



# Rivers Academy West London

an Aspirations Academy

Rivers Academy's use of Pupil Premium funds is primarily focused on ensuring that the allocated money benefits our students most by being used strategically rather than through a series of ad hoc or bolt-on measures.

The Academy is in the highest quintile for free school meals (FSM) and ward data also demonstrates high levels of deprivation. Nationally, pupils targeted by the pupil premium tend to be over represented in terms of under achievement on entry to the school, less enrichment opportunities in the home and lower aspirations but despite this **Raiseonline** (November 2016) clearly demonstrates the remarkable progress that all Rivers Academy students make on entry.

The Pupil Premium allocation is currently a budgeted figure for Rivers Academy, calculated this year for 2016/2017 at £363,715.

The allocation has been spent in a number of different but targeted ways:

- To subsidise the development and staffing of our SEND/EAL and S&L departments for our students with specific needs in those areas (accelerating progress for low attainment on entry and where learning in the home is less well resourced).
- To continue to invest in Teaching and Learning through funding of Lead Practitioners and to fund after school revision classes and homework clubs.
- To part fund the second Sixth Form Supervised Study Centre for sixth form use during the school day and after school.
- To subsidise our biometric catering system that helps ensure that our students eligible for free school meals (FSM) do not feel any sense of difference from their peers.
- To fund targeted curriculum developments and individualised Pastoral Support Plans which provide a wide range of enrichment, aspiration and learning experiences.
- To fund the highly personalised alternative pathways and the use of our Student Engagement Leaders where vulnerable students receive small group teaching with a high staff/student ratio and bespoke learning programmes.
- To help to increase staffing levels to improve pupil-teacher ratios, particularly in English/Literacy/English as an Additional Language (EAL), Mathematics/Numeracy and Science.
- To nurture more able students through our 'Brilliant Club.'
- To employ our Student Engagement Team and partly fund outreach work through our Families Engagement Officer, addressing attendance issues of our most vulnerable students.

- To complement our departmental capitation and ensure our departments are able to provide resources for students who are less able to purchase them for themselves for example science revision booklets.
- To assist individual students with uniform and school trip grants (Hardship).

**The impact of the pupil premium allocation on educational outcomes has been multifarious and can be best seen through:**

- The progress and attainment data for pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM) and for Looked After Children (LAC) which offers clear evidence that this strategic approach to the use of the pupil premium is highly effective.
- The excellent attendance rate which is above the national average for all schools including the rate for persistent absentees who traditionally come from vulnerable and deprived families.
- The fact that the Academy was graded outstanding in all areas by Ofsted in March 2015 **‘Students make rapid progress from very low starting points. They achieve extremely well across all year groups and in the vast majority of subjects’** and the fact that the Academy has been consistently over -subscribed in Year7 for the last two years.

The Pupil Premium allocation for Rivers Academy is broken down into specific categories (please see Spending Reports).

As our targeted use of this funding has produced such positive results last year, we plan to use this funding for the coming year in the same way.