Stondon Lower School 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 outcomes for disadvantaged pupils last academic year (2023-2024).

School overview

Detail	Data
Number of pupils in school	138
Proportion (%) of pupil premium eligible pupils	7% (Oct 24 Census)
Academic year/years that our current pupil premium strategy plan covers (3-year plans are recommended – you must still publish an updated statement each academic year)	2024-2027 (2024-2025)
Date this statement was published	December 2024
Date on which it will be reviewed	September 2025
Statement authorised by	Sarah Woodham
Pupil premium lead	Ciara Dumpleton
Governor / Trustee lead	Donna Jones

Funding overview

Detail	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation this academic year	£16,920 estimated
Pupil premium funding carried forward from previous years (enter £0 if not applicable)	£0
Total budget for this academic year	£16,920 estimated
If your school is an academy in a trust that pools this funding, state the amount available to your school this academic year	

Part A: Pupil premium strategy plan

Statement of intent

We believe in maximising the use of the Pupil Premium Grant by developing a long-term strategy aligned to the School Development Plan priorities, coupled with excellent knowledge of our children. Our intention is that all children, irrespective of their background or the challenges they face, make good progress and achieve high attainment across all subject areas. The focus of our pupil premium strategy is to support disadvantaged children to achieve that goal, including progress for those who are already high attainers.

Our carefully planned Pupil Premium Strategy provides targeted support to all disadvantaged children, identifying potential barriers to learning and enabling them to fulfil the same goals as non-disadvantaged children. In addition to children identified as disadvantaged, we also consider the wider needs of potentially vulnerable children and identify greatest need across the school e.g. those who have a Social Worker or whose current circumstances may be, in our professional opinion, proving to be a barrier to education.

Our approach is rooted in research and is evidence based. It draws upon principles of the **RADY** (Raising the Attainment of Disadvantaged Youngsters) approach to close gaps between our disadvantaged children and their peers both in terms of attainment and holistic opportunities and experiences through focusing on **equity** not equality.

Ensuring high quality first teaching for all children is at the heart of our whole school. To focus on closing any attainment gaps identified, interventions specific to the needs of the child are used. This combination is proven to have the most significant impact on closing attainments gaps and will therefore benefit disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged children. Interventions are reviewed regularly to enable us to measure their impact and continue to be responsive and challenge appropriately. Regular assessments enable us to ensure that our support is based on individual needs and not assumptions about the impact of disadvantage.

All staff are aware of their role and responsibility for disadvantaged childrens' outcomes and are continually striving to raise expectations of what they can achieve.

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	Attainment

	Data analysis, book looks and observations indicate that the overall attainment and progress of disadvantaged children is generally lower than that of their non- disadvantaged peers in reading and maths and significantly lower in writing.
2	Additional needs A number of our disadvantaged children also have additional needs such as SEND and safeguarding concerns. This results in many of these children often struggling with basic concepts and requiring additional support/provision/services in order to raise achievement. 2022-2023: 40% 2023-2024: 50% 2024-2025: 70%
3	Language skills & Vocabulary
	Assessments, observations, and discussions with pupils indicate underdeveloped oral language skills and vocabulary gaps which are more prevalent among our disadvantaged children than their peers. This impacts on social and communication skills as well as their phonics, reading and writing.
4	Phonics and Early reading Assessments of phonics knowledge and observations of pupils' phonic skills indicate that disadvantaged children are more likely to require support in order to confidently use phonics to decode. This negatively impacts their development as readers and as such, impacts on them successfully accessing the planned curriculum.
5	SEMH & Wellbeing
	Our assessments observations and discussions with children and families have identified a range of behavioural, social, and emotional needs. These challenges particularly affect our disadvantaged children. They and their families are requiring higher levels of support for the effects of attachment and trauma, with some children finding it difficult to regulate their emotions, or internalising them. This impacts on their emotional wellbeing, self-esteem and in turn, their learning and the learning of others. These needs can result in difficult detrimental behaviour and dangerous detrimental behaviour.
	50% children at Stondon Lower of whom are disadvantaged currently require additional support with behaviour, social and emotional needs.
6	Attendance Monitoring of attendance data shows that the majority of disadvantaged children's attendance is less than good. PP attendance for 2023/2024 was 3% below that of whole school attendance. Research indicates that absenteeism negatively affects all pupil's progress inclusive of disadvantaged pupils.
7	Low cultural capital
	Some of our children have limited access to extra-curricular activities and
	find it difficult to pay for educational visits, extra-curricular clubs and
	sports/music tuition. This results in a lack of a breadth of experiences that enable disadvantaged children to contextualise their learning and broaden their opportunities.
8	Parental engagement
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Some of our families show a lower level of parental engagement. This reduces the opportunities for communication between the school and home to re-affirm the value of education and related expectations to provide support as necessary.

