

Pupil Premium Statement 2014/15

The pupil premium is additional funding provided by the government; the figure received by school is based on the number of students who are registered for free school meals, students who have ever been registered for free school meals in the last six years, or students in local authority care. The aim of the Pupil Premium is to raise achievement among disadvantaged students to increase social mobility, enable more students from disadvantaged backgrounds to get to the top Universities and reduce the attainment gap between the highest and lowest achieving pupils nationally. The government is confident that schools will identify the most effective way to raise the attainment of their disadvantaged pupils. So, schools are free to spend the money in the best way they see fit. However they will be held accountable for how they have used the additional funding. New measures will be included in the performance tables that will capture the achievement of those deprived pupils.

In this academic year the pupil premium per head stands at £900. The total funding was £112,556.

***Phonics Training** - The school has invested in the Ruth Miskin phonics programme. This is a synthetic phonics programme that would 'get all students to read and write quickly and easily'. Ruth Miskin, whilst a practising head teacher, developed the 'Read Write Inc Fresh Start' for students in Year 5, 6 and 7, or above, who are reading below National Curriculum Level 3. Through the programme, children are taught to 'read effortlessly so that they can put all their energy into comprehending what they read and to spell effortlessly so that they can put all their energy into composing what they write. A Teaching Assistant has also been trained in this programme to provide additional support in lessons and catch up intervention.

***Catch up Numeracy** - The school invested in the Catch Up[®] Numeracy agenda, training a teaching assistant to run a one to one intervention for learners who are struggling with numeracy. It consists of two 15-minute sessions per week for each student on the programme.

***Accelerated Reading Scheme** ensures that all students have the opportunity to read books of their choice thus fostering the joy of reading. The online quiz gives immediate feedback so that pupils are motivated to make progress with their reading skills.

Mentoring of KS4 Pupil Premium Cohort by an Assistant Head teacher who builds up an individual profile of each pupil. This data is shared with the whole school thus allowing subject teachers to understand more the needs of our disadvantaged cohort. Parents are invited for interview to encourage a deeper engagement with the families of disadvantaged students.

Examination Intervention – A programme of revision sessions in Easter, May half term and the week before the examinations gives students the training and support to allow them to gain the best outcomes for these exams. A small targeted group comprising disadvantaged students in the main were offered an intensive programme of 6 sessions on Saturday mornings to boost their outcomes in Maths. Daily booster sessions are timetabled and delivered by subject specialists in English and Maths for disadvantaged students needing support to meet progress in these subjects. Revision guides are provided free of charge.

Year 7 Transition –The Summer School helps the new year 7 disadvantaged students in their transition to secondary school with skills such as team building via a series of outdoor activities including canoeing and rock climbing. Opportunities for creativity are explored through music and the Arts with visits to museums and theatres.

Breakfast Club is run by a Teaching Assistant to provide breakfast for disadvantaged and vulnerable students. We also continue to staff the restaurant and food and drinks are available from 8.00 am every morning.

Student Support Services – The school offers counselling 3 days a week with a fully trained and affiliated counsellor. All sessions are on a 1:1 basis following professional guidelines.

Attendance- We make the link between attendance and exam success explicit with the students and staff. Attendance levels for all disadvantaged pupils are checked and acted upon. Systems are in place to make early identification of issue and need.

Building character and aspiration- In November 2014, selected students from the pupil premium cohort in KS4 were taken to visit the Skills Event in the NEC, Birmingham for them to see the breadth of career opportunities which are available to them. In February 2015, pupil premium students were targeted to take part in a workshop on the importance of goal setting and to help them raise their confidence and self-esteem. In March 2015, year 7 and 8 pupil premium cohort was targeted to take part in an adventure trip offered by Reaseheath College.

Careers Advice and Guidance-Careers education, information and advice are very strong. Careers advice and experiences are carefully mapped and recorded for all disadvantaged students. All students are provided with Work Experience opportunities. Students also receive a wide range of preparation activities for future life: work-related learning activities, access to vocational courses, one-to-one interviews, mock interviews, work experience fairs, careers fairs, post-16 information sessions and outside career events. This ensures that disadvantaged pupils can make informed decisions about their courses and choices and be very well prepared for their future lives beyond 16.

