Rothesay Nursery School

Early Year Pupil Premium Strategy

This statement details our school's use of early years pupil premium funding to help improve the attainment of our disadvantaged pupils.

It outlines our early years pupil premium strategy and the outcomes for disadvantaged pupils last academic year. It includes how we intend to spend the funding this academic year.

Statement of Intent

At Rothesay Nursery School our aim is that all children, irrespective of their background or the challenges they face, have a good start, make strong progress and achieve well in all areas of learning. The focus of our early years pupil premium strategy is to support all children at risk of disadvantage to achieve that goal, including progress for those who are already high attaining.

When allocating the funding, we will assess the context from which the child is working within, we take a holistic approach to providing support and look at potential challenges in both academic attainment, family support and enrichment. We allocate funding and carefully provide support irrespective of the children's starting points.

High quality provision is proven to be the key driver for raising attainment for all children including those at risk of disadvantage. At Rothesay Nursery School our commitment is to ensure that the nursery is a place 'where every child can grow and learn.' The allocation of funding is carefully planned to ensure that all children benefit from raised standards of provision.

Our strategy is to identify the key actions for individual children and families that will make the difference. School leaders are familiar with current research and use this research to inform decisions. Every child's achievement and potential barriers are assessed, discussed and reviewed. Our approach results in regular reviews and careful monitoring of impact to ensure that the allocation of funds is effective in making a difference.

School Overview 2025-2026

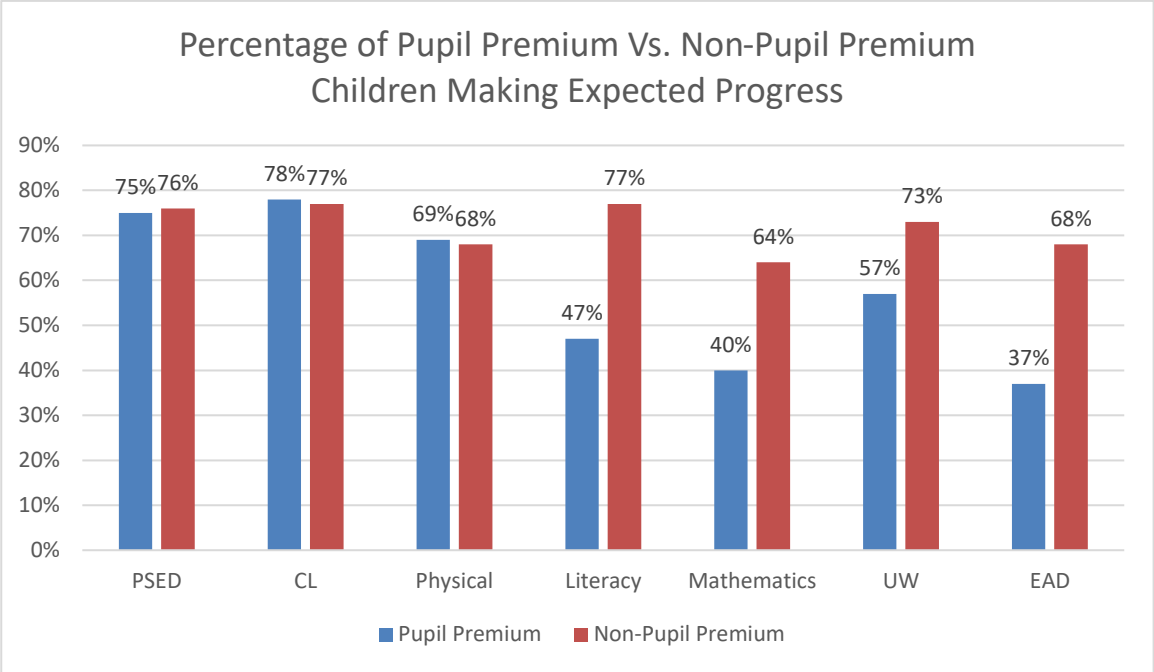
Detail		
Autumn 2025	Number of pupils in school Number eligible for pupil premium Proportion (%) of pupils eligible for pupil premium	98 33 34%
Spring 2026	Number of pupils in school Number eligible for pupil premium Proportion (%) of pupils eligible for pupil premium	123 39 32%
Summer 2026	Number of pupils in school Number eligible for pupil premium Proportion (%) of pupils eligible for pupil premium	121 38 31%

Intended Outcomes 2025-2026

This explains the outcomes we aimed for **by the end of our 2025-2026 strategy plan**.