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
Attainment Disadvantaged children who do not have a SEND need, to achieve strong outcomes at the end of the academic year and make accelerated progress to diminish the gap between them and their non PP peers.	 High quality teaching leads to improved outcomes for PP and non PP children. Through interventions, gaps in PP children's knowledge and understanding are reduced. Outcomes show that all gaps have closed/reduced between PP and non-PP children in reading, writing and maths in each year group. Higher percentage of children reach age related expectations in Reading, Writing and Maths. Children achieve the expected standard in the Year 1 & 2 phonics check and Year 4 Multiplication check
Additional Needs The needs of disadvantaged children with additional barriers to their learning are addressed and access appropriate, evidence- based, highly effective provisions and/or external services in order to make accelerated progress towards their individual targets	 Monitoring and analysis of provisions and external services being used/accessed indicate that all are effective. This is evident when triangulated with other sources of evidence, including engagement in lessons, book scrutiny and on-going formative assessment. Children make at least expected progress from their starting points.
Language skills & vocabulary Achieve and sustain improved vocabulary and oral language among disadvantaged pupils across the school.	 Children's written and oral work demonstrates an improved ability to use and understand explicitly taught tier 2 and 3 vocabulary. Children use explicitly taught vocabulary when talking about their learning. They know more and remember more.
Phonics and Early reading High quality teaching of ELS phonics and interventions shows PP children making progress and an increase in PP children passing the phonics screening check in year 1.	 Half termly phonics assessments and analysis identify children who required interventions. Children make progress throughout the year with their phonics learning and

	achieve the expected standard in the Yr1 phonics screening check.
SEMH & Wellbeing Children's basic, emotional and mental health needs are being met ensuring readiness for learning, high levels of self-esteem and greater levels of emotional resilience	 PP children to have access to social and emotional support, at the level that is required for each individual, to ensure they are able to learn. Relevant interventions show impact through positive engagement in learning and children's attitudes.
	 External counselling and play therapist providing support for identified children Therapeutic thinking principles are incorporated into key policies
Attendance	There will be a reduction in the absenteeism levels for PP children
Improved attendance of PP children	 Overall attendance % for all children being no less than 96%, and the attendance gap between disadvantaged children and their non-disadvantaged peers narrows. Poor attendance will be challenged through the use of letters, meetings with parents, support where needed, and action plans.
Low cultural capital Children have access to high quality cultural capital experiences in line with non PP peers to develop the whole child and have access to the same life experiences as their peers.	 There will be an equitable approach to supporting our disadvantaged children across the whole curriculum and in regards to cultural capital There will be proportional representation of disadvantaged children in opportunities across the school such as school council, sports ambassadors, extra-curricular clubs, music lessons etc.

Activity in this academic year

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

Teaching (for example, CPD, recruitment and retention)

