



BRIDGE AP ACADEMY PUPIL PREMIUM EVIDENCE 2016-17

How much pupil premium funding you received for this academic year?

For the year 2016-17 the pupil premium figure for the Bridge AP Academy is **£92,681.75**

Details of the main barriers to educational achievement that the disadvantaged children in your school face

The majority of our learners at The Bridge AP Academy are disadvantaged to varying degrees and face a range of social, emotional, mental health and behavioural challenges. Currently 70% of our learners have pupil premium entitlement. Pupil premium funding is used in a variety of ways which supports the progress and development of the whole school community.

The Sound Training reading programme is key to addressing the literacy deficit we have identified amongst our learners. Pupil premium funds are also used to fund middle leadership Wave Leader posts to oversee a variety of bespoke academic and well-being centred interventions delivered to all of our learners. We have now created a nurture group for our most vulnerable children and spend funds on high staffing ratios, resources and activities. Further to this we have allocated pupil premium funds on a range of enrichment activities ranging from the First Story writing project to drumming workshops and a personal independence programme.

The performance and progress of pupil premium groups is tracked and regularly reviewed against other groups, along with reading age progress.

How you will spend your pupil premium funding to address these barriers and the reasons for the approach you've chosen

Many of our learners have to face significant barriers to educational achievement including dysfunctional family life which can trigger a chain reaction of other issues including lack of readiness for school causing poor performance and poor behaviour in school, involvement in gang-related activity and a sense of hopelessness. This is what leads most of our learners to be referred to us.

Therefore we adopt a wrap-around approach to our learners which starts with the provision of hot breakfast from 8.30am, hot food at break time and a hot meal at lunch time. It would be counterproductive to charge those pupils who are not entitled to free school meals. Instead, we aim to create a cohesive climate of support for all to support their needs.

Given the high numbers of pupil premium pupils at The Bridge at any given time and bearing in mind our pupil population is growing in-year, our approach to determining who benefits from our range of interventions cannot be based upon who is entitled to pupil premium; **it is based on need.**

Our range of interventions includes:-

- Jamie's Farm - annual farm residential for up to eight learners.
- TBAP Residence - the main criterion for referral here is that learners are on the edge of care proceedings. All referrals to the Residence so far have been entitled to pupil premium.
- Therapeutic interventions - the mental health of all our learners is monitored closely. Our therapy offer has more than doubled in 2016-17. Many of our learners are faced with the paradox that engaging with the interventions designed to support them and help them, make them feel more needy and so they often reject the support provided, hence our approach to make interventions available to all. Our therapeutic offer, again, is based on need, not entitlement to pupil premium. This is a difficult area to monitor impact given that the effects of therapy may not become apparent until much later in the lives of our learners, possibly after they have left us.
- Our nurture group offers intensive support for the most vulnerable learners with a holistic approach to their academic and social development.
- Literacy interventions - we are monitoring closely the progress of all learners entitled to pupil premium and this will be reported on as we collect Sound Training progress data.
- Bespoke learning opportunities - where learners struggle with the curriculum we offer we strive to offer alternatives outside of the school. Pupil premium allows us to source vocational courses in other venues to meet the learning needs of certain learners. For example, we have offered Motor Vehicle mechanics and Moped maintenance to learners who are entitled to PP this academic year at a cost of £2,000 per placement.
- The First Story writing programme runs weekly. A writer in residence works with learners to produce work to be published, performed and stored in the British Museum.
- Revision opportunities - in the form of after school classes staffed by existing staff and the provision of revision materials to all learners
- Provision of basics in terms of stationery etc. - rather than insist that learners come to school fully equipped we have a policy of providing them with the equipment they need in order to get on with their learning from the get-go.
- Regular trips to places of interest to broaden learners' horizons and raise aspirations.
- Leavers' day celebrations for year 11s to recognise their achievements.

How you will measure the impact of the pupil premium?

As a MAT, we are in the process of devising a range of measures to help us monitor the progress of our learners. Progress 5 Measures are being developed in response to the [Commission on Assessment Without Levels: final report](#) which promotes the view that approaches to assessment:

- are based on needs of the pupils
- follow the school's curriculum
- support effective teaching

Using a programme called Pupil Asset we have developed an approach which allows us to measure the impact of our new approach to assessment on all groups, including of course learners entitled to PP.

We will also use the report to monitor the progress in the following areas:

- Attendance
- Curriculum Progress
- Literacy
- Behaviour
- Enrichment and Therapy

The date of the next pupil premium strategy review - September 2017 (following GCSE and other examination analysis)

For last year:-

How you spent your pupil premium funding: £81.072

Funding was spent on three Wave Leader posts for Learning Support Professionals to

coordinate and deliver a full range of bespoke interventions which included anger management, restorative justice, targeted literacy and numeracy support, mentoring and therapy provision and enrichment.

What impact has pupil premium had on pupils?

Last year we saw reading ages rise across our pupil premium group as a result of interventions, increasing access to the curriculum and supporting skills needed in the workplace.

81% made at least 1 year's progress

22% made 2 or more years' progress

11% made 3 or more years' progress

7% made 4 or more years' progress

Focused interventions resulted in significant academic success in examinations with 83% of learners receiving pupil premium achieving 5 A*-G at GCSE and 17% achieving 5A*-C. Furthermore, Enrichment trips have provided many opportunities for learners to build their self-esteem, work collaboratively and develop a range of skills, whilst gaining access to otherwise out-of-reach experiences.