

Pupil Premium Strategy

Our school is a non-selective secondary academy located in Conisbrough, serving the communities of Conisbrough and Denaby Main. In terms of indices of multiple deprivation, parts of our catchment area are in the bottom 1% nationally. Rates of unemployment, levels of ill health & crime are all high compared to national data.

At De Warenne Academy we believe that one of the biggest barriers for students can be lack of expectation and aspiration and so we are determined to create a climate that does not limit an individual's potential in any way. We have a high number (currently 47%) of students who are eligible for Pupil Premium funding. Our strategy is initially to ensure all our students, especially our disadvantaged students attend well. Extra resources are directed at staff and key students are targeted to make the attendance of our disadvantaged students similar to, if not higher than, that of our non-disadvantaged students.

As a number of our students start secondary school with lower academic attainment than their peers we ensure they receive intense support to fill any gaps in their progress. This support and intervention is bespoke to the individual learner but can take the form of in-class support, literacy intervention using the Ruth Miskin phonics programme and numeracy support in small groups developing the basic arithmetic skills needed for maths.

Students' social and emotional needs are also identified early as a potential barrier to learning and progress and again, special support programmes are designed by our inclusion team to break down these barriers and allow students to access a broad and balanced curriculum. We provide alternative provision in the Bridge for students whose needs are more complex and who require a more bespoke environment for learning.

Together with the academic and pastoral support we offer our disadvantaged students there is also a whole range of further interventions and support. These include enabling students to enjoy and experience learning beyond the classroom by giving support with funding for trips, arranging summer school residentials at university, offering booster and revision sessions during holidays and providing reward trips to places such as the Yorkshire Wildlife Park.