



Governor Link Visit Record

Governor Link Area		Pupil Premium
Governor/s	Helen Robinson	
Staff	Lisa McCaffrey	
Date	14/07/2025	

Agenda and findings

To discuss the application of Pupil Premium funding.

Discussion and challenge

As per the 2024/2025 strategy statement, the key challenges remain as follows:

- Weak and limited language and communication skills – including on entry to Early Years.
- Significantly low attainment on entry into EYFS across all areas.
- High level of persistent absence across school but higher amongst the disadvantaged and this is negatively impacting pupil's progress. Punctuality is also a barrier to children's learning again increasingly so for our disadvantaged pupils.
- Challenging family circumstances and lack of support at home and poor parental engagement.
- Below average phonics, reading and maths attainment throughout school.
- High number of children with significant SEND.
- Mental health and well-being issues of both parents and children.

Of the 516 children on register, 36% qualify for PP however, we have more vulnerable children on roll than are reflected in this percentage. Many who come from incredibly challenging backgrounds do not qualify for PPF and therefore it is even more important that we apply the funds wisely to ensure the maximum benefit for all.

The challenges for many of our families are varied and great and can prove to be a barrier to attendance and attainment. The enormous impact of mental health and societal issues cannot be underestimated. However, the school's aspirations for all its pupils are high and the detail in the PPF statement reflects this.



We discussed the essential nature of quality first teaching which underpins everything. The embedding of dialogic activities across the curriculum and the focus on oracy is encouraging. Supporting children to articulate ideas is essential in improving attainment.

Quality teaching also helps to ensure that children who are struggling are identified early and can therefore benefit from targeted support. An increasing number of children attending St Barts have been identified as having complex/SEND needs and therefore need to be not only fully supported both in the classroom and/or Launchpad but also given every opportunity to thrive and achieve. Wider strategies are also embedded (e.g., a designated Safeguarding lead, SLT support, access to extracurricular visits and activities, free and subsidised breakfast club places, Cluster support) to create an inclusive, supportive environment which encourages a sense of belonging and an environment where all children can thrive.

Staff Signature: Lisa McCaffrey

Governor Signature: Helen Robinson