

Longley Park Sixth Form  
Disadvantaged Learners  
Action Plan 2020-21



# Action Plan 2020-21

## Introduction

At Longley Park Sixth Form we believe in closing the educational attainment gap. We want all students to fulfil their potential and reach their unique goals.

We believe that it is a priority to unlock the potential of those pupils from disadvantaged postcodes, including those entitled to Bursary and Free Meals, and so close gap between these students and their peers. We are committed to recruiting and retaining students from the local area, including the most disadvantaged, and supporting them to achieve. In particular, we are committed to ensuring positive destinations for students so that they can progress to the next stage of education or employment and improve their life chances.

## Overview of Disadvantage Funding

	Instances/multiplier	Total
Disadvantage Funding Block 1		
Economic Deprivation	Funding Factor: x 1.158	£720,530
Care Leavers	6 students	£2,880
Disadvantage Funding Block 2		
Condition of Funding	979.5	£467,557
Student Financial Support Funding		
Discretionary Bursary Fund		£191,596
Free Meals	386	£144,881
		£1,190,967

### Disadvantage Funding Block 1

Unlike primary and secondary academies, Longley Park receives funding for disadvantaged students based on their home postcode as well as funding for Care Leavers. In the current academic year we have been allocated £723,530 based on postcodes and Care Leavers, calculated from the Indices of Multiple Deprivation. This relates to 978 students based on lagged student numbers from 2019-20. The number of students identified as previously Pupil Premium based on lagged numbers is 607, but this is not used to identify additional funding.

The Sixth Form has an extremely high proportion of students from disadvantaged backgrounds, with 89.2% of students attracting disadvantage uplift. Longley Park students come from the most deprived wards in the country: in 2019-20 87.0% of the cohort come from the top 2 bands of multiple

deprivation, compared to 24.9% nationally. This means that disadvantage funding is widely distributed across the Sixth Form, providing the institutional capacity to provide comprehensive support for young people.

### **Support for students includes:**

- Academic Tutorial including extensive Careers advice and guidance.  
Capacity in this area has been increased for 2020-21 with the appointment of an additional Academic Tutor, Senior Academic Tutor and Behaviour and Welfare Manager. Students receive group and individual advice and mentoring to support their studies and their progression to the next level. The Achievement Team works alongside Curriculum Teams to monitor student attendance and progress, and ensure early interventions to maximise student attainment.
- Dedicated Wellbeing Team.  
Students can drop in to the Wellbeing space which is staffed throughout the week, or arrange 1:1 appointments. We now have 4 members of staff in the Wellbeing Team to better meet the needs of students seeking support with personal issues, including mental health, and social and emotional wellbeing. The Team works with external agencies to refer students with complex vulnerabilities.
- In 2020-21 the Sixth Form increased capacity in the both the Wellbeing Team and the Achievement Team to best meet the needs of students. The appointment to a new post of Behaviour and Welfare Manager is designed to improve both capacity and effectiveness of support by ensuring that Curriculum Areas are aware of barriers to learning for vulnerable students and strategies to overcome these.
- Counselling delivered on-site by FreeToBeYou. Students with acute need are referred via the Wellbeing team.

In addition, disadvantage uplift funding is also used for:

- Incentives and rewards for improving attendance
- Incentives and rewards to engage pupils in developing positive behaviours for learning
- Provision of Employability opportunities to broaden horizons, build confidence and raise aspirations.
- Provision of University visits, trips and experiences
- Subsidising off-site learning opportunities
- Subsidising any student contributions, including DBS checks for students undertaking work placements

### **Disadvantage Funding Block 2**

The Sixth Form also receives funding based on students' who have not achieved a grade 4 in English and/or Maths before joining. This funding is used to satisfy the 'condition of funding' requirements from the ESFA that all students who have not yet achieved these key qualifications must be enrolled on an appropriate English and/or Maths programme. This makes up Block 2 of our disadvantage funding, in recognition that students from the most disadvantaged backgrounds are much less likely to achieve these qualifications. In 2020-21 the Sixth Form has been allocated £467,557 to provide English and Maths for students who have not already GCSE grade 4-9.

This funding is used to deliver the volume of English and Maths courses required to meet students' needs. In line with the very high proportion of students from disadvantaged postcodes, the proportion of the Sixth Form's who need to continue to study English and/or Maths post-16 is considerable, and significantly above national averages.

- In 2019-20, 52% of the student cohort did not have English GCSE at grade 4 or above compared with 11% nationally for Sixth Form Colleges.
- 52% of the student cohort did not have Maths GCSE at grade 4 or above, compared with 15% nationally for Sixth Form Colleges.
- 40% of the student cohort had neither English or Maths GCSE at grade 4 or above, compared with 6% nationally for Sixth Form Colleges.

