



PUPIL PREMIUM BARRIERS TO SUCCESS NOVEMBER 2017

Following an in depth review of our Pupil Premium provision we have identified three key barriers that prevent students reaching their full potential. The three barriers identified are not an exhaustive list and it is important to us that we provide a bespoke programme of support that is tailored to each student's needs. However, the barriers identified do provide us with a strategic overview and enables us to target our resources towards the key areas that we believe will have an impact. The barriers to success we have identified are:

- Poor mental health and wellbeing
- Being unable to accessing the curriculum
- Low aspirations for future life and career

Improving mental health and wellbeing:

If students are to achieve their best it is essential that they are able to focus in lessons and have the mental strength/resilience to cope with the stress and pressure associated with examinations along with all other aspects of their personal development. This can be very challenging for students that are dealing with complex emotional and psychological issues. For this reason we target our resources to ensure we have high levels of specialist support available in school. We also have extensive links with numerous outside agencies which we also use when required.

We also believe that it is better to take a proactive approach and to teach student strategies that will help them to maintain good mental health and wellbeing that will hopefully prevent them needing to access specialist in the future and therefore allowing them to spend more time in lessons and focusing on their education.

How will our impact be measured?

We will use lesson attendance data, qualitative data from staff and other professional to assess the impact we are having. We can also use data relating to the students' academic performance to inform our decision making.

Accessing the curriculum:

As mentioned above, we want to ensure that students are attending as many lessons as possible. This is currently a barrier to learning for some of our Pupil Premium students and will impact on their achievement and progress. Attendance will be carefully monitored by key staff, with an emphasis on our vulnerable Pupil Premium students. Interventions will be in place to ensure missing work due to absence is caught up, so that pupils are able to access the curriculum fully. Pupils who are a concern due to attendance figures will work with the Pupil Premium Intervention Assistant in order to catch up on missed work.

Sometimes students struggle to access the curriculum due to weak Literacy and Numeracy skills. They are skills that are required across all subjects and for life beyond school. We have a particular focus on reading as this tends to be the key barrier to overcome.



How will the impact be measured?

We will use attendance data to measure our impact. We also have a range of interventions to support literacy and numeracy (Accelerated Reader Scheme for example). These interventions have clearly quantifiable outcomes that will allow us to judge the impact we are having.

High Aspirations

As well as have exam results that enable you to access each stage of your education or career, it is equally important that you have the confidence to put yourself forward and feel that you 'belong' in certain settings. Therefore we want to make sure that pupil premium students build their confidence by making the most of the extra curricula opportunities that the school offers. We will work to insure that there are no financial barriers that stop participation. We are also keen to ensure that pupil premium students are invited on experience days and other events the school organises. They will also receive personalise career guidance to help them focus future ambitions.

How will the impact be measured?

We will monitor both the uptake of the opportunities we offer and the destinations of our students once they have left school.