

Pupil Premium Strategy

At Manor Croft Academy we believe that every student irrespective of background or prior attainment should make outstanding progress and reach goals beyond what they may initially believe is possible. We understand that many students face barriers to their learning and as a team we work hard to overcome them. Some of these barriers can include:

- Low aspirations resulting from a lack of ambition and family history of further education.
- Historical attendance issues, students have undervalued education and not been challenged to attend well.
- Lack of support in key subject areas for example low reading ages from a lack of early reading opportunities.
- Lack of educational support at home to supplement that delivered through the curriculum.
- Lack of resources and opportunities to develop themselves further outside the curriculum.

We are determined to create a climate that does not limit an individual's potential in any way. We have a high number (over 38%) of students who are eligible for Pupil Premium funding. Our strategy is initially to ensure all our students, especially our PP students attend well. Extra resources are directed at staff and key students are targeted to make our PP attendance similar if not higher than our non PP students.

As a number of our PP students start secondary school with lower academic attainment than their peers we ensure they receive intense support to fill any gaps in their progress. This support and intervention is bespoke to the individual learner but can take the form of: the Read Write Inc. program (designed to support reading and literacy skills), literacy intervention through accelerated reader or the Lexia program and numeracy support in small groups developing the basic and fundamental skills needed for maths. This bespoke intervention continues as our students progress through the academy and into the GCSE programs of study.

Students social and emotional needs are also identified early as a potential barrier to learning and progress and again depending on need, special programs are designed with our pastoral staff to break down these barriers and allow students to enjoy the curriculum.

Together with the academic and pastoral support we offer our PP students a whole range of further interventions and support. These include; helping students enjoy and experience the 'arts' through music lessons and tuition, support with funding for a broad range of trips, breakfast clubs to ensure PP students enjoy a healthy and nutritious start to the day, alternative provision for students who's needs are more complex and extra resources across the whole range of subjects as and when they are needed.

All these measures alongside the consistently high expectations we have of all our students have led to the exceptional results achieved in GCSE examinations as well as the positive feedback received from Ofsted and other external organisations.