

The pupil premium is additional funding for publicly funded schools in England to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and close the gap between them and their peers.

For Children who are looked after, the grant is allocated via the placing local authority's virtual school head teacher.

Birtenshaw received £14,718.04 in the school year 2016-2017.

The focus of the spending has been two-fold, items that will enhance the learning opportunities of a group of children and items that have been purchased for specific children to enable them to better access learning. Given the particular needs of the children who attend Birtenshaw School, some of the allocation has been spent on therapeutic items to enable better access to curriculum activities.

	Description	Cost	Expected Outcome	Group/ Individual
<b>Assessment Programme – Leafhopper; SOLAR</b>	New assessment programme – SOLAR for Schools.	£2700	To ensure “live” assessment during each lesson so that pupil progress can be monitored daily and interventions can be put in place earlier.	Group
<b>Sensory Curriculum and Sensory Processing Equipment</b>	2 x weighted lap pad	£116.23	Help regulate sensory processing in lessons and develop fine motor skills such as writing, turning a page, holding a paintbrush etc.	1 for individual pupil identified through PEP process 1 for classroom use
	Sensory equipment for classroom learning	£1673.18		Group
<b>Communication</b>	PECS Communication Books	£398.10	To develop communication	Individuals

			skills for pupils using PECS	
	Signalong Training – 4 courses, 5 places on each course identified for School Education Staff	£1000 £500 per course		Group
<b>Curriculum</b>	Phonics Resources including: talking boxes, alphabet sorters	£1,151.75	To support different strategies used to develop phonic knowledge	Group
	Creative materials – Arts Curriculum Easy grip paint rollers, adaptive tools and equipment	£283.11	Ensure pupil participation in lessons, increased engagement in the arts curriculum	Group
	Numeracy resources – Lego bricks, Shapes, interlocking blocks – visual and tactile objects	£399.80	Practical learning opportunities to develop understanding and embed learning.	Group
	Books – fiction and non-fiction	£857.52	Increased variety – more age appropriate books for early readers	Group
<b>Extra-curricular activities</b>	School educational visits Ainsdale Beach Jodrell Bank Cinderella Play Ribchester Museum	£156	Life experience. Support visual and kinaesthetic learners to embed learning from the classroom.	Group
	Pony Riding	£6400	Outdoor learning opportunities. Develop social skills. Improved fine and gross motor skills.	Group

## **Success criteria and outcomes for pupils**

### **SOLAR for Schools Assessment Programme**

The SOLAR assessment software has been in place since January 2017. SOLAR allows for flexibility in “flight paths” which determine the expected levels of progress for each pupil. The flexibility means that pupils who have increased barriers to learning such as significant absences or complex health needs can still achieve expected levels of progress. Small steps of progress are assessed and the “live” aspect means that early interventions can be put in place so pupils do not fall behind.

### **Sensory Curriculum and Sensory Processing**

Sensory and therapeutic resources have supported the development of fine motor skills; writing, shoe-tying, buttoning and zipping etc. The resources have been used to help pupils regulate any internal discomfort, restlessness or agitation and helped them focus on their classroom learning.

### **Communication**

The purchase of additional communication books have allowed pupils to have an alternative or preferred method of communication when moving around school. Picture exchange communication has also been used to support pupils to make choices when completing work and the symbols have been used to underpin any spoken language used in lessons. The majority of learning support assistants and teachers are now trained in Level 1 Signalong which has been embedded into different areas of the curriculum. Pupils have increased confidence in making choices as well as improved confidence and self-esteem.

### **Curriculum**

A range of resources have been purchased for science, design technology, literacy, numeracy and music to help support and develop pupils understanding of particular topics. Pupils at Birtenshaw School have been able to apply practical and experimental experiences to different topics and having more visual resources has helped to embed the learning. £857.52 was spent on building up the range of books; both fiction and non-fiction, in the library to ensure pupils have access to books that are not only at varying reading levels but are also age appropriate.

### **Extra-Curricular Activities**

Extra-curricular activities, including pony riding and yoga have allowed pupils to access new opportunities offered to them without financial barriers and therefore gain life experiences and enjoy memorable experiences. The activities increase enjoyment of learning, understanding of pupils environment and improved social skills with their peers. Pupils have attended enrichment trips that embed the learning from the classroom in practical and “real life” experiences.

The impact of Pony Riding lessons has been an improvement in confidence, social development and communication as well as fine and gross motor skills; pencil grip, balance and coordination.