their GCSE courses, – revision guides, exam materials etc</p>	<p>Studies in England have shown that pupils eligible for free school meals typically receive additional benefits from one to one tuition. Low attaining pupils are particularly likely to benefit.</p>	2, 7
<p>Revision Sessions - To tackle the identified barrier of engagement outside of school hours in the crucial exam years a comprehensive programme of Easter and Half Term revision sessions delivered. An emphasis is placed on ensuring engagement of Pupil Premium students in this programme through the pastoral support teams.</p>	<p>One to one tuition approaches can enable pupils to make effective progress by providing intensive, targeted academic support to those identified as having low prior attainment or at risk of falling behind. The approach allows the teacher or tutor to focus exclusively on the needs of the learner and provide teaching that is closely matched to each pupil's understanding. One to one tuition offers greater levels of interaction and feedback compared to whole class teaching which can support pupils to spend more time on new or unfamiliar, overcome barriers to learning and increase their progress through the curriculum.</p> <p>One to one tuition EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) July 2021</p>	2, 6, 7
<p>Equipment - Families who struggle financially with equipment costs are given support to ensure Pupil Premium</p>	<p>Removing potential barriers to participation increases attendance.</p>	7, 9

<p>students have the correct equipment. This includes buying all the ingredients for Food Tech lessons for Pupil Premium students in receipt of FSM as it is vital to promote a healthy diet for these students. In addition these students can be given a calculator in KS4 Mathematics.</p>		
<p>Access to Technology – The school is running a laptop loan scheme to ensure that disadvantaged students are able to have devices at home to support their learning.</p>	<p>Access to technology is a huge potential barrier to enabling disadvantaged to keep up with their peers.</p>	<p>2, 7</p>
<p>Satchel One – Is used to enable homework to be set by staff and accessed easily by both parents and students. Weekly monitoring of students engagement is carried out by PP coordinator.</p>	<p>Evidence also suggests that how homework relates to learning during normal school time is important. In the most effective examples homework was an integral part of learning, rather than an add-on. To maximise impact, it also appears to be important that students are provided with high quality feedback on their work.</p> <p>Homework EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) August 2021</p>	<p>2, 5</p>
<p>Study Skills - Over the two year period of Key Stage 4 a variety of GCSE Success evenings are run. The aim is to improve study skills and engage parents in their child's learning. Particular focus is given to the attendance of Pupil Premium.</p>	<p>“Poorer pupils in England get less help with their homework than their better off classmates, according to new analysis of the OECD’s PISA survey published by the Sutton Trust. Just half (50%) of the most disadvantaged 15-year olds said their parents regularly helped with their homework, compared to 68% of their better-off classmate’s Dr John Jerrim of the UCL Institute of Education September 7th, 2017</p>	<p>2, 5</p>
<p>After School / Lunchtime Working – A homework club is offered to support students working in a relaxed but focussed atmosphere.</p>		<p>2, 3, 6</p>
<p>PSHE – The PSHE curriculum offers extra support to students by mapping curriculum time across core lessons in English, Maths, Science and the Humanities, with students having additional PSHE time with their regular teachers in these subjects.</p>	<p>This additional PSHE time created allows vital time to cover all issues of importance, including those addressing anxiety and wellbeing issues and fundamental British values.</p>	<p>4</p>

