

Description of Pupil Premium Support for 2019/2020

Core Support:

- Additional Teaching Groups: Teaching groups in English, Maths, Science, Religious Studies and Computing have increased to ensure pupil premium pupils receive more support from their classroom teachers
- Additional learning time in Years 7 and 11 specifically aimed at literacy intervention called Stellify (3:30pm) and GCSE achievement by extending the school day until 4pm
- Senior management and Heads of Department lead training on developing outstanding teaching and learning including the identification and tracking of key groups of pupils across the school
- Targeted Intervention for individual pupils depending on their area of need
- Appointment of a Pastoral Manager for Pupil Premium children to meet the academic and pastoral needs of pupils
- Provide training and support to staff on key interventions

Intervention – Raising Achievement Programme for Key Stage 3

The Raising Achievement Programme is specifically for pupils in Key Stage 3. It has been developed to ensure all pupils at Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College make the expected levels of progress over five years. The main priority is to track pupil progress, apply early intervention, to encourage pupils to take responsibility for their learning and provide guidance and advice for future choices. Throughout the year pupils have meetings with our Careers Advisor and are also assigned a mentor who tracks their progress closely and supports pupils to reach their potential. Pupils also have University and Apprenticeship talks to raise their career aspirations and we have other workshops such as Learning styles to succeed in their subject areas. Pupils on the programme are those who have not made expected progress to date in English, Maths or both. School also pay for external support for some of our more vulnerable pupils so that further intervention can be put into place. Maths and English teacher receive the question level analysis for each pupil premium child to identify the strength and weaknesses by each assessment objective.

Careers Guidance Support

- Pupil Premium pupils at Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College have a variety of Careers and Guidance Support
- Our aim is to ensure they will leave Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College prepared for further study and employment
- They all have the opportunity to explore New Kudos, an impartial careers guidance information program which helps young people plan their future and make informed decisions. GMACS and eCLIPS are two new electronic platforms available to pupils to gather information and inspiration on career and labour market information

- Pupils in Year 8 take part in a mentoring scheme that introduces them to the world of work and careers and the importance of careers, sessions focus around self-awareness, CV awareness and labour market information. These pupils also have a visit to Manchester Metropolitan University to introduce them to Higher Education (Strategy didn't take place due to global pandemic this year)
- Pupils in Year 10 have a careers day to explore Post-16 options. This includes a visit by Further Education Colleges or Sixth Forms, and a mini careers fair in the afternoon where a variety of colleges, apprenticeship providers and organisations such as the Army and Police visit to offer advice and guidance (Strategy didn't take place due to global pandemic this year)
- Year 10 pupils visit the Blessed Thomas Holford Higher Education Fair in January
- Year 10 pupils visit the Blessed Thomas Holford Careers Fair in March
- Pupils in Year 10 have the chance to visit The Manchester College taster day in June to experience what studying at college would be like
- Pupils in Year 10 have the opportunity to attend the UK Higher Education and Apprenticeship Search Fair (Strategy didn't take place due to global pandemic this year)
- Pupils in Year 11 attend a full half-term during the Autumn half-term of tutorials focussing on CEIAG
- Pupils offered careers advice by telephone during the Coronavirus pandemic
- One to one guidance sessions for pupils on Post 16 guidance and support. Helping pupils by discussing their possible post-16 routes, providing contacts, discussing requirements and also advice on completing application forms. Pupils with a Pupil Premium Status receive their guidance meetings after EHCP pupils have been seen. Careers Adviser works with Assistant Headteacher in charge of Year 11 Progress of Pupil Premium. A record of the meeting and any information to support the action plan is sent home. There is no limit to guidance sessions for Pupil Premium pupils – PP can have as many sessions as needed

Revision Support for Pupils with External Examinations in Summer 2020

Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College provides extra support vital revision skills for Years 10 and 11 pupils in preparation for GCSE examinations.

- This academic year, Heads of Department with class teachers at Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College have identified and provided a number of interventions including some personalised programmes of support to ensure every pupil makes progress. Classes have taken place during the following school holidays – October 2019, February 2020. Easter 2020 and June 2020 didn't take place due to global pandemic.
- Residentials took place in November and February for PP pupils. Pupils attended a residential over a weekend to take part in outdoor activities and extra support in English and Maths. 50 pupils attended each weekend.
- School to remain open every Saturday from January 2020 until June 2020 for pupils to receive additional help or revise independently using the school's IT facilities (Strategy didn't take place due to global pandemic this year)
- Breakfast is provided free of charge for all pupils during external examination period

- These interventions on Saturday and holiday periods have enabled pupils to improve controlled assessments and non-examination assessment and/or to complete revision sessions on specific subjects. The support will have a positive impact on GCSE results in August 2020
- Pupils were given access to a Mathematical Online Learning Platform called Hegarty Maths
- All pupil premium children were issued with a revision guide and other essential learning equipment for each subject they study at a cost of £4000

Teaching Assistants: Learning in the Curriculum, Nurture, Intervention

Teaching Assistants work either with pupils in lessons or delivering interventions to support pupils' access the mainstream curriculum. They are trained in a number of key Specific Learning Difficulties including:

- Dyslexia
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Speech and Language Therapy.

They are supported by specialists who work within the Local Authority who provides regular updates and training. More recent areas that we have been developing support for include: Social Communication Skills, ADHD and Attachment Disorder. Teaching Assistants also support pupils in Form Time and during Extra-Curricular activities and trips to ensure that they can participate in all aspects of the curriculum. They also work collaboratively with other departments, including regularly liaising with the Pastoral Team and Heads of Department to ensure that the specific needs of pupils are communicated to relevant staff. The team are committed to established positive working relationships with both pupils and staff in order to remove potential barriers to learning.

