

PUPIL DEVELOPMENT GRANT STRATEGY STATEMENT

This statement details our school's use of the PDG for the 2025 to 2026 academic year.

It outlines our strategy, how we intend to spend the funding in this academic year and the effect that last year's spending had within our school.

School Overview

Detail	Data
School name	Cardiff High School
Number of pupils in school	1799
Proportion (%) of PDG eligible pupils	8.6%
Date this statement was published	September 2025
Date on which it will be reviewed	January 2026
Statement authorised by	Steve Jones
PDG Lead	Michelle Bennett
Governor Lead	Sophie Prew

Funding Overview

Detail	Amount
PDG funding allocation this academic year	£116,150
Total budget for this academic year	£9,514,964

Part A: Strategy Plan

Statement of Intent

To enhance provision for all eFSM and LAC learners across all aspects of the school in order to ensure that excellent learning experiences and outcomes can be achieved by all these learners. This applies to both our formal and informal curriculum provision and encompasses: i) development of learning and teaching; ii) staff professional learning; iii) development of wellbeing programmes and initiatives; and iv) material and financial support.

PDG allocation, intended benefits and impact – budgeted cost

Element	Allocation	Share
Development of learning and teaching approaches and professional learning	£11,336	10%
Wellbeing programmes and initiatives	£77,783	67%
Material and financial support	£27,291	23%
Total	£116,410¹	100%

Development and learning and teaching approaches and professional learning

Item	Intended benefit	Impact
Professional learning for strategic leads of Learning and Teaching and Performance and Standards (Teach Like a Champion)	Exposure to the most up to date research and provision about learning and pedagogy, and how this can benefit all groups of learners. PL will focus on train-the-trainer and hence how these ideas can be rolled out across the school	Strategic leaders will develop strategies and approaches to enhance our learning and teaching provision for all learners.
PL design and delivery for all teaching staff and LSAs	Coherent, scaffolded and focussed PL will enable all staff to make subtle and effective changes to their classroom practice and their support of eFSM learners (e.g. strategic seating plans and assessment strategies)	Three INSET days and four twilight sessions are calendared for the Autumn term. They will equip staff with an understanding and skills to support the participation and thinking of all pupils in all lessons. The approaches should enable us to link the effectiveness of pedagogical approaches and learner wellbeing.
Senior staff attendance at Local Authority CLIP meetings	Three senior leaders responsible for Wellbeing, Learning and Teaching and Performance and Standards respectively, will attend CLIP meetings focussed on approaches to support learner wellbeing.	Staff involved are developing strategy and approaches to enhance our provision for vulnerable learners.
Senior leader visit to other schools to explore well-being and pastoral approaches	Observe and learn from best practice in a similar school to our own, focusing on: community engagement, learner voice, and interventions to support ALN and other groups of pupils inc. eFSM	Outcomes from this work will inform and drive planning for enhanced community engagement and improvements to our own eFSM provision

¹ PDG funding supplemented by additional funding from within school budget

Wellbeing programme and initiatives

Item	Intended benefit	Impact
Additional Wellbeing and Achievement Officer (WAC)	The additional WAC will provide greater capacity within the wellbeing team to support learners and our eFSM strategy	The additional WAC will increase capacity within the wellbeing and achievement team by providing an extra point of contact for learners. This will enable additional targeted interventions and free up time for Achievement Leaders and Heads of School to strategically support learners
Design, development and implementation of Knowing Our Pupils (KOP) information system	The KOP spreadsheet will enable all learner specific information to be stored and accessed from a single location. This includes IDPs, eFSM details and pastoral snapshot notes,	Accessing pupil specific information will become more efficient and effective. Staff will find all relevant information in one location. Pupil specific teaching approaches and interventions, including eFSM pupils, can therefore be more tailored and enhanced
Development of tracking systems for attendance, outcomes and attitudes to learning	The Achievement Team and Curriculum Leaders will have a more comprehensive data set from which to monitor and respond to pupil progress and standards	Heads of School and Achievement Leaders will have a full picture of progress and standards across each year group. Underperformance can be targeted and co-ordinated effectively. eFSM learners will be monitored specifically as part of this process.
Recruitment of Animal Assistance Officer	Employing our own Animal Assistance Officer will provide greater flexibility and access to this resource for our most vulnerable learners including eFSM pupils	All eFSM and LAC learners who would benefit from animal assisted therapy will be able to access this resource
Extended library opening hours	Provision of additional staff resource will enable the school library to be opened for an extra hour each day. This will provide extended access to books and a workspace for homework.	Pupils who do not have suitable space at home to work, including those on free school meals will have a dedicated area within school to do their homework

Material and financial support

Item	Intended benefit	Impact
Subsidised summer term enrichment trips	eFSM pupils will receive subsidised travel, subsistence and entry costs for school visits in the summer term	All pupils will be to participate in wellbeing and enrichment trips in the summer term
Chromebooks available for all Upper School learners	All upper school learners can access a chromebook to use at home to support their studies	All eFSM learners will have access to a personal chromebook to use at home
Additional capitation for DT cooking lessons	All eFSM learners can undertake cooking lessons using appropriate ingredients	All eFSM learners will be able to participate in cooking lessons
Provision of uniform	To ensure all eFSM and LAC pupils have a full set of uniform	All eFSM and LAC pupils will have the correct school uniform
Funded Music (peripatetic) lessons for eFSM learners	All eFSM learners who want to learn a musical instrument can do so	All eFSM pupils who wish, will receive free music lessons in 2025-26.
Funded calculators for eFSM learners in Maths	Lower and Middle school learners have their own scientific calculator for lessons and exams. All Upper school learners have a graphical calculator.	eFSM learners will benefit from having access to the same calculator to use at home, in class and exams. This builds confidence and competence with an essential resource
Free revision resources for eFSM learners	Provision of books, booklets and revision guides for all eFSM learners. This supports their progress both within and outside of lessons	All eFSM learners will receive the necessary resources in their lessons.

Activity in this academic year

This details how we intend to spend our PDG **this academic year** to address the challenges listed above.

The PDG has been used to fund or part fund the provision outlined above.

Part B: Review of outcomes in the previous academic year

PDG outcomes

This details the impact that our PDG activity had on pupils in the 2024 to 2025 academic year.

GCSE²

Measure	FSM	Family	LA	Wales
Capped 9	419.1	349.6	327	300.8
Average points Literacy	46	38.9	34.6	31.8
Average points Numeracy	44.3	35.3	30.9	27.9
Average points Science	45.1	35.6	28.9	27.1

A2

Measure	FSM
A* - A	25.64%
A* - B	47.44%
A* - C	79.49%
A* - E	100.00%

Externally provided programmes

Please include the names of any programmes that you purchased in the previous academic year. This will help us identify which ones are popular in Wales.

Programme	Provider

Further information (optional)

Use this space to provide any further information about your PDG strategy. For example, about your strategy planning, or other activity that you are implementing to support pupils from low-income households, that is not dependent on PDG.

² Source: All Wales Core Data Set (January 2026)