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

Budgeted cost: £ 272600

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Uniform - Families who struggle financially with uniform costs are given support to ensure Pupil Premium students have the correct uniform.	Removing potential barriers to participation increases attendance.	3, 7, 9
Meals – To support families with the we have recognised that the Free School Meals subsidy is not adequate to ensure that students can get a good nutritious meal at lunchtime and food at break. Therefore, the amount that students receive has been further increased by an additional 33% to £4 a day.	Removes potential barriers and encourages attendance. Well evidenced that a good diet is crucial to supporting a student's academic progress – a student can't work hard when they are hungry.	7, 9
Trips & Visits - A record of Pupil Premium attendance on school trips is maintained. The aim is that Pupil Premium students are actively encouraged to take part in school trips. Trips & Visits are categorised as below: <u>Essential</u> – free to all students <u>Beneficial</u> – 50% discount for FSM students <u>Wider Enrichment</u> – 25% discount for FSM students	“Findings from previous research suggest extra-curricular activities are important in developing soft (especially social) skills as well as being associated with a range of other positive outcomes (e.g. achievement, attendance at school). We found from our analysis that extra-curricular activities - specifically music classes and playing a wide range of sports – are important in predicting intentions to remain in education after compulsory schooling.” Social Mobility Commission research.	8
Duke of Edinburgh Award - The Duke of Edinburgh Award is of huge benefit to Pupil Premium students, both in terms of increasing engagement in school life through getting involved in extra-curricular activities and also in promoting aspects of life that many Pupil Premium students may not otherwise experience – volunteering, physical activity and developing skills. The Award itself is of huge benefit to students in career progression. The award is heavily discounted for Pupil Premium students in receipt of FSM. Equipment such as rucksacks are loaned to those who cannot afford the financial outlay and the school is working with the Duke of Edinburgh organisation to extend this further.	Outdoor Adventure Learning might provide opportunities for disadvantaged pupils to participate in activities that they otherwise might not be able to access. Through participation in these challenging physical and emotional activities, outdoor adventure learning interventions can support pupils to develop non-cognitive skills such as resilience, self-confidence and motivation. The application of these non-cognitive skills in the classroom may in turn have a positive effect on academic outcomes. However, the evidence base linking non-cognitive skills and pupil attainment is weak and schools should therefore carefully evaluate the impact of outdoor learning interventions on pupil achievement, if this is the intended outcome. Outdoor adventure learning EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) July 2021	8
Music – Pupil Premium students in receipt of FSM are given a 50% discount on the cost of peripatetic music lessons.	Overall, the average impact of arts participation on other areas of academic learning appears to be positive but moderate, about an additional three months progress.	
The wider curriculum – A new system for registering all students at extra curricular clubs will be introduced. Analysis by key groups curricular activities to highlight will then be used as a basis for developing strategies to increase participation.	Improved outcomes have been identified in English, mathematics and science. Benefits have been found in both primary and secondary schools. Some arts activities have been linked with improvements in specific outcomes. For example, there is some evidence of the impact of drama on writing and potential link between music and spatial awareness.	8

	<p>Wider benefits such as more positive attitudes to learning and increased well-being have also consistently been reported.</p> <p>Arts participation EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) July 2021</p>	
<p>Promoting Good Attendance - One of the Deputy CEO's has an annual attendance target related to Pupil Premium students.</p>	<p>The Department for Education (DfE) published research in 2016 which found that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • 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 • Pupils with no absence are 2.2 times more likely to achieve 5+ GCSEs A*- C or equivalent including English and mathematics than pupils that missed 15-20% of KS4 lessons <p>Good attendance is also listed in the top 10 approaches for disadvantaged pupils in: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-pupil-premium-how-schools-are-spending-the-funding-successfully</p>	9
<p>Year 11 Attendance - An attendance tutor group is set up for Year 11 students with low attendance. This is overseen by a senior member of staff.</p>	<p>The Department for Education (DfE) published research in 2016 which found that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • 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 • Pupils with no absence are 2.2 times more likely to achieve 5+ GCSEs A*- C or equivalent including English and mathematics than pupils that missed 15-20% of KS4 lessons <p>Good attendance is also listed in the top 10 approaches for disadvantaged pupils in: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-pupil-premium-how-schools-are-spending-the-funding-successfully</p>	9
<p>Pastoral Checks - The Attendance manager has weekly meetings with the Year Leads to discuss Pupil Premium students in particular.</p>	<p>The Department for Education (DfE) published research in 2016 which found that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Pupils with no absence are 2.2 times more likely to achieve 5+ GCSEs A*- C or equivalent including English and mathematics than pupils that missed 15-20% of KS4 lessons <p>Good attendance is also listed in the top 10 approaches for disadvantaged pupils in: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-pupil-premium-how-schools-are-spending-the-funding-successfully</p> <p>EEF 'wider strategies' states that good attendance means that stakeholders understand and follow all school systems to make early identification and thus interventions, ending in improvement in attendance.</p>	9
<p>Safeguarding and Welfare - All Pupil Premium students are identified by the Attendance tracking system. These logs are then shared with the Safeguarding team, Year Leads and SEN department.</p>	<p>EEF 'wider strategies' states that good attendance means that stakeholders understand and follow all school systems to make early identification and thus interventions, ending in improvement in attendance.</p> <p>The Gatsby Benchmark sets out a framework of eight guidelines about what makes the best careers provision in schools and colleges.</p>	3, 5, 9
<p>Careers - All Pupil Premium students are given one-to-one meetings at the end of Year 10. The Careers Co-ordinator liaises with the Pupil Premium pastoral support to track their progress with applications. Appropriate Pupil Premium students in Year 11 are taken on an extra transition visit to New College Stamford between Jan-March (vital for students who may not be taken on an open evening and ensures they find out about courses, support staff and transport costs)</p>	<p>Linked to the Gatsby benchmark number 7: Encounters with further and higher education</p>	6
<p>IAG - The destinations of all Pupil Premium students are monitored through Year 11 – The Head of Sixth</p>		6