Budgeted cost: £3,046

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Mentoring of new staff and ECTs is high quality and follows a rigorous plan.	EEF- <u>Effective Professional Development.</u> Early Career framework	1-5
Training for staff on Therapeutic Thinking Approach to Behaviour Management	 Therapeutic Thinking is a school-based approach to behaviour that focuses on the emotional and mental health of children and young people. It was developed by Angela Wadham, a child behaviour professional. Its philosophy focuses on supporting children's emotional wellbeing and mental health. It develops an understanding of responding to children who may communicate through their behaviours. <u>EEF Guidance Report improving behaviour in schools</u> 	2,5
Hamish & Milo Training for TA to be able to deliver a range of social and emotional learning (SEL) and social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) intervention	 The EEFs <u>Improving Social and Emotional</u> <u>learning in Primary Schools</u> report stresses this is especially important for children from disadvantaged backgrounds and other vulnerable groups, who, on average, have weaker SEL skills at all ages than their non-disadvantaged peers. These skills are likely to influence a range of outcomes for pupils. Lower social and emotional skills are linked to poorer mental health and lower academic attainment. Evidence from the EEF's Teaching and Learning 	
programmes to support the high levels of children with SEMH difficulties.	 Evidence from the EEF's Teaching and Learning Toolkit suggests that effective SEL can lead to learning gains of +4 months over the course of a year. 	
Programme of safeguarding CPD throughout the year which focuses on the needs of our school and demographics.	<u>Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024</u>	2,5,6

Ongoing CPD to sustain high quality phonics teaching and reading across the school.	EFF Phonics states that phonics has a positive impact overall (+5 months) with very extensive evidence and is an important component in the development of early reading skills, particularly for children from disadvantaged backgrounds. The Reading Framework	1,4
Develop oral lan- guage skills and vo- cabulary using high quality texts, model- ling and challenging vocabulary. High quality talk and dis- cussion across whole curriculum to develop oracy and vocabulary enabling children to articulate key ideas, consoli- date understanding and extend vocabu- lary.	 Oxford Language Report indicates that over half of those surveyed (>1300) reported that at least 40% of their pupils lacked the vocabulary to access their learning. 69% of primary school teachers believe the word gap is increasing.' 'Why closing the words gap matters' 2018 Studies of oral language interventions consistently show positive benefits on learning, including oral language skills and reading comprehension <u>The EEF 'Preparing for Literacy'</u> states that we should 'Prioritise the development of communication and language' 'The EEF toolkit suggests that oral language interventions which include – targeted reading aloud and discussing books with young children, explicitly extending pupils' spoken vocabulary and the use of structured questioning to develop reading comprehension can improve outcomes by up to 5 months. 	1,3
Improving Writing: HFL Educa- tion- Essential writ- ing Subject leader release time to prepare resources and training Implementation of this approach via team teaching, coaching and moni- toring	Data and writing evidence shows that children's writing needs additional input. Recommendations from EEF guidance reports – Improving Literacy KS1 <u>https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/educat</u> <u>ion-evidence/guidance-reports/literacy-ks-1</u> KS2 <u>https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/educat</u> <u>ion-evidence/guidance-reports/literacy-ks2</u>	1,2,3
Teacher release time funded to enable them to access Maths Hub CPD: Continue to work with Maths hub to sustain Teaching for Maths Mastery across all year	EEF Mastery learning approaches are deemed to provide +5 months impact on pupil achievement. The DfE non-statutory guidance has been produced in conjunction with the National Centre for Excel- lence in the Teaching of Mathematics, drawing on evidence-based approaches: <u>Maths guidance KS 1 and 2.pdf (publishing.ser- vice.gov.uk)</u> The EEF guidance is based on a range of the best available evidence:	1,2

groups to enhance our maths teaching	Improving Mathematics in Key Stages 2 and 3	
EYFS and KS1 teachers to continue to engage in NCTEM's Mastering Number Project (Maths Fluency)	The EEF 'Improving Mathematics in the Early Years and Key Stage 1' states 'Professional development should be used to raise the quality of practitioners' knowledge of mathematics, of children's mathematical development, and of effective mathematical pedagogy.'	

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

Budgeted cost: £10,152

)Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Targeted Interventions including speech and language, phonics, reading, writing and maths to improve outcomes to narrow the gap between disadvantaged and others in school.	 EEF evidence consistently shows the positive impact that <u>targeted</u> <u>academic support</u> can have, including for those pupils who are not making good progress across the spectrum of achievement. <u>EEF research which focuses on</u> <u>teaching assistants</u> who provide one to one or small group targeted interventions shows a positive benefit of between four and six additional months on average. Often interventions are based on a clearly specified approach which teaching assistants have been trained to deliver. 	1-5
	 Oral language interventions can have a positive impact on pupils' language skills. EEF results of large- scale effectiveness trial indicates +4 months. <u>Oral language interventions</u> <u> Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF</u> Phonics approaches have a strong evidence base indicating a positive impact on pupils, particularly from disadvantaged backgrounds. 	

