

Pupil premium strategy statement: 2023/24 - 2025/26

This statement details The Beacon Centre'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	The Beacon Centre
Number of pupils in school	89
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	71% (63 students)
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers (3 year plans are recommended)	2023/24 2024/25 2025/26
Date this statement was published	April 2024
Date on which it will be reviewed	April 2027 Updated annually
Statement authorised by	Mr. D Gray
Pupil premium lead	Mr. D Gray
Governor / Trustee lead	Mrs. M Bland

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£57,600 (52 students) 9 Primary 43 Secondary
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	£57,600

Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

At The Beacon Centre, our goal is to ensure that all pupils, regardless of their background, have equal access to quality education and opportunities to succeed. Our Pupil Premium funding is used to address barriers to learning, with a focus on improving attendance, raising attainment in literacy and numeracy, supporting mental health and well-being, and providing access to enriching opportunities that broaden horizons.

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.

The Beacon Centre in South Tyneside is a unique alternative educational institution that caters to the needs of a diverse student population. With a total of 89 pupils on roll currently, The Beacon Centre provides a supportive and inclusive learning environment for students who may face challenges in mainstream education.

One notable aspect of The Beacon Centre is the high percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals, standing at 71%. This figure is significantly higher than the England average, reflecting the centre's commitment to providing equal opportunities for all students, regardless of their socio-economic background. The school's focus on addressing the needs of disadvantaged students sets it apart from other educational establishments in the area, showcasing a dedication to inclusivity and support for vulnerable pupils.

Additionally, The Beacon Centre caters to a relatively high percentage of pupils with an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP), standing at 18.1%. This reflects the centre's ability to provide specialised support for students with special educational needs, ensuring that their individual requirements are met in an inclusive and nurturing environment. This commitment to personalised care and attention sets The Beacon Centre apart from other schools within the area, highlighting its dedication to meeting the diverse needs of its student body.

Furthermore, The Beacon Centre does not have any pupils who have English as an additional language (EAL), a unique characteristic that distinguishes it from other educational institutions in the region. This aspect may indicate a more homogeneous student population, allowing the centre to tailor its educational approach to the specific needs of its students without the added complexity of language barriers.

The Ofsted grade of "Good" further exemplifies The Beacon Centre's commitment to academic excellence and student welfare. This positive evaluation from Ofsted indicates that the centre excels in providing high-quality education, creating a safe and supportive learning environment, and achieving positive outcomes for its students.

In conclusion, The Beacon Centre in South Tyneside stands out as an exceptional alternative education service, dedicated to meeting the diverse needs of its student population. Its focus on inclusivity, personalised support for students with special educational needs, and commitment to academic excellence set it apart from other schools in the area. The positive

Ofsted grade serves as a testament to the centre's success in delivering high-quality education and fostering a nurturing learning environment for its students.

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	SEMH Needs: Many students struggle with emotional regulation, resilience, and self-esteem.
2	Attendance Issues: Persistent absenteeism affects learning consistency and engagement.
3	Low Literacy and Numeracy Levels: Many students are below age-related expectations in key subjects.
4	Access to Enrichment Opportunities: Limited financial resources restrict cultural and extracurricular activities.
5	Parental Engagement: Some families face challenges in supporting learning at home.

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
Improved attendance and engagement for Pupil Premium students.	Attendance rates for PP students improve and in line with non PP students Suspension rates decrease year-on-year
Narrowed attainment gap in literacy and numeracy.	Assessment data shows improved progress in reading, writing, and maths.
Better emotional well-being and resilience among PP students.	Positive feedback from students, staff, and parents on SEMH interventions.
Increased participation in enrichment activities.	The majority of PP students engage in at least one extracurricular activity.
Enhanced parental involvement in supporting learning.	Increased attendance at workshops and parent-teacher meetings.

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: £12,400

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
CPD for staff on trauma-informed practices and behaviour management.	To equip staff with strategies to support students with SEMH needs effectively.	1, 2
Investment in literacy and numeracy intervention programs (e.g., phonics).	To address gaps in reading, writing, and maths among PP students.	1, 2, 3, 5

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

Budgeted cost: £39,684

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Additional support staff to facilitate one-to-one or small-group tuition in English and Maths.	Evidence suggests targeted support accelerates progress for struggling learners.	1, 2, 3
Regular monitoring and tracking of PP students' academic progress Inc Reflective Teacher. Additional responsibility for Lead Teacher of Teaching and Learning with assessment oversight	To identify and address gaps in learning promptly.	1, 2, 3, 5

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

Budgeted cost: £5,516

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Subsidise educational trips and extracurricular activities, e.g. work placements	To broaden horizons and enhance cultural capital for PP students.	4
Breakfast Club	Students provided with Tea, Toast, Cereal. Research from the University of Leeds indicates that students who rarely ate breakfast on school days achieved nearly two grades lower in their GCSEs compared to those who frequently ate breakfast. This underscores the importance of regular breakfast consumption in supporting academic performance.	1, 2, 3, 5
Host parental workshops on supporting learning at home.	To improve home-school collaboration and engagement in learning.	5

Total budgeted cost: £57,600

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 2022 to 2023 academic year.

- Increased subject options to Yr 11 pupils, enabling all to leave school with basic skills qualifications in key areas such as Maths, English and Science
- Work related learning assists transition Post 16 and impacts on reduction in NEET as students developed well established links with providers prior to leaving compulsory education and had clarity on their chosen career path.
- Baseline assessment on entry allows for early identification of need. Staff trained in appropriate strategies to affect support in class and reduce rates of exclusion. Information from assessment informed Key Workers and allowed for prioritisation of support requirements.
- Providing breakfast for students improves punctuality and reduces numbers of behaviour incidents in morning lessons caused by students struggling to maintain focus.
- Renewed technology e.g webcams, has increased parent / carer engagement to meetings e.g. Early Help, EHCP Annual Reviews, Exclusion Admit Meetings (exclusions reduced)

Further information (optional)

Monitoring and Evaluation

We will measure the impact of this strategy through:

1. **Attendance Tracking:** Weekly attendance reports for PP students.
2. **Academic Progress Monitoring:** Half-termly assessment data in core subjects.
3. **Student Voice:** Surveys to gather feedback on SEMH support and enrichment activities.
4. **Parent / Carer Engagement Metrics:** Attendance at workshops, meetings, Consultation events

Governance Oversight

Our strategy will be reviewed termly by the Senior Leadership Team and school governors to ensure funding is used effectively and delivers measurable outcomes for our Pupil Premium students.