

Pupil Premium Strategy

The City of Leicester College 2021-2025

This statement details our school's use of pupil premium (and recovery premium for the 2021 to 2022 academic year) funding to help improve the attainment of our disadvantaged students.

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

School overview

Detail	Data
School name	The City of Leicester College
Number of students in school	1632
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible students	21%
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers	2021-22 to 2024-25
Date this statement was published	9 th October 2023
Date on which it will be reviewed	September 2024
Statement authorised by	Ken Vernon, Headteacher
Pupil premium lead	Nimah Abdulla, Assistant Head Teacher
Governor / Trustee lead	Naresh Chauhan

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£338,445
Recovery premium funding allocation this academic year	£91,080 <i>TBC</i>
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	£429,525

Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

At The City of Leicester College our intention for all of our students is that they have a voice in their learning and make good progress, irrespective of their background. We want our students to be engaged in the ambitious learning they are offered and achieve highly across the curriculum, especially in maths and English.

The focus of our pupil premium strategy is to allow our disadvantaged students to achieve this aim, including students who have SEN and those who are already high attainers. We ensure that the pupil premium funding allows equity in education, which may include supporting other vulnerable students when needed.

Challenging and ambitious teaching is at the heart of our approach, with a focus on areas in which disadvantaged students require the most support or benefit more, such as effective feedback, metacognition and literacy. However, this will benefit all students and our intention is that non-disadvantaged students' outcomes will be sustained and improved alongside increased progress for our disadvantaged students.

Our intention is to link our pupil premium strategy to wider school recovery for all relevant students following the Covid pandemic, notably in the use of targeted support through the National Tutoring Programme, increased use of resources, both online and paper and curriculum re-structure.

Our approach is individualised, evidence-based and uses diagnostic assessment that allows us to respond to the particular challenge and context of our students. We make decisions on a learning-led, not label-led approach. Our strategic choices complement each other to help the pupil excel, both in terms of outcomes and their wider character. To ensure they are effective we will:

- Ensure students are given challenging work in an ambitious learning environment.
- Assess and act early to intervene when necessary.
- Support our students to have a voice and agency about their learning.
- Create a collective understanding amongst all staff to raise expectations of what disadvantaged students can achieve.

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	The maths attainment of our Pupil Premium students is significantly lower than our non-Pupil Premium students (a 20% difference at 4+ in the 2019 data) and needs universal and bespoke interventions. National studies have shown the attainment gap in maths has increased due to the Covid 19 pandemic.
2	Student voice, teacher voice, assessments and our specific Leicester context of high amounts of EAL learners show an essential emphasis on literacy. The lack of literacy skills and knowledge impacts on their attainment in all subjects.
3	Attendance data over the last three years has indicated that attendance among disadvantaged students has been between 9 and 2% lower than whole cohort figures.
4	Our wellbeing assessments, data analysis and student voice suggest that the educational motivation and focus on learning, especially for Pupil Premium students, has been hugely impacted by the partial school closures and close family bereavements or illness of the Covid 19 pandemic. In the last eighteen months, teacher referrals for mental health support for students and safeguarding concerns have increased. This has resulted in lack of confidence, low self-esteem, knowledge gaps and passivity in classrooms. Our students seem to have almost lost their voice in the learning environment and feel disengaged from it.
5	Our observations and self-review suggest a focus on challenge and ambition across the school, including links to aspirational careers and cultural capital, will benefit all students, but especially our Pupil Premium students. Our Pupil Premium students seem often less able to self-regulate their learning behaviour when challenged and a focus, including staff training, on self-regulation strategies and metacognition would help support this behaviour.