Intended outcome	Success criteria	
To develop communication and language skills in order to narrow the gap.	• Children will make strong progress from their starting point. • Children will be well prepared for the next stage in their education.	78% of Pupil Premium children made expected progress in Communication and Language. This is a rise from 50% last year. This year the proportion of Pupil Premium children making expected progress was 1% point higher than their counterparts.
To achieve and sustain improved attendance for all children, particularly those at risk of disadvantage.	• Attendance data will evidence consistent attendance. • Clear systems for monitoring attendance and offering support will be in place	Attendance for Pupil Premium children 85%, which was 1% higher than for their counterparts. This is a shift in trend from last year with a 5% rise in attendance for Pupil Premium Children.
To develop a vocabulary to talk about feelings and to begin to develop strategies to support regulation.	• Children's vocabulary to express their feeling's will develop and grow from starting points. • Exposure to different equipment and strategies to co-regulate will support in more independent regulation of feelings and emotions over time.	75% of Pupil Premium children made expected progress in Personal, Social and Emotional Development. This is a 25% rise from the 50% who achieved this last year. While the proportion of Pupil Premium children making expected progress in Personal Social and Emotional Development is slightly lower (1%) than their counterparts, the gap has narrowed by 9% so the trend is positive.
To experience the outdoor environment in all weathers and to develop and refine gross motor skills.	• Children will be able to put on wet weather gear independently. • Children will be able to climb up, over, around and through a range of climbing equipment, setting themselves physical challenges and persevering to master skills.	69% of pupil premium children made expected progress in Physical Development. This is a rise from 45% last year.

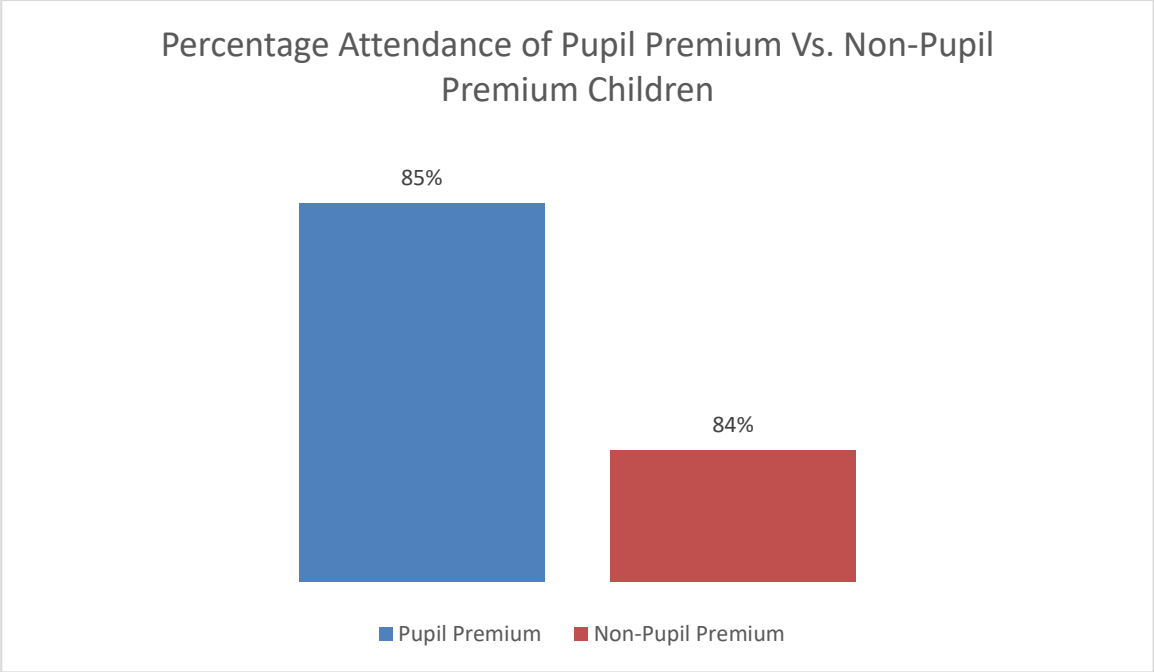
Progress Overview 2025-2026



This data is based on all children assessed using Birth to Five Matters and covers all areas of learning.

- The proportion of Pupil Premium children making expected progress in Communication and Language is slightly higher (1%) than their counterparts. This is a shift in the data from last year and shows the impact of Communication and Language interventions.
- The proportion of Pupil Premium children making expected progress in Physical Development is slightly higher (1%) than their counterparts. This is like the pattern in last year's data.
- The proportion of Pupil Premium children making expected progress in Personal Social and Emotional Development is slightly lower (1%) than their counterparts. The gap has however narrowed by 9% so the trend is positive.
- For the first time data comparisons have been completed for the specific areas and these reveal larger gaps.
    - Literacy, 30% difference in the proportion of children making expected progress.
    - Mathematics, 24% difference in the proportion of children making expected progress.
    - Understanding the World, 16% difference in the proportion of children making expected progress.
    - Expressive Arts and Design, 31% difference in the proportion of children making expected progress.

