

# TGS Pupil Premium Statement: Autumn 2020

**Our vision and moral purpose** is that all children thrive, develop in confidence and self-belief, and realise their life chances.

**Our commitment** to our school community is to provide a safe place to be; a sense of belonging, where staff are champions of the students; where teaching and learning is of the highest standard and tailored to individual needs, alongside mutual respect, support and care.

**Our responsibility** - We recognise the transformative power that education can have and our inclusive ethos and approach offers pathways to success, where all opportunities are within reach.

Pupil Premium is a funding stream allocated to schools to provide additional support to students on or who have, in the previous 6 years, received free school meals. In addition, 'Pupil Premium Plus' for looked after and previously looked after children, acknowledges the enduring impact of trauma and loss in children's lives and the key role of schools in supporting children who have had a difficult start in life.

The Pupil Premium Funding at TGS is used to:

- diminish the difference between disadvantaged students and their peers.
- address any underlying inequalities between children eligible for Pupil Premium and their peers.
- support students who need the funding most in order to make a significant impact on their education and lives.
- provide additional educational support to improve the progress and to raise the standards of achievement for disadvantaged students.

Principles underpinning PP Funding expenditure:

- **High quality teaching** disproportionately benefits children eligible for PP and is vital in raising attainment. TGS has a strong commitment to the continuous professional development for all staff, with a real focus on staff training centred around evidence-based 'best practice' in the classroom for teachers and teaching assistants.
- This **evidence-based approach** extends to identifying the most effective interventions and examples of successful whole school strategy. TGS has a designated senior leader, with strategic responsibility for vulnerable learners. A full-time Pupil Premium Manager also acts as a key advocate for our students eligible for Pupil Premium.
- Ensuring all students are 'known, included and heard' is at the heart of Tadcaster Grammar School's ethos. **Tutors and subject teachers** know which students are eligible for Pupil Premium so that they can **take responsibility for accelerating their progress**.
- **Improving the life chances** of students who are eligible for pupil premium is part of our school's moral purpose. Funding allocated to students eligible for Pupil Premium is targeted and spent on improving for disadvantaged students.
- TGS does **not confuse eligibility with low ability** and focuses on supporting all students to achieve the very best outcomes, whatever their starting point.
- Senior leaders prioritise the needs of this cohort by having regular Pupil Premium 'Floodlight' meetings. In addition, termly meetings with **school governors are also held, who challenge the way the money is being spent and be part of strategy decisions**.
- **Progress review data** is provided after every reporting cycle (3 times per year) at KS4 and internally within faculties at KS3 for staff to highlight students in their classes who may be struggling or underachieving. An ongoing 'assess, plan, do and review' of the needs and outcomes of students is recognised as essential quality-first teaching. **Attitudinal data will now be provided too as strong correlation between attitude to learning and outcomes**.

- Excellent teaching is paramount but there is, at times, a need for **focused intervention** outside of the mainstream classroom. Maths and English teachers and tutors who have excellent track records are allocated to teach specific groups. Many faculties have set up peer-mentoring and teacher support programmes.
- The EEF (Education Endowment Foundation) note that **parental engagement** is effective in improving performance. The school's Pupil Premium Manager works very closely with parents so that they too feel known, included and heard. Support is offered to all families and targeted where there may be external barriers to their child's learning.