

Pupil Premium Update to Governors, November 2020

Due to Covid-19, the DfE have said that they understand that it will not be possible to evaluate the impact of pupil premium spending for the 2019- 2020 academic year.

Instead, the DfE have said that schools should monitor and report on the grant's impact at the end of the 2020/21 financial year. That report should cover the whole period between September 2019 and March 2021, with most detail about the grant's use and impact for the period between September 2020 – March 2021. This can include changes that were made to pupil premium spending due to Coronavirus.

Further detail and full objectives will be available for Governors over the coming months, however an outline of the strategy is given below.

Due to the changes to educational provision caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the detail in our Pupil Premium strategy has been subject to review since April 2020. Our use of funding has been adapted to meet students' needs as they have arisen, whilst maintaining the principles outlined in the original strategy. During the pandemic the following key steps have been taken to ensure that disadvantaged pupils' barriers to learning will continue to be overcome wherever possible:

A) For vulnerable learners to attend school – the school opened for children of Key Workers and vulnerable children during the period from May to July.

B) To ensure learners had the correct tools to complete home learning – we provided laptops for learners to use where required, provided printed packs for families without internet access.

C) To provide support to families through the Pastoral and Student Welfare teams – all vulnerable students who were unable to attend school due to the distance they travel or family circumstances were contacted on a weekly basis by Pastoral and Welfare staff. All students were in regular contact via Teams or email with mentors and teachers; where students did not make contact for two days, Welfare staff made contact with the family to ensure their wellbeing.

In preparing to reopen in September, the Senior Leadership Team identified a set of priorities for the coming year based around a recovery curriculum for all learners, including vulnerable pupils and those eligible for pupil premium. Our Pupil Premium strategy will be based on those priorities, alongside those priorities which will continue from 2019 and will focus on:

D) Identifying learning gaps and putting high impact strategies in place to address them.

E) Supporting the emotional and mental health of our learners in their transition back to full time education.

F) Ensuring learners have the correct tools to complete home learning, should individuals need to isolate or groups of students need to learn remotely.