



Generation
Culture

Broadening Access to a Cultural Education through Pupil Premium: Case Studies

Here's how schools are already using their Pupil Premium money to ensure their disadvantaged students have access to a cultural education.

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CASE STUDY 1

**LONGFORD PARK
SPECIAL SCHOOL
NORTH WEST**

What is noticeable is that the school are concentrating on pupils' sense of well-being and security.

—
Pupil Premium Award
case study judges

Longford Park Special School is a very small primary school in Trafford for pupils with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties, who are placed in the school as they are unable to maintain mainstream schooling. 68% of the students are eligible for Pupil Premium funding, alongside 100% of students having special educational needs.

As students come to this school due to difficulties coping in mainstream schooling, the staff were aware that their approach to supporting students would have to be different. The focus is not on narrow attainment measures, but instead is on student wellbeing and therapeutic interventions. 18% of Longford Park's Pupil Premium budget is spent on music tuition comprised of brass instrument and choir lessons which are available to all students for free. A further 6% of the budget is spent on art provision for the students.

At Key Stage 1, pupils are progressing at almost twice the rate of national averages and this momentum continues through Key Stage 2. The figures show that in Key Stage 2 almost all of Longford Park School's pupils achieved or exceeded the upper quartile.

Longford Park was a National Pupil Premium Awards Winner in 2013, and a finalist in 2015.



CASE STUDY 2

**SHIRELAND
COLLEGIATE ACADEMY
WEST MIDLANDS**

We have a long history of working with our families and the local community to support learning in the broadest sense.

—
Sir Mark Grundy,
Headteacher

Shireland Collegiate Academy is a large comprehensive in Smethwick, on the outskirts of Birmingham, in the top quintile for deprivation, with 58.8% of their students eligible for Pupil Premium funding.

A large portion of Shireland's **Pupil Premium** funding goes to supporting students' equality of opportunity, including to cultural opportunities. This includes (but is not limited to) music tuition, cultural trips and after-school activities with no charge, Saturday School and transition Summer Schools. Shireland's Theatre School has been given a significant proportion of the budget in the past year.

The team at Shireland worked in collaboration with the local Birmingham Hippodrome to bring theatre and music skills into their new professional-level space inside the school. Initially aimed at gifted and talented students with a focus on those receiving **Pupil Premium** funding, the Theatre School is now available for use by everyone, broadening access to drama, dance and music performance.

Shireland Collegiate Academy maintains Outstanding results for all its students as well as a very low attainment gap, with only 4% difference in **Pupil Premium** and other students gaining 5 A*-C including English and Maths at GCSE.

SCA was a Regional Pupil Premium Winner and National Pupil Premium Finalist in 2015.



CASE STUDY 3

CHARTER ACADEMY HAMPSHIRE

A caring and supportive learning environment that nurtures students' development into positive, well rounded members of society.

—
Dame Sharon Hollows,
Headteacher

Charter Academy is in one of the poorest areas of the country – one in three children living in the south of Portsmouth, where the school is based, live in poverty. Pupil Premium stands at 62% – over double the national average.

As an Ark academy, Charter partially uses Pupil Premium funding to uphold a commitment to small-group tuition in English and maths. Headteacher, Dame Sharon Hollows, is dedicated to the concept of school being, to complement the core subjects offer. Pupil Premium money is additionally used beyond the classroom for trips to theatrical performances and other events, as well as free music tuition, and, in a major project, the school has also built a theatre on-site to build oral language skills and confidence through cultural education.

The school is a performing arts specialist school, with close links to local cultural institutions The Kings Theatre, The Theatre Royal, Express FM radio station, The Old Blacksmiths Recording Studio and the young people's charity, Music Fusion. The performing arts are also not restricted to extra-curricular opportunities.

Charter Academy was a National Pupil Premium Winner in 2015. In addition 82% of students eligible for Pupil Premium funding achieved 5+ A*-C GCSE, twice the national average.



CASE STUDY 4

**VAUXHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL
LONDON**

The school seeks to provide many opportunities, often in partnership with other organisations, for the children to develop talents and interests in the arts, sports and environmental education.

—
Dame Sharon Hollows,
Executive Headteacher

Vauxhall Primary School is an average-sized inner-city London primary school with very high Pupil Premium eligibility rate at 68.3%

The school links with local Polka Theatre to provide Year 5 students with the opportunity to engage in writing and performing a play. The programme, called 'The Playhouse Experience', originally targeted more able students.

In addition to the major transformative theatre experience for Year 5, Pupil Premium funding is used for other enhancement activities including student involvement in Opera at the Battersea Centre and World Book Week. Vauxhall Primary School has been particularly commended for its provision for high-ability Pupil Premium students, and was a KS2 High Aspiration Award Winner in 2015. In October 2013, selected pupils performed at the Shaw Theatre for the 2013 Shakespeare Festival. The results for Pupil Premium students are impressive, with 96% Pupil Premium-eligible children achieving at least Level 4 in Writing in 2014.



CASE STUDY 5

WAKEFIELD CITY ACADEMY WEST YORKSHIRE

Without creativity, life would never evolve or develop. Creative subjects are necessary for any individual to develop a sense of self awareness, confidence, personal development and self esteem... There is a host of transferable skills acquired by studying arts subjects which improve performance in other areas of the curriculum. Arts subject enable students to make a personal response to the world around them and explore possibilities of expression and interpretation.

—
WCA's creative department

This small city-centre school in an ex-mining community in West Yorkshire has much higher proportions of Pupil Premium, EAL and SEN students than average.

Committed to raising the horizons of their students and a holistic education, over 15% of Wakefield City Academy's £250k Pupil Premium budget is spent on broadening students' access to a cultural education. This includes providing free music lessons, activities and instruments; theatre trips and cultural visits (including to Paris and the Alps); library books to ensure students who do not have books at home have access to a range of literature, and providing all materials for D&T activities so that young people can learn craft and design without stigma or barriers if unable to pay for relevant resources.

WCA's data speaks for the success of these measures: the gap in achievement between PP and non-PP students is among the lowest in the country, at only 4% for 5 A*-C at GCSE (59% compared to 63%), with more PP students (100% compared to 96%) making 5 A*-G than their non-PP counterparts.