



Pupil Premium Report 2019 – 2020

The South Downs Community Special School

About the Pupil Premium:

The pupil premium grant is additional funding for publicly funded schools in England. It's a school level grant that gives schools extra resources to help them meet challenges, including those arising from deprivation. It's allocated for schools to:

- Improve the academic outcomes of disadvantaged pupils of all abilities
- Close the attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers across the country

You can find further information about the pupil premium in:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pupil-premium-effective-use-and-accountability>

Our School:

The South Downs Special School educates children aged between 3 and 11 years old who have a range of complex learning disabilities. There are currently 162 pupil on roll. Of these pupils: 52 (32%) are eligible for free school meal, 5 (3%) are looked after children, 2 (1.5%) are formerly children looked after by the Local Authority. 0 (0%) whose parents are currently in the Armed Forces.

The total pupil premium allocation for the last year (2019 – 2020) was: £36,960.

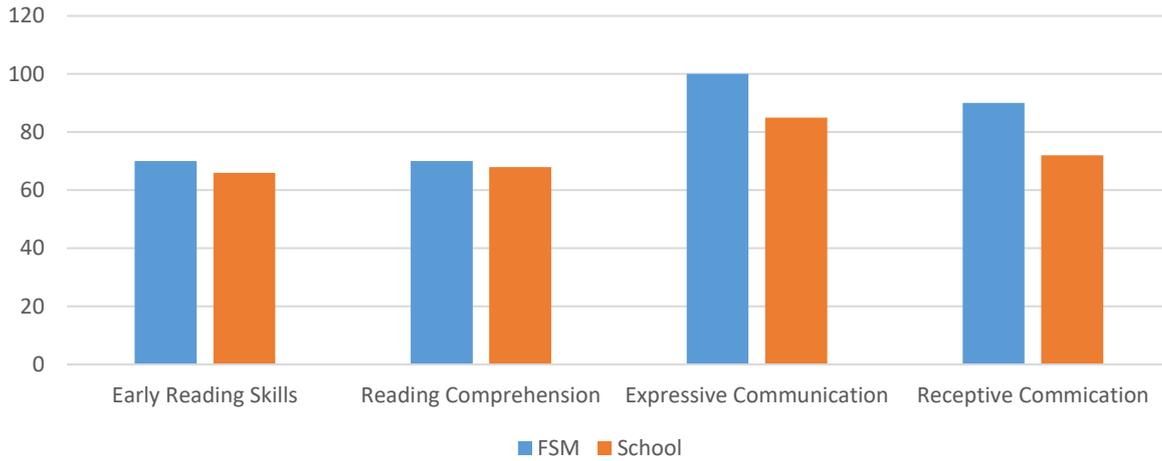
The total pupil premium allocation for the year ahead (2020 – 2021) is: £64,560.

Evaluation of Pupil Premium Spend: 2019 – 2020

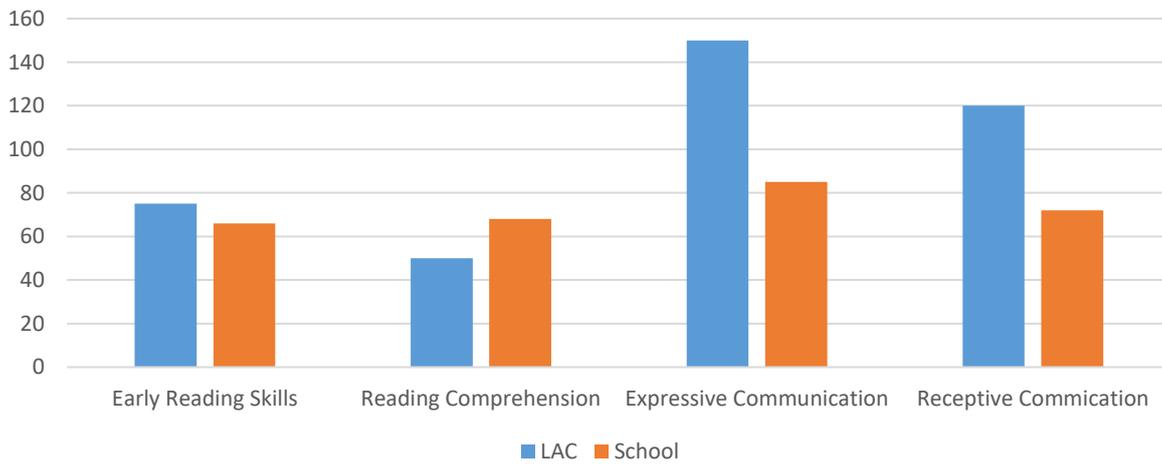
The strategies implemented were focused on maximising the learning, attainment and progress of pupils who were eligible for free schools meals, pupils who are in (or had been in) local authority care and those pupils who were vulnerable to underachievement. The strategies focused particularly on reading and communication as fundamental aspects of overall learning. The oversight and management of their education to secure the best possible outcomes underpinned the strategies used.

Because of the exceptional nature of the Academic year 2019 – 2020 affected significantly, as it was, by the COVID-19 partial closures, outcomes for pupils were significantly impacted upon.

