



Rivers Academy West London

an Aspirations Academy

SUMMER SCHOOL STATEMENT 2021

Financials

A total allocation of £52k was made available to facilitate the Summer School. The total expenditure at the end of the project was £33k.

Outlined below is how the week was designed and facilitated:

The Rivers Summer Experience

The Rivers Summer Experience was designed to aid the transition process for our new year seven students, developing their social skills, giving them an opportunity to explore their new school and allowing staff to support the vulnerable students.

The first day of the Rivers Summer Experience we asked staff to lead several sessions. One of the most popular sessions was focused on student wellbeing and involved discussing healthy lifestyles. This session enabled us to share with students the planned menu for the week, and showing them how healthy eating impacts on their lives.

We also had a session where students were able to design a plate to represent themselves, we then created a banner of all the plates. This banner was then displayed during September which provided students with a sense of belonging.

Finally we also had a session run by an external company which included live role play, encouraging and developing students confidence.

On Tuesday we had another external company who ran various outdoor activities including a climbing wall, team building and archery. These activities encouraged team work, a sense of adventure and challenge between students helping them to bond further.

Finally for the last three days we had another external company work with us who ran sessions that required students to solve murders, work together to discover how they might survive in space and create poems to name a few. These three days provided students with the opportunity to become familiar with the school building, learn useful skills in maths, science and English as well as promoting further social skills between students.

Overall the week proved to be extremely successful with students saying they felt more confident when joining us in September and telling us they had made new friends as well as having gotten to know staff.

Outcomes

Year 7 students joined the Academy in September with confidence of their peer group, their teachers and their surroundings.

The students who attended the summer school were able to act as mentors for those students who were on site for the first time. This gave students confidence and helped with relationships. The focus on learning was immediate and the students have had a settled start to the year. It is anticipated that this will be reflected in comparative assessment data for the first term.

Keiran Betts – Transition Leader