	 Targeted phonics interventions have been shown to be more effective when delivered as regular sessions over a period up to 12 weeks: Phonics Toolkit Strand Education Endowment Foundation EEF EEF small group tuition +4 months EEF HLTA/teaching assistant interventions +4 months 1:1 tuition/small group work and personalised learning results in a +5 months gain EEF 	
To invest in online learning programmes such as TT Rock Stars, Numbots and Spelling shed.	EEF Research has identified remedial and tutorial use of technology as being particularly practical for lower attaining pupils, those with special educational needs or those from disadvantaged backgrounds in providing intensive support to enable them to catch up with their peers. Technology can be particularly useful in personalising learning to match pupils' individual abilities and needs given the potential for such programmes to adapt and focus on the child's learning needs.	1,2,8

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

Budgeted cost: £3,722

Activity	Evidence that supports this approach	Challenge number(s) addressed
Embed Making Me/ Zones of Regulation enabling children to build resilience, understand and communicate emotions and embrace their mental and emotional wellbeing.	• The EEFs Improving Social and Emotional learning in Primary Schools report stresses this is especially important for children from disadvantaged backgrounds and other vulnerable groups, who, on average, have weaker SEL skills at all ages than their non- disadvantaged peers. These skills are likely to influence a range of outcomes for pupils. Lower social and emotional skills are linked to poorer mental health and lower academic attainment.	1,2,5
	Evidence from the EEF's Teaching and Learning Toolkit suggests that effective	

	SEL can lead to learning gains of +4 months over the course of a year.	
Use of play therapist/ Hamish and Milo/ NHS Health and Wellbeing coach sessions to support Mental Health and Social and Emotional issues	 We want to support the children's social emotional needs alongside their learning needs which is recognised in the <u>DfE Supporting the attainment of disadvantaged pupils</u>. Successful schools have strong social and emotional support strategies to help pupils in need of additional support, including through working with their families. 	1,2,5
	 NFER suggests that in order to support children's learning, emotional support needs to be provided to address any underlying issues. On average, social and emotional interventions have an identifiable and significant impact on attitudes to learning, social relationships in school, and attainment itself (four months' additional progress on average) according to the <u>EFF Toolkit.</u> 	
	 EEF Social and emotional learning (SEL) interventions +4 months They also state that, 'SEL programmes appear to benefit disadvantaged or low-attaining pupils more than other pupils, though all 	
	 pupils benefit on average '<u>EEF Self-regulation strategies +3</u> months Hamish & Milo is based on attachment theory, human development and the neuroscience of relationships in early social and emotional development, as well as understanding the impact of emotional stress on the developing child. 	
	 Emerging data shows statistically significant differences in observations about the emotional and behavioural presentation of children, pre and post intervention. Evidence-based SEMH programmes 	
Provide practical strategies to support learning at home through phonics, reading, writing and maths workshops	The <u>EEF 'Preparing for Literacy'</u> states 'Promising strategies include encouraging parents to read to children before they can read, then to begin reading with children as soon as they can; and running workshops showing	1,2, 4,8

