

Pupil Premium Impact Statement 2025–2026

At Bensham Manor School, Pupil Premium funding has continued to be used strategically to remove barriers to learning and ensure that disadvantaged pupils have access to the same opportunities, experiences, and support as their peers. Throughout 2025–2026, our focus has been on improving communication, emotional wellbeing, independence, engagement in learning, preparation for adulthood, and access to enriching life experiences.

Quality First Teaching and Curriculum Access

All pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium funding have benefited from access to a broad, balanced, and highly personalised curriculum. Through carefully planned teaching and regular opportunities to engage with the local community, pupils have developed greater independence and confidence in applying skills beyond the classroom.

Community visits have enabled pupils to generalise learning in real-life contexts, strengthening communication, social interaction, problem-solving, and independence skills. Pupils have become increasingly confident when accessing local facilities and engaging within their wider community.

Staff have also participated in continued professional development relating to mental health and emotional wellbeing. This has strengthened staff understanding of the barriers many disadvantaged pupils face and enhanced their ability to support pupils effectively, contributing to improved engagement and readiness to learn.

Communication and Therapeutic Support

A significant proportion of Pupil Premium funding has supported our therapeutic provision, including two full-time Speech and Language Therapists and a Speech and Language Therapy Assistant.

This provision has had a positive impact on pupils' communication skills, including receptive and expressive language, social communication, emotional regulation, and confidence. Improved communication has enabled pupils to engage more effectively in lessons, develop relationships, and access wider opportunities throughout school life.

Targeted counselling and mental health support have also been provided for pupils requiring additional emotional support. As a result, pupils have demonstrated improved emotional wellbeing, increased resilience, greater self-awareness, and enhanced engagement with learning.

Academic Support

Targeted one-to-one and small-group interventions have been delivered to pupils identified as requiring additional support. These interventions have focused on addressing individual learning needs, reinforcing key concepts, and closing identified gaps in learning.

As a result, pupils have made progress against their individual targets and curriculum pathways, demonstrating increased confidence and engagement in learning activities.

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The school has also continued to strengthen partnerships with parents and carers through home learning opportunities and regular communication. This collaborative approach has enabled families to better support learning and development outside of school, contributing to improved outcomes for pupils.

Wider Opportunities and Enrichment

Pupil Premium funding has enabled disadvantaged pupils to access a wide range of enrichment opportunities that they may otherwise have been unable to experience.

These opportunities have included:

- Cultural visits and educational trips.
- In-school arts activities, including music, drama, and dance.
- Residential visits.
- Community-based learning.
- Travel training programmes.
- Careers guidance and mock interviews.
- Driving lessons for eligible pupils.

These experiences have played a significant role in developing pupils' confidence, resilience, independence, communication skills, and aspirations for the future.

Residential visits have been particularly successful in supporting pupils to develop independence, social skills, self-help skills, and confidence away from familiar environments. Many pupils achieved personal milestones during these experiences and demonstrated increased independence on their return to school.

Preparation for Adulthood

Preparation for adulthood remains a key priority at Bensham Manor School. Careers education, work-related learning, mock interviews, and community-based activities have enabled disadvantaged pupils to develop a greater understanding of future pathways and employment opportunities.

Travel training and community visits have strengthened pupils' independence and confidence when accessing public spaces and services, supporting long-term aspirations for independent living and employment.

Driving lessons for eligible pupils have further contributed to developing life skills and increasing future opportunities for independence.

Attendance, Wellbeing and Engagement

Pupil Premium funding has supported initiatives aimed at improving attendance, wellbeing, and engagement. Access to counselling, therapeutic services, family support, healthy snacks, and nurture-based interventions has reduced barriers to learning for many pupils.

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The provision of fruit and healthy snacks has supported pupils' wellbeing throughout the school day, helping to improve concentration, readiness to learn, and participation in lessons. Our trauma-informed and relational approach, alongside targeted wellbeing support, has contributed to improvements in behaviour, emotional regulation, and pupil engagement across the school.

Overall Impact

The impact of Pupil Premium funding during 2025–2026 has been significant. Disadvantaged pupils have benefited from:

- Improved communication and language skills.
- Enhanced emotional wellbeing and mental health.
- Increased engagement in learning.
- Improved confidence and self-esteem.
- Greater independence and life skills development.
- Access to a broad range of enrichment opportunities.
- Increased participation in community activities.
- Improved preparation for adulthood, employment, and independent living.
- Stronger relationships with peers, staff, and the wider community.

The school remains committed to ensuring that Pupil Premium funding continues to be used effectively to provide high-quality support and opportunities for disadvantaged pupils. Through high expectations, strong relationships, therapeutic support, and a commitment to inclusion, we continue to ensure that every pupil is able to achieve their full potential and prepare successfully for their future.