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
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<p>Improved attainment among disadvantaged students across the curriculum at the end of KS4, with a focus on English and maths.</p>	<p>Improved attainment at the 5+ and 4+ basic measure (from 2021-22 data of 5+ 50% and 4+ 72%) in 2022-23 of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4+ 53% • 5+ 74%
<p>Improving literacy in all subject areas and across all key stages in line with recommendations in the EEF <u>Improving Literacy in Secondary Schools</u> guidance. For the first year this will focus largely on recommendations: 1. <i>'Prioritise 'disciplinary literacy' across the curriculum;</i> 2. <i>Provide targeted vocabulary instruction in every subject</i> and 7. <i>Provide high quality interventions for struggling students</i> and then develop a targeted and strategic response to the other four areas over years 2 and 3.</p>	<p>Sustained rates of literacy from 2024/5, shown by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved outcomes at KS4 and KS5 across all subject areas. • Improved confidence in using tier 3 vocabulary in class and in written work. • Increased reading ages for targeted struggling readers in Y7. • Increased reading ages for all students in Y7. • Increased fluency in students' oral skills.
<p>To achieve and sustain improved attendance for all students, particularly our disadvantaged students.</p>	<p>Sustained high attendance, shown by data for 2022-23 of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The attendance rate for all students is 93%, and the attendance rate for Pupil Premium students is 90.3%.
<p>To achieve and sustain improved wellbeing for all students, including those who are disadvantaged.</p>	<p>Sustained high levels of wellbeing from 2024/25 demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student voice, student and parent surveys and teacher observations. • Significant increase in participation in enrichment activities, particularly among disadvantaged students.
<p>To achieve and sustain improved engagement in learning for all students, including those who are disadvantaged.</p>	<p>Sustained high levels of engagement from 2024/5 demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased performance data in October 2023 shows 57% of our disadvantaged students are active and ambitious learners compared to 51% in November 2022.

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

Budgeted cost: £180,000

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Purchase of standardised diagnostic assessments (both specifically reading and broader cognitive assessment) to support teaching and interventions.	Standardised tests can provide reliable insights into the specific strengths and weaknesses of each pupil to help ensure they receive the correct additional support through interventions or teacher instruction: Standardised tests Assessing and Monitoring Pupil Progress Education Endowment Foundation EEF	1, 2, 4
Developing metacognitive and self-regulation skills in all students. Whole school CPD in January 2022 introducing strategies for departments to develop student metacognition skills within their subject area and year teams. Ongoing teacher training and support. From August 2022, a teaching and learning strategy for metacognition shared, follow up Whole School CPD in January 2023. CPD pathway for metacognition accessible to all.	Teaching metacognitive strategies to students can be an inexpensive method to help students become more independent learners. There is particularly strong evidence that it can have a positive impact on maths attainment: Metacognition and self-regulation Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF	4, 5
Developing a mastery curriculum in KS3 maths.	Research has proved that mastery learning helps to stop the misunderstanding gap	1

	and to not leave students behind Mastery learning guidance EEF	
Developing a whole school approach to behaviour for learning and feedback that supports resilience and develops learning skills.	There is evidence to suggest that a clear and focused feedback system, employing metacognitive strategies can be more beneficial to disadvantaged students: EEF guidance on feedback	1, 4, 5

Targeted academic support

Budgeted cost: £150,000

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Engaging with the National Tutoring Programme to provide 1:1 for KS4 and 3:1 for KS3 tuition in core subjects. 75% of students will be disadvantaged.	Tuition targeted at specific needs and knowledge gaps can be an effective method to support low attaining students or those falling behind, both one-to-one: One to one tuition EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk) And in small groups: Small group tuition Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF	1, 4, 5
Literacy and oracy as a whole school teaching and learning priority shared during whole school INSET. All Y7s will complete termly NGRT to assess reading ages. Further diagnostic testing to gauge further needs. Y7-11 form groups reading once a week using reciprocal reading strategies. Inquiry question CPD has a literacy strand for staff to engage with. Whole School CPD on literacy and oracy in August 2023. Dedicated literacy HLTA delivering interventions using a tiered approach for phonics (RML Fresh Start) and inference groups using reading comprehension	Alongside Alex Quigley's work on 'Closing the Vocabulary Gap', and 'Closing the Reading Gap' research shows that providing targeted vocabulary instruction and more access to reading improves progress. EEF guide on how to improve literacy in secondary schools	2, 4, 5

strategies as recommended by EEF.		
Dedicated maths HLTA to use a number of diagnostic assessments to support key interventions with students.	Tuition targeted at specific needs and knowledge gaps can be an effective method to support low attaining students or those falling behind, in small groups: Small group tuition Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF	1, 4, 5
A combined approach of key academic skills being taught within the KS4 tutor time programme and bespoke motivational interventions with key Pupil Premium students (hidden middle, CLT academic mentoring, Oxford NextGen, Sixth form mentoring) -Academic skills programme during tutor time, external revision skills sessions	ImpactEd's longitudinal research suggests disadvantaged students struggled more with motivation due to the Covid 19 pandemic: ImpactEd research findings	1, 4, 5