Attendance Overview 2025-2026



Attendance for Pupil Premium children was 1% higher than their counterparts. This is a shift in trend from last year with a 5% rise in attendance for Pupil Premium Children.

Budget Overview 2025-2026

Income	Amount
Pupil premium funding allocation Autumn 2025	£4 410
Pupil premium funding allocation Spring 2026	£8 205
Pupil premium funding allocation Summer 2026	£8 296
Total income for this academic year	**£20 911**

Expenses	Amount
Magic Words Speech and Language Therapy	£11981
Early Years Therapeutic Thinking Training	£750
Free uniform for pupil premium children	£2129
Outdoor resources	£1117
Expressive Arts and Design resources	£3781
Thrive	£1125
Wet Weather Gear	£189
Total expenditure for this academic year	**£21072.00**

Early Years Pupil Premium Strategy Plan 2026-2027

Challenges

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

Challenge number	Detail of challenge
1	Assessment and observation information indicate that most children, including those at risk of disadvantage, have starting points which are lower than those expected of their chronological age.
2	Our historic attendance data indicates that some pupils at risk of disadvantage have attendance levels that are below that expected to achieve strong progress.
3	A large number of our children have limited exposure to the wider learning experiences that exist. We will aim to provide a range of learning opportunities both inside and outside of Nursery.
4	Historically there was a higher level of detrimental and dangerous behaviour displayed by pupil premium children- this trend is now shifting however this is due to the impact of Therapeutic Thinking and Thrive work. Early Years Statutory Framework 2026 EYSF henceforth states 'children's personal, social and emotional development (PSED) is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives and is fundamental to their cognitive development'.
5	Many of the pupil premium children live in flats and experience overcrowding with limited outdoor space.

Intended outcome	Success criteria
To sustain and improve progress in Communication and Language for pupil premium children	• Pupil premium children will continue to achieve as well as their counterparts. • Where intervention is needed, support will be put in place early to secure rapid progress from starting points. • To improve communication for disadvantaged children as the EYFS emphasises 'The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development.'
To sustain improved attendance for all children, particularly those at risk of disadvantage.	• Attendance data will evidence consistent attendance. • Clear systems for monitoring attendance and offering support will be in place.
To develop Expressive Arts and Design skills, understanding and knowledge to narrow the gap.	• The gap between pupil premium children and their counterparts will narrow from 31% to 10%. • A higher proportion (60%) of pupil premium children will make expected progress in Expressive Arts and Design.
To raise attainment in Literacy for pupil premium children.	• A higher proportion (60%) of pupil premium children will make expected progress in Literacy development. • Pupil premium children will make rapid progress in reading and writing from their starting points.

To raise attainment in Mathematical Development for pupil premium children.	• A higher proportion (60%) of pupil premium children will make expected progress in Mathematical Development. • The gap between pupil premium children and their counterparts will narrow from 24% to 10%.
To develop Understanding the World knowledge, understanding and skills in order to narrow the gap.	• The gap between pupil premium children and their counterparts will narrow from 16% to 5%. • A higher proportion (65%) of pupil premium children will make expected progress in Understanding the World.

Predicted School Overview 2026-2027

Detail		
Autumn 2026	Number of pupils in school Number eligible for pupil premium	84 26
Spring 2027	**Predicted** number of pupils in school **Predicted** number eligible for pupil premium	100 30
Summer 2027	**Predicted** number of pupils in school **Predicted** number eligible for pupil premium	110 32

Predicted Budget 2025-2026

Income	Amount
Predicted pupil premium funding Autumn 2026	£8484
Predicted pupil premium funding allocation Spring 2027	£8484
Predicted pupil premium funding allocation Summer 2027	£8484
Predicted budget for this academic year	**£25452**

Planned Activity in this Academic Year

Expenses	Amount
Uniform for pupil premium children	£1000
Thrive training for staff	£2000
Music training for staff	£700
Subscription to Early Years Training Portal for staff	£450
Attention Autism Training for identified staff	£2000
Cover for staff release for training/interventions	£3000
Half termly music sessions for children	£1750
Magic Words SALT for pupil premium children	£5000
Pantomime	£1300
Resources linked to Expressive Arts and Design	£1000
Resources linked to Understanding the World	£2000
Resources linked to Mathematics	£1000
Resources linked to Literacy	£2000

Reserve to cover reactive expenses that would benefit pupil premium children (including additional hours at nursery to support studying parents)	£2252
Total budget for this academic year	**£25452**

Date this statement was published	October 2026
Date on which it will be reviewed	October 2027
Statement authorised by	Nikki Cary, Headteacher
Pupil premium lead	Nikki Cary, Headteacher