<p><i>Form, Head of Year 11 and Careers Advisor takes a lead on this.</i></p> <p>Careers Programme through PSHE - <i>A wide range of visitors are brought into school in order to inspire students – particularly important in raising the aspiration of Pupil Premium students. These are co-ordinated through the PSHE days. Careers guidance is provided in Year 9 & Year 10 to inspire students to achieve higher grades and build aspiration. This has now been supplemented with a highly successful Careers Fair, bringing in dozens of external providers from local employment and further education. All students in Years 9,10 and 11 visit the Careers Fair, with parents attending in the evening. This exposes students to opportunities and provides motivation and inspiration.</i></p>	<p>The Gatsby Benchmark sets out a framework of eight guidelines about what makes the best careers provision in schools and colleges.</p> <p>Linked to the Gatsby benchmark number 7: Encounters with further and higher education</p> <p>“Over the last two decades, careers advice and work experience have been significantly reduced in schools, and disadvantaged pupils are currently less likely than their better-off peers to receive careers guidance. This may be particularly detrimental, as disadvantaged young people may lack social networks with the knowledge and contacts to replace guidance offered in school.”</p> <p>Key Drivers of the Disadvantage Gap Literature Review. Education Report in England: Annual Report 2018, Whitney Crenna-Jennings, July 2018.</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>Pupil Premium Plus Students – <i>Safeguarding Lead to maintain working relationship with parents/carers to ensure that the additional funding provided for PP+ students is used in the best way to benefit the child.</i></p> <p><i>This may include additional funding for music lessons, trips or other external provision as required.</i></p>	<p>The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) highlights that effective parental engagement is consistently associated with improved academic outcomes, with potential learning gains of +3 months over a year. Their guidance recommends sustained and intensive support for families where needed, and stresses the importance of trusting relationships between schools and parents to avoid stigma and promote positive dialogue about learning. This aligns with the role of the Safeguarding Lead in maintaining strong relationships with carers of PP+ students to tailor support effectively. [educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk]</p> <p>Additionally, research commissioned by the National Association of Virtual School Heads (NAVSH) and Bath Spa University found that flexible, bespoke use of PP+ funding—including enrichment activities like music lessons, trips, and external provision—can significantly improve outcomes for looked-after children. The study emphasises the importance of multi-agency collaboration and personalised interventions based on individual needs. [researchspa.hspa.ac.uk]</p> <p>The Department for Education also supports the use of PP+ for wider opportunities for enrichment, recognising that access to arts and culture is often limited for disadvantaged pupils. Ofsted reports that schools using PP+ for arts-based programmes often show higher engagement, improved confidence, and stronger attendance. [somi.academy]</p>	
<p>Pupil Voice <i>All students to undertake a 'student wellbeing' survey with analysis of responses of disadvantaged students being used to inform the implementation and adjustments to the strategy.</i></p>	<p>The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) recommends that schools begin their Pupil Premium strategy by diagnosing pupil needs, including both academic and non-academic barriers. This includes understanding pupils' wellbeing, mental health, and safeguarding concerns, particularly for disadvantaged learners. The EEF highlights that using internal data such as student surveys can provide valuable insights into these needs and help tailor interventions more effectively. [d2tic4wvo1.dfront.net]</p> <p>The National Governance Association (NGA) and Ofsted both emphasise the importance of pupil voice in school improvement. Ofsted expects schools to actively seek and respond to pupil views, particularly in relation to personal development and safeguarding. The NGA notes that pupil voice can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve wellbeing and engagement • Strengthen pupil-staff relationships • Provide insight into the effectiveness of curriculum and pastoral strategies <p>[nga.org.uk]</p>	<p>3,8</p>