Pupil Premium funding for LAC students – A number of LAC students are currently educated at the school. Each child has their PP funding agreed within their annual Pupil Education Plan and this is only received by the school from the Local Authority when costed

and evaluated for impact on outcomes. This branch of pupil premium is ring fenced for the individual child. Currently use of funding includes additional Teaching Assistant support, additional tuition in English, Maths and Science and the purchase of laptops and revision guides.

Funding through the Year 7 Catch up Premium – Items that have benefitted from this funding are indicated by an asterisk (*) against their header. Funding for this year is £10,000.

Impact of Funding

Introduction of Accelerated Reader has increased the number of books taken from the library by 261% in the first four weeks following its launch. The average reading age of the disadvantaged students in Year 7 in September 2014 was 9 year 11months. (Year 7 – 79% of students came into school in September 2014 below their chronological age). The year 7 phonics cohort followed a timetabled phonics programme every day for one hour. Over a period of 9 months, the average reading age of the disadvantaged students in Year 7 increased by 10 months.

Attendance in all sub groups including pupil premium have increased on previous year's figures.

In its first year as an Academy, the school is pleased that 50.7% of students gained at least 5 A*-C including English and Maths in the summer 2015 examinations. Achievement for English was 53.3% and maths 68% with 47.9% of students making expected levels of progress in English and 8.5% beyond expected. In maths, these figures were 73.6% and 48.6% respectively.

In Year 11, there were 23 students with Pupil Premium in a cohort of 75. 100% gained at least one qualification, 26% achieved 5 A* to C including English and maths and 74% achieved 8 A* to G including English and maths.

Lessons observed in the summer term 2015, leadership review showed that the vast majority are at least good with students across the board making rapid and sustained progress. The latest review of lessons showed that 83% of lessons were good or better.

Pupil Premium Statement 2015/16

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In this academic year the pupil premium per head stands at £935. Total funding is yet to be confirmed.

***Additional Staffing for both English and Maths-** This has allowed for extra sets in both areas to reduce class sizes. The average class size of each year group is now 20 or less so that teachers can tailor support accordingly.

***Phonics Training** - The school continues to invest in the Ruth Miskin phonics programme. This is a synthetic phonics programme that would 'get all students to read and write quickly and easily'. Ruth Miskin, whilst a practising head teacher, developed the 'Read Write Inc Fresh Start' for students in Year 5, 6 and 7, or above, who are reading below National Curriculum Level 3. Through the programme, children are taught to 'read effortlessly so that they can put all their energy into comprehending what they read and to spell effortlessly so that they can put all their energy into composing what they write.

Another English teacher will be trained on the Ruth Miskin programme thus enabling further support for pupil premium and catch up students. This means that there will be two classes in both year 7 and year 8 who will benefit from this additional funding.

***Numeracy Catch Up-** Year 7 pupils are offered catch up sessions in small groups delivered by two maths specialists. They will follow a specifically designed programme of study to develop their numeracy to allow them further access the work in their mathematics lessons which is timetabled for 3 hours per week. In year 8, proposals are in place to offer another set for the 3 hours of mathematics commencing January 2016 so that progress can be accelerated for these pupils who entered SJT with a low starting point from KS2.

Mastery in mathematics- SJT is participating in the Mathematics Exchange with Shanghai arranged via the National Centre for the Excellence of Teaching Mathematics. Two Chinese teachers will visit the school in November 2015 for a period of two weeks to help the maths

department to develop mastery style of teaching. This will be of significant benefit for the lower ability students.

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Sources

Higgins. S, (2011), Toolkit of Strategies to Improve Learning Summary for Schools Spending the Pupil Premium, Durham University: Durham

Hattie, J, (2009), Visible Learning – A synthesis of over 800 Meta-Analyses relating to Achievement, Routledge: London

DFE website <http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/premium/a0076063/pupil-premium-what-you-need-to-know> (Retrieved 11th August 2012)