

Queensmill School

Diminishing the Difference Report – 2020/21

Students identified as eligible for Pupil Premium funding

Across the school there are 152 students eligible for Pupil Premium funding.

Whole School Progress 2020-21

Due to the Covid-19 outbreak and periodic closure of schools and society across the country from mid-March 2020 it is challenging to accurately assess learning data and progression. This is reflected in the data which indicates averages more closely aligned to the 'secure' range rather than 'QM secure'. This would suggest that given the condensed time-frames students were able to progress with the acquisition of new knowledge and skills and were they to have access to a typical term many would have mastered these.

Pupil Premium Progress

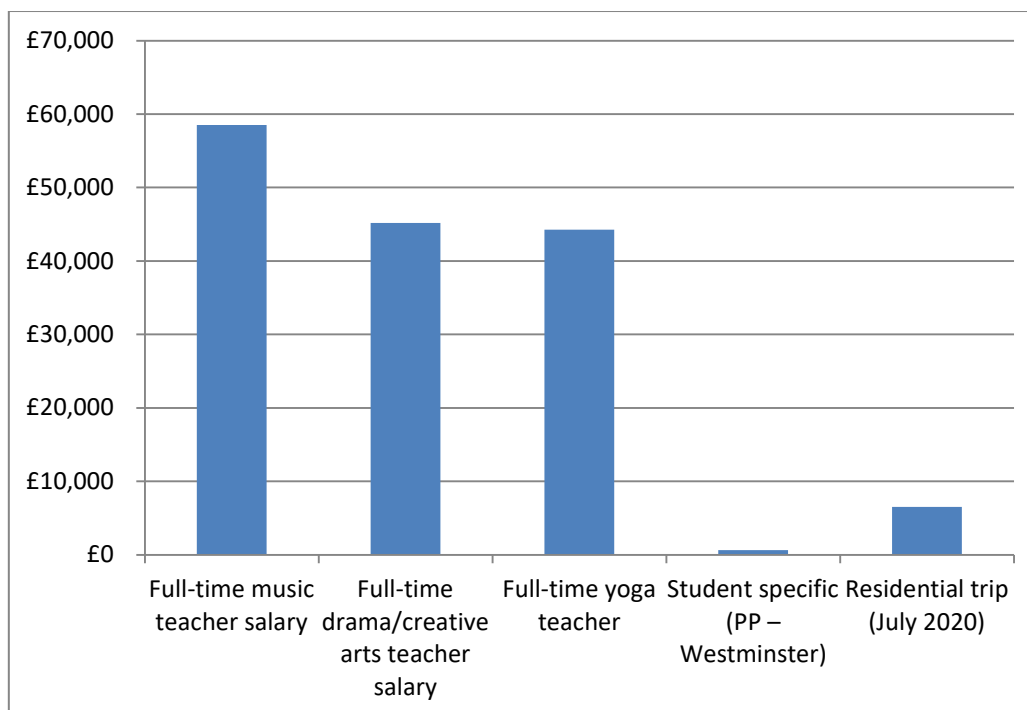
The average rate of progress for pupil premium students was broadly in line with the rest of the school, as would be expected in a specialist school environment. It is hugely encouraging that this vulnerable group within the school population are making excellent progress with learning at a level in line with what was outlined as expected.

Pupil Premium Income 2020-21

Funding Stream	Amount
Received by 1/3/21	£129,469
Due 21/3/21	£43,156
PP – Kingston LAC	£900
PP - Westminster	£616
Total	£174,141

Pupil Premium Expenditure 2020-21

	Item	Cost
	Amount Received	
1	Full-time music teacher salary	£58,524
2	Full-time drama/creative arts teacher salary	£45,161
3	Full-time yoga teacher	£44,243
4	Student specific (PP – Westminster)	£616
5	Residential trip (July 2020)	£6,500
	Total	£155,044
	Current underspend	£19,097



Covid Catch-Up Grant 2020-21

Funding date	Income	Revised income (awaiting LBHF confirmation)
Received by 1/3/21	£11,760	£14,730
Due 21/3/21	£11,760	£22,610
Due Summer term 21	£19,600	£21,580
Total	£43,120	£58,920

Additional strategies offered 2020-21

- Provision of a family support worker
- As part of the blended learning offer (and in response to additional Covid-19 safeguarding responses) teachers have been contacting families weekly to check-in and offer additional support where appropriate and viable
- Where needed the school has supported with providing families with shopping and food and transporting young people to and from school
- Due to the specialist nature of the school many young people have been able to attend throughout the pandemic and closures. Many of those who have attended full and part-time have been those identified as the most vulnerable and fall under the designation of 'pupil premium'

Barriers faced by pupil premium students

- Limited language and restricted vocabulary
- Poor attendance
- Mobility – students have moved between many different schools
- Family difficulties
- Medical conditions
- Lack of sleep
- Poor nutrition

- Poverty
- Lack of family engagement with learning
- Low aspirations
- Low expectations
- Narrow range of opportunities and experiences outside of school
- Lack of role models
- Lack of self-confidence and self-esteem
- Poor social skills

It should be noted that whilst these are recognised barriers faced nationally by pupil premium students that all students who attend Queensmill have a diagnosis of autism. This is defined below as resulting in:

Persistent deficits in social communication and social integration across contexts

Restricted, repetitive patterns of behaviour, interests or activities, including hyper or hypo-reactivity to sensory input or unusual interest in sensory aspects of the environment

Symptoms must be present in the early developmental period

Symptoms must cause clinically significant impairment in social occupation, or other important areas of current functioning

(DSM-5, 2013, pg. 50)

From these criteria it is clear that many of the barriers faced by pupil premium students may be due to the deprivation they encounter at home but equally due to the impact of their autism on their ability to self-regulate, understand the world and function on a daily basis.

Point to note

For pupil premium funding for the year 2021-22 the government have altered how this will be calculated. Rather than using the Spring census (as is typical) they will be using the Autumn census. This may result in changes to the school's funding allocations.

Andy Nowak – March 2021