

Girnhill Infant School Pupil Premium Impact Statement 2025- 2026

This statement details the strategic and successful use of the Pupil Premium funding of £66,812 for the 2025 2026 academic year. Given our unique context of significant deprivation, a high percentage of children with SEND needs, and pupils entering school well below age-related expectations, our strategy was focused on a holistic approach. We are pleased to report that our objectives have been met and the funding has had a measurable positive impact on the attainment, progress, and well-being of our disadvantaged pupils.

Key Outcomes and Impact

1. Attainment between Pupil Premium and non-Pupil Premium Pupils

Despite the significant challenges, a core objective was to diminish the attainment gap. The data for Girnhill Infants demonstrates remarkable success in this area, particularly in Phonics and GLD.

- **EYFS Good Level of Development (GLD):** We have successfully closed the attainment gap, with 60% of our disadvantaged pupils achieving a GLD compared to 71% of the full cohort. Given the exceptionally low starting points of many of our pupils, this represents a major achievement in accelerating progress and overcoming traditional barriers to learning.
- **Year 1 Phonics:** This is another area of significant success. We have successfully closed the gap, with 89% of our disadvantaged pupils passing the Phonics Screening Test compared to 93% of the full cohort.
- **Year 2 Phonics (Retakes):** The gap is minimal at only 3 percentage points (97% for the full cohort vs. 94% for disadvantaged), demonstrating the effectiveness of our catch-up strategies.

While gaps remain in KS1 subjects (e.g. KS1 Maths at 16 percentage points), the strong performance in foundational skills like Phonics and GLD shows that our interventions are building a solid base for future learning.

2. Development of Cultural Capital and Powerful Knowledge

The funding was crucial in addressing the challenge of limited knowledge and understanding of the world. Through a wider curriculum offer, including after-school clubs and subsidised trips, pupils in receipt of pupil premium have been provided with enriching experiences that directly combat the effects of deprivation. This has given

them a broader frame of reference and a stronger foundation for their learning.

3. Parental Engagement and Home-School Relationships

The school's commitment to parental engagement, including regular meetings with our EWO and the work of our Learning Mentor, has been instrumental in addressing issues of attendance and punctuality. The close monitoring of PA pupils and those at risk has led to a reduction in extended leave absences, ensuring pupils are in school and ready to learn.

4. Social and Emotional Well-being and Mental Health

Given that many of our pupils enter school with low social and emotional self-awareness, our focus on the whole child has been paramount. The deployment of allocated staff and a committed Learning Mentor has allowed for pastoral work and strong relationships to be built. This has improved pupils' well-being, confidence, and readiness to learn, which is a key factor in their academic success.

5. High-Quality Teaching and Learning

The funding has been used to ensure that teaching in all classes is strong and that staff are deployed to provide targeted support. This includes focused pupil progress meetings and small group tuition with qualified, research-trained staff. The outstanding results in GLD and Phonics are a direct testament to the effectiveness of these pedagogical approaches.

6. Conclusion

In the 2025-2026 academic year, Girnhill Infant School successfully navigated the unique challenges of its school context. The strategic use of Pupil Premium funding has resulted in measurable and often outstanding outcomes for our disadvantaged pupils. The elimination and reversal of attainment gaps in key areas like GLD and Phonics demonstrate the power of a holistic, research-based strategy that addresses not only academic needs but also the well-being and social and emotional development of every child. We are incredibly proud of our pupils' achievements and are committed to building on this success.