

Pupil premium strategy statement

This statement details our school's use of pupil premium (and recovery premium for the 2022 to 2023 academic year) funding to help improve the attainment of our disadvantaged pupils.

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

School overview

Detail	Data
School name	Northgate School
Number of pupils in school	26
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	37%
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers	2022/2023
Date this statement was published	February 2022
Date on which it will be reviewed	July 2023
Statement authorised by	Angela Moore (Headteacher)
Pupil premium lead	Angela Moore
Management Committee lead	Brian Salinger (Chair of Management Committee)

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£2,463
Recovery premium funding allocation this academic year	None
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	£2,463

Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

Our aim at Northgate School is to use pupil premium funding to help us achieve and sustain positive outcomes for our disadvantaged students.

Students at Northgate are already experiencing challenges with their mental health and in addition this can impact on a number of areas including

- Academic attainment
- Progression onto post 16 providers
- Sustaining and continuing to engage in their post 16 provision and higher education destinations
- Social opportunities and ability to engage in activities beyond the taught academic curriculum.

Due to the nature of Northgate School being a Pupil Referral Unit, many students join throughout the academic year. We focus on high quality teaching, in small class sizes to individually support every student and offer a range of opportunities to enrich the learning experience of our learners.

Although our strategy is focused on the needs of disadvantaged students, it will benefit all students in our school and our intention is that the outcomes for non-disadvantaged students will be improved alongside progress for their disadvantaged peers.

We also continue to offer disadvantaged students the opportunity to access careers guidance and opportunities for work related learning activities along with all our students.

Our strategy will be driven by the needs of an ever-changing cohort of students and we recognise that the needs of learners will vary significantly over the course of the year. As a result, we plan to look at short term specific interventions which are relevant to individual students as they transition between Northgate School and their mainstream/post 16 providers.

As all students attending Northgate School are/have experienced a mental health crisis, a significant focus of our strategy is grounded in supporting student health and wellbeing to encourage their ongoing engagement in education.

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	Students that attend Northgate School often have significant gaps in their education due to their mental health challenges. As a result, many not only have gaps in their learning but also anxiety and difficulty re-engaging in education.
2	Due to previously missing significant amounts of education, our initial assessments of students, show that disadvantaged students at Northgate often have gaps in their knowledge and skills in maths and English.
3	On entry to Northgate School, each young person meets with the SENCO to discuss the challenges that they face in accessing learning and to identify strategies that may enable them to support positive mental health to enable academic progress. During these discussions and through our own observations, we have identified that a number of disadvantaged students struggle with verbal communication and sometimes demonstrate social interaction difficulties. This can impact on their level of engagement in school without further targeted interventions.
4	Through observations and discussions with our young people some disadvantaged students at Northgate struggle with basic life skills such as independent travel, budgeting and basic skills such as cooking. These students require additional support.

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 for disadvantaged students resulting in higher levels of engagement and attainment.	Through increased attendance student academic outcomes will improve across all subject areas.
Students have greater engagement in the curriculum which is enriched through additional learning opportunities. The aim of this is to bring the curriculum alive and encourage students to recognise the links	Increased levels of engagement in school visits leading to greater student confidence in managing social situations outside of school.

between taught content and their everyday lives.	
Disadvantaged students feel better prepared to make informed choices about their progression beyond Northgate and into their post-16 destinations.	Destinations data shows that students sustain their post-16 courses or reintegrate successfully and remain in their mainstream placements.
Disadvantaged students have improved confidence and communication skills which in turn supports their ongoing mental health and wellbeing.	Through improved communication skills, students feel confident in being able to share their concerns and communicate their needs to staff in order to best support their mental health.

Activity in this academic year

This details how we intend to spend our pupil premium **this academic year** to address the challenges listed above.

Teaching (for example, CPD, recruitment and retention)

Budgeted cost: £ 1,500

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
PE lessons at Unitas Youth Zone every Friday morning throughout the academic year.	Research suggest that exercise improves mental health by reducing anxiety, depression, and negative mood and by improving self-esteem and cognitive function. Exercise has also been found to alleviate symptoms such as low self-esteem and social withdrawal. (Source – Mental Health Foundation www.mentalhealth.org.uk)	2

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

Budgeted cost: £ 300

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Taxi's to Shakespeare's Globe and The RAF Museum to enhance the taught curriculum.	Northgate pupils are reluctant to use public transport and this can impact on their wider school experiences. By using taxis we are able to take them on school trips and visits and develop their learning beyond the classroom.	1 and 3

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

Budgeted cost: £ 700

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Purchasing LGBTQ+ literature to build on the resources at school to support equality, diversity and inclusion.	<p>Studies clearly demonstrate the benefit of affirming and protective school environments for LGBT youth mental health.</p> <p>https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4887282/</p>	1
Purchasing snacks for pupils to eat throughout the school day.	<p>Many of our pupils have disordered eating. Therefore, they will often go throughout the school day without eating. We therefore provide nutritious snacks every day that they can help themselves to subtly which further helps them to focus and concentrate during the day without drawing attention to their difficulties.</p> <p>Studies have found that eating breakfast may improve short-term memory and attention. Students who eat it tend to perform better than those who don't. Foods at the top of researchers' brain-fuel list include high-fibre whole grains, dairy, and fruits.</p> <p>https://www.webmd.com/add-adhd/ss/slideshow-brain-foods-that-help-you-concentrate</p>	1, 2. 3. 4

Total budgeted cost: £ 2,463

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 2020 to 2021 academic year.

Activity	Impact
CPD for staff focusing on meeting the communication needs of students including selective mutism, gender dysphoria and girls with ASD.	Staff have been able to develop a range of strategies that support the individual needs of the disadvantaged and other pupils and apply them to their classroom practice.
Creation of a temporary TLR to support student interventions and needs across the curriculum through the recruitment of an Inclusion Support Officer.	This role has been replaced by the SENCO who is three days a week and works with the pupils and parents/carers to develop appropriate student support plans that ensure progress for all groups of learners. The SENCO also ensures that pupils are assessed appropriately, a plan is put in place and then regular reviews are conducted to maximise success.
Extra time given on the timetable for English and maths.	Outcomes in the summer 2022, indicated that this had a positive impact on disadvantaged learners and supported their successful transition to post 16 courses.
Weekly yoga for all students to support their health and wellbeing.	This is ongoing and continues to successful support pupils to regulate their emotions and feelings and provide a wider curriculum resource.
Enhancing our supplies of sensory toys to support the young people in managing their anxieties in a healthy way.	Northgate School have well resourced sensory boxes that the pupils can access to support them in the classroom and prevent time out. This has further enhanced the quality of the education the pupils access as they are able to stay in the classroom rather than needing to leave in order to regulate their emotions.
Introduction of school dogs to support the wellbeing of students.	Charlie Brown is now a well-established member of Northgate School. His presence in the school provides reassurance for the pupils and

	he is a positive resource to provide comfort when a pupil is struggling.
Enhanced programme of trips and visits.	Our programme of trips and visits continues to expand and provides excellent opportunities for the pupils to develop their social and communication skills.

Externally provided programmes

Please include the names of any non-DfE programmes that you purchased in the previous academic year. This will help the Department for Education identify which ones are popular in England

Programme	Provider
Relationships, sex and health education.	Brook

Service pupil premium funding (optional)

For schools that receive this funding, you may wish to provide the following information:

Measure	Details
How did you spend your service pupil premium allocation last academic year?	N/A
What was the impact of that spending on service pupil premium eligible pupils?	N/A