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	 parents how to read and talk about books with their children effectively.' <u>'Working with Parents to Support</u> <u>Children's Learning'</u> <u>EEF - parental engagement</u> +3 months approaches and programmes which aim to develop parental skills such as literacy or IT skills; general approaches which encourage parents to support their children with, for example reading or homework; the involvement of parents in their children's learning activities; and more intensive programmes for families in crisis. 	
Support parental engagement by ensuring all parents attend parent consultations, as well as opportunities to participate in school activities where they can such as curriculum workshops. Use of Seesaw to engage parents with children's learning. Teachers to monitor and support parents of pupil premium children, using Seesaw.	Parental engagement has a positive impact on average of 4 months' additional progress. Approaches and programmes which aim to develop parental skills such as literacy or IT skills; general approaches which encourage parents to support their children with, for example reading or homework; the involvement of parents in their children's learning activities; and more intensive programmes for families in crisis.	1,4,8
Increased participation in opportunities across the school such as school council, sports ambassadors, extra- curricular clubs, music lessons etc.	EEF evidence indicates that when pupils take pride and engage in wider aspects of school life socially, they achieve well as they are more settled.	1,5,7
Building cultural capital though clubs, activities, trips and experiences – providing subsidised funding as appropriate to ensure all eligible children are able to benefit from activities and experiences on offer	 Parent voice has shown that this has been popular and an effective strategy. The life experiences of some children are limited. Enrichment is a pathway to engagement, aspiration and therefore raised attainment. Exposure to a wider range of experience will enhance vocabulary, knowledge and enjoyment of learning. In the past there has been a positive effect on soft outcomes for children across the schools including an improvement in a growth mindset and self-confidence. We do not want any of 	1,5,7

	our children to be disadvantaged because of financial circumstances	
To continue to monitor attendance and work with parents to ensure this is high for disadvantaged children. Embedding principles of good practice set out in the DfE's <u>Working</u> <u>Together to improve</u> <u>school attendance</u>	It is widely acknowledged that regular monitoring and analysis of attendance data can ensure that intervention is delivered quickly to address absences. Research shows that disadvantaged children are significantly more likely to be persistent absentees. Clear evidenced link between attendance and attainment. <u>NfER</u> <u>briefing for school leaders</u> identifies addressing attendance as a key step.	1,2,6,8

Total budgeted cost: £ 16,920

NB – This strategy sits alongside other identified funding streams e.g. SEND budget which complement each other and provide a comprehensive programme of support and intervention for our children.

Stondon Lower School 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 2023 to 2024 academic year.

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Communication and Language 1 pupil - Average: +2.0	100%
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	100%
1 pupil · Average: +2.0	
Physical Development 1 pupil - Average: +2.0	100%
Literacy 1 pupil · Average: +1.0	100%
Understanding the World 1 pupil · Average: +2.0	100%
Expressive Arts and Design 1 pupil - Average: +2.0	100%



Yr 4 MTC

2023-2024 School Average attainment score for our PPG children (including those with and without SEND) was 15. This is an improvement on our 2022-2023 attainment score of 8. However, it is still less than the 2022-2023- National average attainment score for PPG children of 18.3

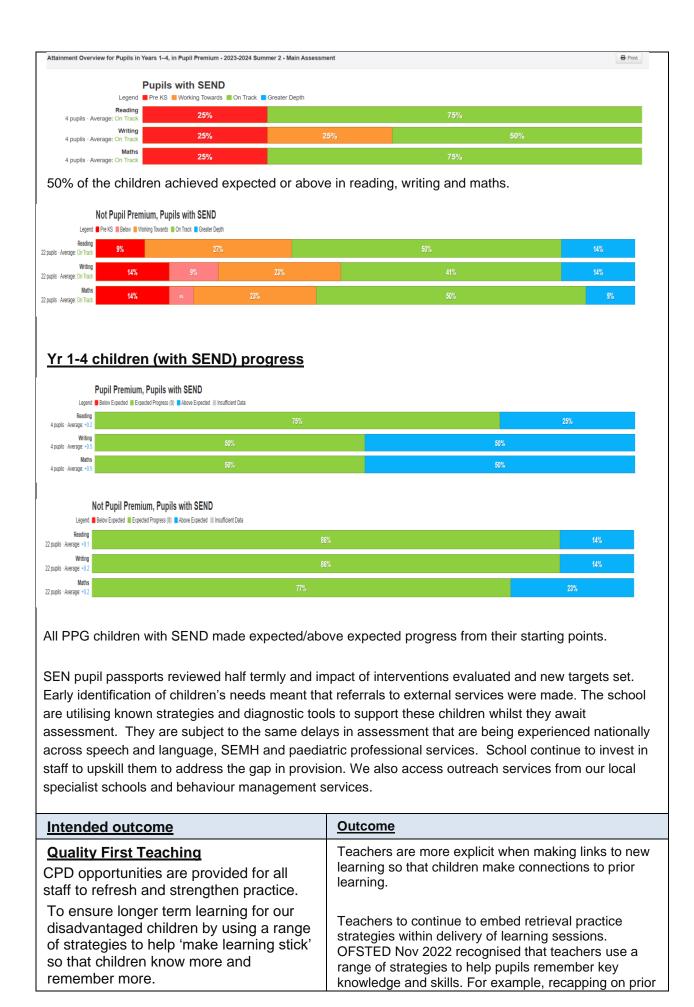
Attainment

To ensure that the needs of disadvantaged children with additional barriers to their learning are addressed. Children make at least expected progress from their starting points.