The Sixth Form provides pathways from Entry 1 through to GCSE, including a 2-year GCSE programme for students who need longer to achieve these crucial qualifications.

Progress in both English and Maths is well above expectations for the post-16 sector.

### **Student Financial Support Funding**

The Sixth Form also receives funding for financial support which is allocated to students with a household income of less than £16,200, for Bursary and Free Meals. This money goes directly to students who qualify for support. In 2020-21 the Sixth Form has received an allocation of £191,596 for discretionary Bursary and £144,881 for Free Meals.

This funding is used to provide Bursary and Free Meals support for eligible students.

Funds are also used to provide:

- Travel support
- Examination fees for examination resits
- Subsidy of UCAS application fee

## Planned expenditure 2020-21

### Teaching

Desired outcome	Approach	Rationale	How will you ensure it is implemented well?	Cost	Review arrangements
Students without Grade 4-9 in GCSE English and/or Mathematics make progress towards these core qualifications	Provision of English and Maths classes from Entry 1 to GCSE. All eligible students enrolled to suitable pathway.	Condition of funding requirement; students need these core qualifications to progress; literacy and numeracy underpins achievement on main programmes	In year data	£467,557	In year monitoring Retention, achievement and progress summer 2021
Ensure that all disadvantaged students have access to remote and blended learning	Live streaming and recording of lessons: Investment in devices to facilitate live streaming Staff development in effective delivery of online learning Distribution of devices and connectivity to students Students with no IT access invited to use the building	There is compelling evidence nationally that students from disadvantaged backgrounds are more likely to be impacted by lockdown arrangements. Student survey re IT access.	Student engagement QA activities	£50,000	QA cycle
<b>Targeted academic support</b>					
Academic Tutorial to monitor progress, identify areas for improvement and target setting to create	Increase capacity in the Achievement Team to ensure effective monitoring and tracking of attendance,	Improved attendance, retention, achievement and progression. Clarity of roles: ATs to lead on attendance and	Student attendance and engagement, QA activity	£300,000	QA cycle Data collections

rapid improvement plans	engagement and progress Appoint permanent Senior Academic Tutor Appoint additional Academic Tutor Appoint Behaviour and Welfare Manager	identify barriers to learning and strategies to overcome these; CLs to focus on quality of learning experience			
Revision and catch-up sessions for targeted students	Saturday and holiday provision; workshop provision	Improved attendance, retention, achievement and progression	Student engagement and progress		
Raising attendance, aspirations and engagement	Appoint in-house Careers Advisor to improve capacity to meet Gatsby benchmarks Programme of university visits, employability activities Incentives and rewards for improving attendance 5* learning approach/ reward systems including incentives and rewards to engage pupils in developing positives behaviours for learning  Provision of Employability opportunities to broaden horizons, build confidence and raise aspirations.	To improve access to employability and other activities for students across all Curriculum Areas; To identify, develop and roll out online employability activities  Improved retention, achievement and progression	Student engagement		

	<p>Provision of University visits, trips and experiences</p> <p>Subsidy off-site learning opportunities</p> <p>Subsidy of student contributions, including DBS checks for students undertaking work placements</p>				
<b>Other strategies</b>					
<p>Improve support for students with complex personal circumstances</p>	<p>Dedicated Wellbeing Team providing 1:1 and drop-in support – increase capacity of team to ensure that there are always 2 members of staff available.</p> <p>Behaviour for Learning policy based on kindness and support</p> <p>Counselling support</p> <p>Targeted support for students living independently/care leavers including food parcels, Christmas vouchers</p>	<p>Increasing demand year on year for support; Covid likely to have impacted significantly on our student cohort.</p>	<p>Student access to support</p> <p>Counselling referrals</p> <p>Student retention</p>	<p>£370,000</p>	<p>In year monitoring</p> <p>End of year student attendance, retention, achievement, progression</p>

<p>Provide excellent advice and guidance regarding progression</p>	<p>Academic Tutorial provision of Careers guidance</p> <p>Appointment of Careers Advisor</p> <p>Programme of activities relating to Higher Education</p> <p>UCAS support</p> <p>Sheffield Futures 1:1 provision specifically targeting students who do not wish to progress to university</p>	<p>To increase capacity to deliver Gatsby benchmarks and maximise opportunities for students; to improve progression</p>			
<p>Bursary and Free Meals</p>	<p>Effective assessment of student eligibility for Bursary and Free Meals;</p> <p>Travel support</p> <p>Subsidy of contributions (e.g. DBS contributions, exam resits)</p>	<p>Improved retention.</p>		<p>£336,477</p>	