Wider strategies

Budgeted cost: £100,000

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
<p>A full-time counsellor employed for 1:1 sessions with students and to run mental health workshops, especially on anxiety post Covid.</p> <p>'Ace the Grades' masterclass for targeted PP students in Y11 to support with self empowerment, confidence and revision.</p>	<p>Research from ImpactEd's longitudinal study shows that teens' anxiety and mental health was exacerbated by Covid 19, especially girls: ImpactEd research findings</p> <p>EIF's report (2021) on adolescent mental health found good evidence that focused 1:1 interventions and workshops using counselling techniques support young people's social and emotional skills and can reduce symptoms of anxiety and depression: Adolescent mental health: A systematic review on the effectiveness of school-based interventions Early Intervention Foundation (eif.org.uk)</p>	3, 4

Targeted whole-school communication and	The Government has published clear research that shows a link	3, 4
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<p>use of data (including details of sub-groups) allows us to create a collective responsibility for attendance and respond quickly to absence trends through the use of the attendance team, Family Liaison Officer and EWO.</p>	<p>between low attendance and low attainment: Government research (2016) on attendance link</p>	
<p>Development of the Character Pillar programme that supports social and emotional learning through visits, tutor time activities and rewards.</p>	<p>Evidence suggests that children from disadvantaged backgrounds have, on average, weaker SEL skills at all ages than their more affluent peers. These skills are likely to influence a range of outcomes for students: lower SEL skills are linked with poorer mental health and lower academic attainment. EEF Guidance on outcomes of Social and Emotional Learning</p>	<p>3, 5</p>
<p>Contingency fund for acute issues.</p>	<p>Based on our experiences and those of similar schools to ours, we have identified a need to set a small amount of funding aside to respond quickly to needs that have not yet been identified.</p>	<p>All</p>

Total budgeted cost: £430,000

Part B: Review of outcomes in the previous academic year

Pupil premium strategy outcomes

This details the impact that our pupil premium activity had on students in the 2022 to 2023 academic year.

Through a focus on the actions outlined in this strategy, an improved curriculum and challenging, consistent teaching and learning, our Pupil Premium students attainment and progress has improved enormously.

Our improvement in terms of the basic measure of Pupil Premium students securing English and maths at 4+ and 5+ is detailed below:

	Basic 5+	Basic 4+
2019 Results	32.2%	42.4%
2022 Targets	45%	65%
2022 Results	50%	66.3%
2023 Results	50.3%	72.1%
2024 Targets	53%	74%

Pupil Premium students' progress, measured by the Progress 8 measure has also improved dramatically from -0.17 in 2022 to -0.1 in 2023.

Despite the disrupted educational landscape of the last two and a half years, we are very pleased with the improvement in the attendance of our Pupil Premium students, something we have sustained over the last two years and hope to improve even further. We want to now focus on Persistent Absenteeism, especially by employing our Attendance team to even better effect.

	PP% NA	PP% TCOLC	All% NA	All% TCOLC
Autumn 2019	92.4%	86.9%	95.1%	95.4%
Autumn 2020	92.2%	89.5%	95.3%	95.2%
Autumn 2021	90.3%	92.8%	94%	94.5%
Autumn 2022 (*Oct)		92%	91.2%	94.6%
Autumn 2023 (September)	Not released	92.7%	93.8%	94.5%

<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/pupil-absence-in-schools-in-england-autumn-term>

Our engagement, literacy and wellbeing indicators are also showing some positives and that we will reach our long-term targets in these areas as well.

We are proud of our success for all our students in 2023, but we will continue to work hard to ensure our most disadvantaged students have the ability and equity to achieve their potential.

Externally provided programmes

Programme	Provider
Academic mentoring	www.mytutor.co.uk
Reading age testing	GL Assessments- NGRT
Online GCSE resources	www.gcsepod.com
Staff CPD	www.thenationalcollege.co.uk