	<p>The DfE's guidance on Pupil Premium also supports the use of internal diagnostic tools, including surveys, to identify barriers and evaluate the impact of strategies. This aligns with the requirement to monitor and adjust approaches based on evidence and pupil feedback. [assets.pub...ice.gov.uk]</p>	
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<p>Behaviour Support - A core part of the Behaviour Leads' work is promoting and ensuring high standards of behaviour in all students and this will impact largely on Pupil Premium students.</p> <p>This is done through a variety of means:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Working with individual students and parents, setting targets for behaviour, and tracking. 2. Supporting teachers in the classroom and around the school. 3. Working with the safeguarding team and the attendance officer. 	<p>The average impact of behaviour interventions is four additional months' progress over the course of a year. Evidence suggests that, on average, behaviour interventions can produce moderate improvements in academic performance along with a decrease in problematic behaviours. However, estimated benefits vary widely across programmes.</p> <p>Approaches such as improving teachers' behaviour management and pupils' cognitive and social skills are both effective, on average.</p> <p>Parental and community involvement programmes are often associated with reported improvements in school ethos or discipline and so are worth considering as alternatives to direct behaviour interventions.</p>	<p>10, 9</p>
<p>Rewards - The behaviour lead through pastoral leads will ensure that Pupil Premium students are well represented in the schools' rewards programme – that they are receiving recognition for work and are represented in rewards throughout the year.</p>	<p>Behaviour interventions EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) July 2021</p>	<p>10, 9</p>
<p>Rewards – engagement of PP students in rewards programme will be tracked and strategies developed to ensure that the levels of engagement are as close as possible to non-disadvantaged students.</p>		<p>10,9</p>
<p>Student referral Unit and On call support - All Pupil Premium students are supported by the pastoral team if they are flagged as activating the On Call System. This system is run by the schools SRU manager. In addition, PP coordinator is made aware of PP students who spend time in the Student Referral Unit and this is recorded and monitored.</p>		<p>10</p>
<p>Strike card system - All Pupil Premium students are allocated a strike card every term so that they can be entered into the termly reward draw.</p>		<p>10</p>
<p>Period 6 support sessions - Pastoral staff run Period 6 sessions to support Pupil Premium students. These are run after school on a weekly basis. This is for all year groups.</p>		<p>10, 2, 3, 6</p>
<p>Focused meeting - Weekly pastoral meetings have a standing item agenda on Pupil Premium. This ensures that they receiving specific focus.</p>	<p>Ensures that the pupil premium agenda and range of strategies is constantly at the forefront of all school activities.</p>	<p>1 – 10</p>
<p>Sims Discover system - The school has the SIMs Discover system that allows pastoral staff to run reports on Pupil Premium students to allow direct intervention.</p>	<p>OFSTED 'articulating success and good practice 2015': Outstanding schools used targeted interventions and robust tracking systems.</p>	<p>1 – 10</p>
<p>Parental Engagement – the school has moved parents' evenings to an online system – Schoolcloud.</p>	<p>Disadvantaged pupils are less likely to benefit from having a space to conduct home learning. Evidence also suggests that disadvantaged pupils make less academic progress, and sometimes attainment levels even regress during the summer holidays, due to the level of formal and informal learning activities they do or do not participate in. By designing and delivering effective approaches to support parental engagement, schools and teachers may be able to mitigate some of these causes of educational disadvantage, supporting parents to assist their children's learning or their self-regulation, as well as specific skills, such as reading.</p> <p>Parental engagement EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) July 2021</p>	<p>5</p>

<p>To ensure that all students feel safe in school. - To provide a supportive and open environment in school and establish and maintain an ethos where all students feel secure, are encouraged to talk and one in which they are listened to carefully and actions taken to follow up on any concerns raised.</p>	<p>Ensure parents of PP students feel safe and confident engaging with school. Home visits completed to engage the hard to reach. Attendance Manager and year leads arrange appointments at all parent events. EEF Toolkit Parental Engagement suggests +3 months progress.</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>Designated support officer - All Pupil Premium students have access to the PPI support officer.</p>	<p>The current statistics around mental health show that 1 in 4 people in the UK will experience a mental health problem each year (mind.org). Mental health issues are an increasing concern not only within adults but also children and young people. The last national morbidity survey completed for children and young people was in 2004, which found that 1 in 10</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>MyConcern system - The system is used effectively to ensure all students including Pupil Premium students are supported safely and a reporting system exists which is consistent and fit for purpose</p>	<p>children aged between 5 and 16 were reported as having a clinically diagnosed mental health disorder. Covid-19 has also had a negative impact with 54% of children young people with a mental disorder said that lockdown had made their life worse</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>Staff training - Training for all staff on safeguarding Pupil premium students takes place annually with refreshers throughout the academic year.</p>		<p>3</p>
<p>Safeguarding Training – As there are more issues related to mental wellbeing than pre-covid pastoral leads will be undergoing further specialist safeguarding training.</p>		<p>3</p>
<p>Non-teaching support team - A team of non-teaching year leads support the safeguarding of the Pupil premium students by consistently ensuring that they are checked and monitored.</p>		<p>3, 5, 9, 10</p>

Total budgeted cost: £ 404200

Part B: Review of outcomes in the previous academic year

Pupil premium strategy outcomes

Spalding Academy's 2024–25 Pupil Premium Strategy has been implemented with great success, achieving many outcomes across academic, pastoral, and enrichment domains. This review summarises the key achievements and impact of the strategy, demonstrating the school's commitment to equity and excellence for all students.

