



# The Royal Belfast Academical Institution

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## School Improvement Action Plan 2026–27

### Overview

This document summarises the key trends for improvement identified in the School Improvement Action Plan 2026–27. These trends reflect whole-school priorities across outcomes, teaching and learning, leadership, and pastoral care.

### 1. Stronger Use of Data to Drive Improvement

- Increased use of PASS, PTE/PTM, CAT4, and examination data
- Improved timing of interventions to address underachievement
- Consistent use of data by all staff to inform teaching and planning
- Enhanced target setting, including pupil input
- Development of a fully embedded data-driven culture

### 2. Raising Academic Attainment and Progress

- Increase KS5 outcomes (target: over 80% A\*–C)
- Maintain high standards at KS4 while improving consistency
- Improve progression across all key stages
- Focus on moving pupils up performance bands
- Ensure all learners are engaged and making progress

### 3. Earlier and More Targeted Intervention

- Shift from reactive to proactive intervention
- Earlier identification of underachievement
- Targeted support for low attainment and low engagement
- Improved timing and monitoring of interventions
- Focus on SEN and vulnerable pupils

### 4. Curriculum Refinement and Flexibility

- Continued curriculum review and development
- Greater collaboration through NBALC
- Review of option blocks and subject pathways
- Balance between academic study, enrichment, and private study
- Preparation for future assessment changes

## **5. Teaching Quality and Evidence-Based Practice**

- Embedding evidence-based teaching strategies
- Strengthening quality assurance (MER, PRSD, lesson observation)
- Increased collaboration across departments
- Revisiting definitions of effective teaching
- Sharing best practice across the school

## **6. Digital Technology and AI Development**

- Preparation for integration of AI in teaching and administration
- CPD for staff to improve ICT and AI skills
- Use of digital tools to enhance learning outcomes
- Development of a more digitally advanced learning environment

## **7. Pupil Voice and Engagement**

- Increased use of student councils and surveys
- Reintroduction of pupil questionnaires
- Greater pupil involvement in decision-making
- Promotion of peer assessment and collaboration
- Use of pupil voice to inform school improvement

## **8. Well-being as a Core Priority (PERMAV)**

- Continued embedding of the PERMAV framework
- Focus on pupil and staff mental health and engagement
- Development of a supportive school culture
- Well-being integrated into teaching and pastoral systems
- Ongoing whole-school well-being strategy

## **9. Transitions and Progression**

- Focus on KS3–KS4 transition as a key risk point
- Early intervention to address gaps in confidence and learning
- Use of PLPs and targeted support strategies
- Improved progression from KS4 to KS5
- Greater continuity in learning pathways

## **10. Parental Engagement and Communication**

- Expansion of digital communication (SIMS, social media)
- Evaluation of online consultation systems
- Strengthening communication with parents
- Increased accessibility and engagement opportunities
- Maintaining high levels of parental involvement

### **11. Leadership Development and Accountability**

- Strengthening effectiveness of Senior Leadership Team
- Development of middle leadership capacity
- Embedding self-evaluation aligned to ETI framework
- Promoting data-driven leadership decisions
- Enhancing CPD and professional learning

### **12. Inclusion and Equity**

- Improved support for SEN pupils
- Continued development of Gifted and Talented provision
- Data-informed strategies to address disadvantage
- Greater personalisation of learning experiences
- Ensuring equity across all pupil groups

### **Overall Summary**

- A move towards a fully data-driven school culture
- Focus on earlier, more precise intervention
- Raising attainment with improved consistency
- Embedding pupil voice and prioritising well-being
- Developing a modern, flexible curriculum and digital strategy
- Strengthening leadership and accountability at all levels