Outcome

At the end of 2023-24, 50% of our disadvantaged children are also on the SEN register with a number of these children presenting with/having presented with significant behavioural challenges. In addition, a number of these children have been on a reduced time table.





Gaps in knowledge and understanding will be identified and addressed through adapting the curriculum, frequent low stakes testing/retrieval practice and spaced practiced to develop long term memory. SEMH & Well being Children's basic, emotional and mental health needs are being met ensuring readiness for learning, high levels of self- esteem and greater levels of emotional resilience	 learning and using strategies for pupils to talk in full sentences. Children's understanding of how they learn and draw on strategies/engage in strategies which enables the learning to 'stick' needs to continue to be a focus so that children independently regulate their own learning, knowing which strategies are a strength for them and identifying which areas they need to improve. By the end of 2023-24, 75% of our PPG children were receiving high quality personal provision from our behaviour/pastoral support worker and play therapists which has included parental support. In addition, a professional counsellor has been employed to provide specialised trauma counselling support for targeted children. Children have strategies which they have been taught to use in class to help them regulate and access the learning. It is giving them greater independence to manage their needs.
	This year there has been a noticeable increase in children with Emotional Based School Avoidance (EBSA).
Cultural Capital Children have access to high quality cultural capital experiences in line with non PP peers to develop the whole child and have access to the same life experiences as their peers.	All PPG children have participated in opportunities across the school such as school council, librarians and extra-curricular clubs. In addition, Key stage 2 children have all participated in music lessons for a term learning to singing and play the ukulele. They have had the opportunity to perform to varying sized audiences including performing at the O2 arena in London.
	Fully or part funded educational visits/ residential trip to enhance their learning, have enabled all PPG to have the same experiences as their non PP peers and social economic gap is reduced.
Language skills & vocabulary Improvement in children's early language and communication development is prioritised in EYFS and KS1 which lead to improvements in KS2.	33% of PPG children achieved ELGs in Language and Communication. Those children eligible for PPG in EYFS who did not achieve ELGs in Language and communication have an identified Communication and language need.
	Improving levels of oracy, increased confidence in communication and use of wider breadth of exposure to vocabulary is evident. Children's ability to answer in full sentences and use of subject specific vocabulary has been acknowledged through SIA and governor visits, subject leader monitoring and book looks.
	Key vocabulary is identified for each subject which is learnt, displayed and used by staff and children. This will continue to remain a focus.
	Support staff are being upskilled to deliver SALT interventions.
Parental engagement & attendance	Overall school attendance 2023-2024- 95% PPG children attendance 2023-2024- 91.9%

Parents are well supported to meet all the needs of their children both academically, socially and emotionally.	Individual absences which fell below 96% were discussed with attendance officer. Unauthorised holidays for a small number of our children, reduced time tables for identified children with SEN and an increase in Emotional Based School Avoidance (EBSA) has impacted on attendance.
	Pastoral/Behavioural support worker has supported a number of PP children's families to ensure they are engaged with school.
	Regular communication with parents about children's learning and ways to support learning is shared via Seesaw. All PPG families have access to Seesaw.
	Greater involvement/participation of disadvantaged children's parents at school events such as parent workshops e.g. phonics sessions. As a school we are very proactive in providing support to help facilitate parents to attend such sessions e.g. providing a crèche for younger siblings so that parents can attend sessions and varying times of sessions.
	Full attendance of parents attending parent consultations. Following up no shows and rearranging appointments helped achieve this.

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
Times Tables Rock stars	Maths Circle Ltd
Spelling Shed	Education Shed Ltd