

The City of Leicester College *Pupil Premium Policy*

Be Happy, Be Ambitious, Make a Difference

The Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) is used to fund and support 2 key national priorities:

- Raising the attainment of disadvantaged students and closing the gap with their peers, and
- Supporting children and young people with parents in the regular armed forces

Funding for 2015 to 2016

The PPG per student for 2015-2016 is as follows:

Disadvantaged Students	Funding amount per student
Pupils in Year Groups 7 to 11 recorded as Ever 6 FSM*	£935
Looked After Children (LAC)*	£1900
Children adopted from care under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 1 and children who have left care under a Special Guardianship, a Child Arrangements Order or Residence Order*	£1900
Service children	
Pupils in Year Groups R to 11 recorded as Ever 5 Service Child or in receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence*	£300

***Ever 6 FSM**

The pupil premium for 2015 to 2016 will include students recorded in the January 2015 school census who are known to have been eligible for free school meals (FSM) in any of the previous 6 years (ie since summer 2009), as well as those first known to be eligible at January 2015.

***Children adopted from care or who have left care**

The pupil premium for 2015 to 2016 will include students recorded in the January 2015 school census and alternative provision census who were looked after by an English or Welsh local authority immediately before being adopted, or who left local authority care on a special guardianship order or child arrangements order (previously known as a residence order). These are collectively referred to as post-LAC in these conditions of grant.

***Ever 5 service child**

For the purposes of these grant conditions, 'ever 5 service child' means a pupil recorded in the January 2015 school census who was eligible for the service child premium in any of the previous 4 years (ie since the January 2011 school census) as well as those recorded as a service child for the first time on the January 2015 school census.

Securing Success

When students enter The City of Leicester College we ensure we know and understand the starting points for their academic progress. Our Transition process is thorough and we gain valuable information from our partner Primary Schools.

Additionally we carry out Reading Age and Spelling Age assessments to help inform our understanding of our pupils' needs, as well as using Cognitive Ability Test data to identify potential barriers to learning.

The pupil premium will be spent on ensuring that all students are making progress in the key skills needed to succeed at The City of Leicester College and ensure they are properly prepared for the next stage of their education.

The most important key skills are:

- Reading
- Writing (including spelling)
- Use of Number
- Behaviour for learning

Without these skills students will not reach their potential.

For students who enter the school with reading ages well below their chronological age, or below the level of functional literacy, we will deliver a personalised programme of evidence-based interventions to help them improve on this vital skill. A 'catch-up' reading programme will be based on regular intensive small group sessions, taking place either before or during the school day and will utilise support packages such as Lexia and RML 'Fresh Start' delivered by highly skilled staff.

Alongside this we want to encourage students to read for pleasure. Ensuring that both young people and their parents have access to high quality stimulating reading materials is a priority. Students will have regular opportunities to use the library resources, will be encouraged to take part in reading competitions, will have the opportunity to work alongside an author, will have opportunities to extend their personal libraries via book fairs and will take part in events such as World Book Day.

Within the curriculum we pay for additional staffing to help us design learning which is personalised to the needs of individual and to groups of learners. This support may be in the form of 1:1 or small group tuition, after/before school intervention or in-class support.

Throughout their time at The City of Leicester College, we will intervene to support students who fall behind in these core skills.

Attendance at college is vital in ensuring success and in making progress and we also support students with their attendance with regular home visits and family meetings in college and a Pupil Premium Attendance Officer.

We have found all of these measures to be particularly effective in helping students gain the skills and confidence to succeed.

Supporting Students

For many students, becoming a teenager is not the easiest of times. This can lead to emotional difficulties both at home and at school. We believe that employing high quality support staff, mentors and a qualified counsellor to help students overcome their particular barriers to learning is essential. Many students at The City of Leicester College rely on this support to succeed and without this personal approach, they could potentially become disengaged

Mentoring and counselling will mean supporting students emotionally, but also ensuring that they are challenged to work hard, succeed and overcome their particular barriers to learning. Some of this work involves helping pupils to raise their aspirations. Therefore some Pupil Premium funding will be targeted at helping pupils identify future opportunities and raise their aspirations in line with the College Learning Charter: "Be Happy, Be Ambitious, Make a Difference", for example, by funding a qualified counsellor and Learning Mentors

Ensuring Equality of Access to the Curriculum

A key aspect of our ethos at The City of Leicester College is our belief that we need to develop memorable learning experiences. This includes curriculum trips and visits. We also believe that all students benefit greatly from a residential experience. The college aims for every student to attend at least one residential trip during their time at The City of Leicester College.

Our enrichment programme is extensive and inclusive. The Pupil Premium will be used to support pupils whose families are on low incomes to access these enrichment opportunities.

An intrinsic part of The City of Leicester College is the focus on developing the talents of our students. We believe that talents such as sport, music, dance and drama will only develop into a lifelong passion by providing a high quality extended curriculum. The Pupil Premium will also help **all** students access this curriculum and assist students in discovering their talents.

Supporting Parents

Bringing up teenagers is never an easy time. The additional stresses provided by financial worries will also impact on this. We believe that providing high quality support to parents of children who are finding it difficult to progress at

college can impact greatly on their success. We provide regular structured pastoral support meetings where parents can discuss their concerns and jointly identify strategies which can help students succeed at college and at home.

Policy Review Date: September 2018