Literacy Intervention:

- A new literacy policy has been introduced from September 2018 with a specific focus on addressing pupils with weak literacy skills on entry
- The new library will have a key role in encouraging reading amongst hard to reach groups and weak readers
- Pupils with low literacy skills are identified and supported by our Literacy team. Pupils are then placed into small intervention groups based on their needs. A small number of high needs pupils will work 1:1 with our Specialist Literacy TA
- There were individual, bespoke reading programmes specifically targeting weak PP readers in Y7, 8 and 9
- Pupils will then follow a targeted Literacy intervention developed in house which closely supports the English curriculum. Pupil progress is monitored throughout and pupils who make the required levels of progress will have completed the programme. Literacy Intervention is delivered by trained TAs and includes pupils in Years 7-11

- The Stellify programme for all Year 7 pupils includes a range of literacy activities that focus on the development of writing, vocabulary development, oracy and reading. Stellify lessons include two guided reading sessions per , where active reading strategies are employed (to give the pupils the opportunity to actively engage in the reading process (making predictions, clarifying, questioning and summarising reading materials) and not just be passive learners
- Stellify breakdown includes: Monday- focus on non-fiction news article- class reading and discussion to provide them with that non-fiction language (this is a form of fiction that isn't as well covered in primary school, and as such pupils in year 7 can often struggle with the jump from fiction/ stories, to newspaper articles). Vocabulary development, Tier Two word of the week and spellings on Tuesdays. Wednesday and Thursday- group reading, with active reading strategies employed so that pupils actively engage with the reading- can make predictions, clarify, question and summarise the reading materials. Friday- literacy quests/ anagrams/ word searches etc.
- Literacy evening will also be held for parents of Year 7 pupils and Year 8 pupils
- There are also Literacy and Numeracy lessons timetabled for our weaker pupils, at KS4 they are the pupils who took one less option and complete the Step up to English qualification
- Writing competitions are promoted and run through the library with BBC 500 words, Young Writers and The Literacy Trust
- A vocabulary intervention programme called Mrs Wordsmith is used during Stellify for key pupils who have low reading ages to improve their vocabulary
- Our Sixth Form ambassadors and Prefects work with pupils with low engagement and low reading ages throughout the year to encourage and promote reading

Numeracy Intervention

- Pupils with weak numeracy skills are identified prior to entry
- The numeracy policy identifies key strategies for developing strong mathematical skills and knowledge in Year 7
- All pupils performing below the expected level in year 7 take part in the Numeracy Intervention called Passport Maths
- Numeracy evening will be held for parents of Year 7 and 8 pupils to promote support from parents in helping children with their Mathematics.
- There are Literacy and Numeracy lessons timetabled for pupils with weak numeracy skills and at KS4 this is accommodated by pupils taking one less option.
- Intervention is delivered by Teaching Assistants and Teaching staff at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4.

Home Learning Club

- Our appointed Homework Club Co-ordinator and Librarian oversees this intervention which runs every day before school, 8.15am – 8:55am and after school, 3.00pm – 4.30pm for all pupils entitled to additional funding

- Pupils who have been identified as having difficulty in managing their time and organisation will be offered some additional support during Homework club. This support will either be via a Teaching assistant Library volunteer
- Laptops are available for pupils to use for revision purposes and online Homework tasks.
- The Homework club Co-Ordinator will also liaise with teaching staff to identify any pupils who are struggling to complete homework so help with specific work
- The Homework Club Co-Ordinator works closely with Pastoral Team to ensure that pupils are well supported in completing homework and assessments to set deadlines.
- Registers are taken every evening to check and monitor attendance of Homework club and keep track of key pupils who would benefit from attendance

Pastoral Care

Pupil premium funding for pastoral care is solely used to help close any gaps we may have in the outcomes and wellbeing for our pupil premium children in comparison to other pupils within the school.

These are the key areas of action:

- Breakfast allowance and breakfast club for all years
- In-school counsellor – this is provided every Tuesday for the full day and targeted towards pupils with a specific need
- In school interventions which target key groups, all with a different focus:
 - GOAL (to improve behaviour),
 - REACH (to support and guide our more vulnerable pupils),
 - LINC (to support pupils and promote better social skills and communication),
 - DOT (and art therapy group that centres around specific pupils and their needs- more of an open forum)
- Staff for The Ark, alternative provision and interventions that are held for vulnerable pupils
- Mentoring – Year 11 pupils are offered 1:1 mentoring to support them throughout the year on fortnightly basis with senior teachers
- Equipment and Uniform – This has included classroom equipment, art equipment, textbooks, revision guides, literary books and uniform. All year 11 pupils are supplied with revision material and textbooks for all subjects and equipment
- Educational Welfare – We pay for additional Educational Welfare Officer support to tackle attendance and punctuality of key groups of pupils
- Educational visits – We often offer to contribute towards trips and retreats to ensure that all pupil premium children have the opportunity to take part in educational experiences out with the classroom. These include cultural trips specific to a subject and trips abroad to compliment studies and broaden

horizons. However, please be aware that pupil premium funding is mainly to support pupil outcomes and whole school priorities

- Educational experiences – We often contribute to the spiritual education of our pupils by contributing to the costs of retreats, thus ensuring all pupil premium children have the opportunity to attend. We also contribute towards external experiences and talks such as Learn to Learn and workshops to help improve aspirations and attainment