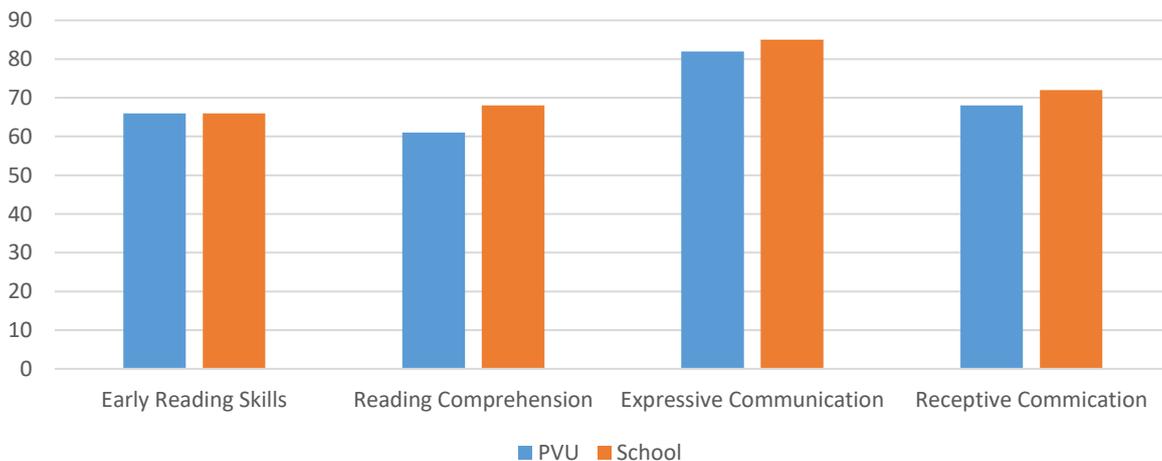
Progress of FSM compared with whole school over 18 months until March 2020



Progress of LAC compared with whole school over 18 months until March 2020



Progress of PVU compared with whole school over 18 months until March 2020



Evaluation of activity 2019 - 2020

Outcomes	Actions	Expenditure	Evaluation
Maintain outstanding teaching, learning and assessment for all PP pupils	Review and revise the school's bespoke, structured approach to CPD, ensuring that all teaching staff can meet the increasingly complex and varied needs of all pupils at our school	Approximately £2000	Lesson observations until March 2020 showed that teaching and learning was at least good and often outstanding for PP pupils. Partial closures due to Covid from March until July prevented further observations.
Secure the best possible outcomes for all vulnerable pupils, especially those with free school meals or who are looked after by the local authority	Continue to fund the role of the vulnerable pupils' manager to provide oversight of attainment and outcomes.	Approximately £17,000	Pupil progress meetings referencing all indicators demonstrated good or better progress for large majority of all FSM, LAC and PVU pupils.
Continue to improve pupils' reading skills by implementing targeted reading interventions for all FSM, LAC and PVU pupils.	Continue to fund the reading strategy	Approximately £5,000	Reading outcomes indicate all core disadvantaged groups are making similar progress to whole school over our 18 months analysis.
Secure the best possible outcomes against communication targets for those pupils identified as being vulnerable	Continue to fund the school's communication staff including specialist leadership, teaching assistants, lead practitioners and therapists Continue to fund Trust-wide communication support provided by a communication practitioner	Approximately £10,000	Individualised programs of communication support were written for all pupils. FSM / LAC pupils made better progress in communication than the average of the whole school. PVU group made good progress given the identification of their vulnerabilities.
Further develop a whole school approach to promoting pupils' mental health and overall wellbeing – especially for those who are eligible for the pupil premium	Achieve a Gold Rights Respecting School Award (UNICEF) Achieve a quality mark for the school's work in promoting mental health and wellbeing development	Approximately £2000	All disadvantaged pupils benefitted from more focussed support in achieving their right to a high quality education and mental health and well-being support.

Looking ahead (2020 – 2021): How we plan to spend the money

We will continue to deliver highly focused and effective strategies centred on reading, communication and improving the general progress of pupils who are eligible for free school meals, are looked after or are vulnerable to underachievement.

The Pupil Premium funding for the academic year 2020 – 2021 is £64,560.

We will implement the following 3 year strategy, as recommended by the DfE <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pupil-premium-information-for-schools-and-alternative-provision>

Outcomes	Actions	Expenditure
Maintain outstanding teaching, learning and assessment for all PP pupils	Review and revise the school's bespoke, structured approach to CPD, ensuring that all teaching staff can meet the increasingly complex and varied needs of all pupils at our school. Especially for those pupils eligible for Pupil Premium.	Approximately £3000
Secure the best possible outcomes for all vulnerable pupils, especially those with free school meals or who are looked after by the local authority	Expand the Vulnerable Pupils team to allow for increased numbers of pupils and the opportunity to deliver a greater range and quality of support to pupils.	Approximately £32,000
Secure the best possible outcomes against communication targets for those pupils identified as being vulnerable	Continue to fund the school's communication staff including specialist teaching assistants, lead practitioners and therapists Continue to fund Trust-wide communication support provided by a communication practitioner	Approximately £10,000
Increased specialised support for the achievement of individual targets set for pupils vulnerable to underachievement.	To appoint an additional Teaching Assistant to facilitate personalised learning programmes to address the needs of pupils vulnerable to underachievement and those eligible for Pupil Premium.	Approximately £19000