



Pupil Premium at The John Warner School

The John Warner School converted to Academy Trust status on 1 April 2011. This report refers to its third accounting period, from 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014.

The Pupil Premium funding received by each school for any particular financial year is based on number of students who took up their entitlement to a free school meal at that school on a named day. It therefore is not sensitive enough to reflect changes to family financial status between two named dates, nor does it reflect within year admissions, though the school itself would of course provide free school meals for eligible children accordingly.

We received a total of £175,770 in the above accounting period.

How we spent the funding

Our spending is guided by The Sutton Trust-EEF Teaching and Learning Toolkit (Online, available at <http://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/toolkit/>). This provides a summary of educational research and so offers guidance for teachers and schools on how to use their resources to improve the attainment of disadvantaged pupils, both in terms of making an initial choice between strategies, and in implementing a strategy as effectively as possible.

The authors acknowledge that 'the relationship between spending and pupil outcomes is not simple' and that 'at school level, it is clear that different ways of spending school budgets can have very different impacts on pupil attainment, and choosing what to prioritise is not easy'. They accept that 'even once a decision to implement a particular strategy has been taken there are a wide variety of factors which determine its impact'.

We have made our decisions based on the average impact of a particular strategy on attainment, the strength of the evidence supporting the claim of impact, and the related cost, as set out in the toolkit, together with our own knowledge of the specific needs of eligible pupils.

'Narrowing the Gap' committee (£15,723)

This group of core staff meet weekly to devise and implement strategies designed to reduce the performance gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils, and to monitor and review the progress made by those children toward their learning objectives. The rationale for the group is set out above, and its impact relates to the decisions made and the outcomes achieved by the school.

Investment in teaching staff (£64,728)

We have invested in additional teaching staff in English and mathematics in order to add additional classes aimed at oral language interventions, reading comprehension strategies, and numeracy development. We believe these strategies help targeted students achieve an average of 5 months additional progress in their learning.

1:1 and small group intervention (£79,499)

A broad range of 1:1 and small group intervention programmes are in place for pupils in years 7 to 11 to support those pupils at risk of not achieving their potential in either English, mathematics, or both. This is achieved through the targeted deployment of teaching and educational support staff. These provide for increased feedback to students on their learning, which is estimated to help students achieve an average of 8 months additional progress in their learning, either by virtue of that 1:1 contact or because the work is undertaken in very small groups. The Sutton Trust research identifies these grouping arrangements in themselves as yielding an average of 5 and 4 months average additional progress for the students who benefit from it.

Homework clubs – lunchtime and after school (£10,790)

Additional support with homework is available every day during and after school as a matter of course, however particularly vulnerable students are also directed toward additional specific sessions. Completing high quality homework well yields an average of 5 months additional progress.

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Digital technology (£10,201)

A range of additional ICT resources are deployed to further enhance disadvantaged pupils reading, writing, mathematics and communication skills.

Extended school time (£3,197)

Breakfast and twilight revision sessions for targeted students in preparation for their examinations, with food and revision guides provided. Extending the school day is claimed to bring about an average of two months additional progress, and is particularly effective closest to their examinations.

Emotional support (£12,012)

The Sutton Trust-EEF Toolkit, November 2014, does not refer specifically to studies evaluating the impact of the range of bespoke counselling and/ or therapy sessions we provide for those with specific emotional needs, however it is self-evident that students whose orientation to learning is not compromised by wider personal issues are likely to make better progress, relative to their potential, than those that are. Addressing that element of young people's lives is therefore imperative where it is potentially limiting, and, based on the toolkit's analyses for social and emotional learning, behaviour intervention and parental engagement yield an average of 2 months additional progress.

Professional development for teachers and educational support staff (£5,665)

All our professional development is about improving the quality of education we provide, through teaching, feedback and wider support and understanding the issues that affect underachievement is central to that.

Educational consultancy (£2,981)

In order to ensure we spend the Pupil Premium well, and to achieve the best possible value for money, we commission services specific to emergent needs throughout the academic year.

Impact of the funding in 2013-2014

The impact of some of the strategies described above, such as improvements in reading age, sentence comprehension, accuracy in calculation, can be and are quantified in order to make decisions about next steps for individuals, and about resource allocation. This happens, as with all good teaching, frequently, and in this case taking into account a range of data including feedback from students and their parents about the effectiveness of the interventions we have put in place for them.

This happens across all year groups.

In last year's year 11, 67% pupils as a whole cohort achieved 5 GCSEs at grades A*-C including English and mathematics, compared to 55% of all children nationally.

Last year's year 11 comprised 29 disadvantaged pupils, and 163 other pupils.

There is a gap between the achievement of disadvantaged pupils and other pupils nationally, and at The John Warner School. In English and mathematics, as a result of our Pupil Premium spending, the achievement gap between these pupils has closed significantly when compared to the 2013 results. The details are shown below:

Difference: % of JWS disadvantaged pupils making expected progress in English compared to other pupils nationally, in 2013 and 2014.

	2013	2014
KS2 level 4 on entry	-5	4
KS2 level 5 on entry	-31	20

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Difference: % of JWS disadvantaged pupils making expected progress in mathematics compared to other pupils nationally, in 2013 and 2014.

	2013	2014
KS2 level 4 on entry	-35	-30
KS2 level 5 on entry	-24	20

Plans for 2014-2015

In this academic year we expect to receive £181,750 for the Pupil Premium. The school will continue to focus on devising and implementing interventions and support programmes based on the changing needs of our students. We recognise that individual children may often be seen as fitting into more than one of these 'vulnerable group', and so will take care to ensure that our many individualised programmes address the needs of those eligible for the Pupil Premium as a priority, and will focus particularly on disadvantaged pupils who join the school at level 4 in their mathematics from key stage 2.

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