

St Margaret Clitherow RC Primary School

Pupil Premium Strategy Statement (2025–2026 / 2026–2027 Review)

School Overview

- **School Name:** St Margaret Clitherow RC Primary School
- **Number of Pupils:** 161
- **Proportion of Pupil Premium Pupils:** 21%
- **Strategy Plan Period:** November 2024 – November 2027 (3-Year Plan)
- **Total Budget Allocation:** £81,330
- **Pupil Premium Lead:** Dawn Webb
- **Governor Lead:** Archana Lopez (Lead for Disadvantaged Pupils)

Statement of Intent

Rooted in our Catholic faith, our school ethos centres on loving, serving and nurturing every child as an individual made in the image and likeness of God. We serve a community facing significant socio-economic deprivation and high levels of Special Educational Needs (SEN). Many of our children deal with many challenges to learning long before they step into the classroom.

Our ethos inspires us to ensure that no child is left behind or defined by their background. We are committed to creating an inclusive, safe and communication-rich environment where every pupil receives the practical support they need to learn and communicate with confidence. To ensure equity, our commitment is that all personal development, cultural visits and enrichment activities are provided to all children at low or no cost. We remove financial stress from families so that every pupil can participate fully in school life.

Identified Key Challenges

1. Speech, Language, and Early Communication

An increasing number of children enter EYFS with speech, language and communication skills significantly below age-related expectations. This is further compounded by high numbers of pupils with English as an Additional Language (EAL) and identified SEN, making classroom communication, regulation and social interaction a key initial barrier.

2. Socio-Economic Hardship & Complex Learning Needs

High levels of local deprivation alongside rising SEN needs mean many children require targeted support, scaffolds and adult assistance to access standard curriculum expectations.

3. Early Literacy & Home Engagement

Financial hardship and challenging home circumstances mean some families struggle to support learning at home, particularly with early reading routines and functional vocabulary.

4. Limited Experiences Outside the Immediate Area

Economic constraints restrict some families' ability to expose children to experiences, outings and cultural sites outside their immediate neighbourhood.

Intended Outcomes & Targets

- **Speech & Language:** Targeted speech interventions support communication, helping children express themselves and access daily learning.
- **Phonics:** Structured phonics teaching using Little Wandle builds foundational decoding skills for all pupils.
- **Inclusion & Equity:** All pupils have access to trips and enrichment activities at low or no cost.

Tiered Spending Strategy & Interventions

1. Teaching (£56,336.84)

- **Little Wandle Letters and Sounds:** Whole-staff training and resources (EYFS to Year 3) to deliver structured, consistent phonics teaching.
- *Evidence Base:* Systematic synthetic phonics provides explicit instruction that directly benefits disadvantaged pupils and those with low baseline language awareness. Staff trained in intervention groups.

2. Targeted Academic Support (£19,800)

- **Commissioned Speech & Language Therapy (Allen Speech & Language):** 1 day per week of specialist Speech & Language Therapist provision covering detailed assessments, 1:1 therapy, group work, staff training and parent liaison.
- **Targeted Language Interventions:** Delivery of BLAST 1 & 2 (focusing on attention, listening, turn-taking, and foundational language) and Talk Boost EYFS to close early communication gaps. We also embed Colourful Semantics to visually scaffold sentence structure, build spoken confidence, and support vocabulary development for pupils with language delays and SEN.
- **Teaching Assistant Allocation:** Targeted TA support in English and Maths to provide small-group assistance for Pupil Premium pupils

.3. Wider Strategies & Equity (£5,193.16)

- **Subsidised Enrichment & Outings:** Children have opportunities to expand their understanding of the world and inspire higher aspirations by. They help to build confidence, strengthen self-esteem, deepen knowledge and promote a greater sense of well-being.

Review of Outcomes (Previous Academic Year)

- **Speech & Language Impact:** Early delivery of BLAST and Talk Boost groups in Reception successfully developed early listening and spoken language skills. The private Speech & Language Therapist provided targeted assessments and interventions for children with identified SEN.
- **Teaching Support:** Consistent phonics delivery and targeted TA support provided necessary assistance for lower-attaining pupils and those with additional needs.
- **Enrichment Equity:** All local outings and workshops were delivered at no cost to families, ensuring full inclusion for all disadvantaged pupils.