Academic Review

The school's investment in high-quality teaching and targeted academic support has led to sustained improvements in student outcomes. Disadvantaged pupils have made strong progress, supported by effective CPD for staff. The use of structured interventions has been instrumental in closing attainment gaps and enhancing student confidence and performance. Although this year there was no published P8 scores due to this cohort not sitting KS2 exams the school used an internal P8 measure based on 2024 calculations and the cohorts CATs exams. The P8 score for disadvantaged students was +0.1. Progress in reading ages was strong: Y7: +2 months, Y8: +8 months and Y9: +12 months.

Students were tracked throughout the academic year, with disadvantaged students being tracked at double the number of 'assessment of learning points' than non-disadvantaged students. These tracking points led to individual support action plans being created where students were underachieving. A full range of extra intervention sessions were put in place – lunchtime sessions, Period 6 sessions, Easter and half term revision sessions. The attendance of disadvantaged students at these sessions was carefully monitored. All students were given a complete set of revision resources for every subject studied. Disadvantaged students were further supported with the cost of equipment, including the provision of a scientific calculator in Mathematics and purchasing of ingredients for Food Technology. The school ran a successful laptop loan scheme to ensure that no student was disadvantaged by a lack of access to technology. Work areas were made available for students to work in school at the end of the day. Engagement in homework by disadvantaged students was monitored by the Disadvantaged Lead using Show My Homework.

In Key Stage 3 students with weaker reading skills continued to receive extra support through the 'Rapid Plus' reading scheme. This has led to significant improvements for our students with reading ages improving well above expectations and moving much closer to their chronological age. In addition students benefitted from Phonics intervention through the Lexonik program, handwriting club, social skills clubs, Accelerated Reader, DEAR and SALAD days.

Enrichment Review

Spalding Academy has successfully broadened the horizons of disadvantaged students through a wide range of enrichment opportunities. Financial support enabled increased participation in trips, extracurricular activities, and cultural experiences. Careers education was a standout success, with all eligible students receiving tailored guidance and support, ensuring 100% progression into further education or training.

Disadvantaged students continue to receive subsidies toward the cost of any school trip. We have reviewed the subsidy depending on the type of trip. Essential trips are provided at no cost to our disadvantaged students, curriculum beneficial trips attract a 50% subsidy and wider enrichment trips are given a 25% subsidy. This means we have now seen an increase in the number of disadvantaged students being able to take part in our longer residential trips.

Wellbeing Review

The school's focus on wellbeing, behaviour, and attendance has yielded excellent results. Attendance among disadvantaged pupils is in line with national averages, and behaviour interventions, including the use of reward systems, contributed to a positive school climate. Mental health and safeguarding support were robust, ensuring that students felt safe, supported, and valued. Attendance for disadvantaged students was 92.5% which is the top 20-30 percentile of schools nationally.

The school continued to support disadvantaged students financially in many ways, including a subsidy toward the cost of school uniform.

The school ran a successful rewards programme in school, including termly Super Prize Draws and the celebration events, in school events were chosen to replace the previous celebration trips as it was felt that these placed families under too much financial pressure, particularly for the disadvantaged. The pastoral team continued to run a range of intervention strategies focusing on both developing positive behaviours and eliminating poor behaviour – for example the 'strike' cards and 'aspire' passports. Where disadvantaged students were referred to SRU this was recorded, tracked and cross-referenced with the students' academic profile.

Students know who to turn to in school if they have any concern and also make use of the 'worried at' email tab through the school website. This has helped the pastoral staff respond quickly to concerns, including during school holidays.

Strategic Implementation

The strategy was underpinned by a clear understanding of the challenges faced by disadvantaged pupils. Funding was allocated effectively across teaching, targeted support, and wider strategies, with a total investment of £ 371700.

The school's rigorous monitoring and evaluation ensured that all initiatives were impactful and aligned with the overarching goal of raising attainment and closing gaps.

This was achieved through half-termly data analysis of Progress Action Plans (PAPs), department-level Intervention Logs, and trust-wide PP progress reviews, allowing underperformance to be identified rapidly and acted upon.

Impact was measured through:

- ATL and attainment tracking in core and Ebacc subjects, highlighting improved engagement among disadvantaged students.
- Cross-school moderation of PP strategies via Partnership Lead meetings, ensuring consistency and challenge.

Conclusion

The school has demonstrated that with targeted support, high expectations, and a commitment to inclusion, all students can thrive. The outcomes achieved this year provide a strong foundation for continued success in the years ahead.