

Sittingbourne Community College DA Expenditure plan 2017-18

The DA is additional funding for publicly funded schools in England to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and close the gap between them and their peers. In the 2017 to 2018 financial year, schools receive the following funding for each child registered as eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years - £935 for pupils in year 7 to year 11.

Schools also receive £1,900 for each pupil who has left local-authority care because of 1 of the following:

- adoption
- a special guardianship order
- a child arrangements order
- a residence order

If a pupil has been registered as eligible for free school meals and has also left local-authority care for any of the reasons above, they attract the £1,900 rate.

Statistics across the country show that pupils who are in receipt of free school meals perform less well academically than their peers in external examinations. The aim of DA funding is to work to close the attainment gap.

At Sittingbourne Community College we believe all pupils should have an equal chance of succeeding whatever their economic or social circumstances. We believe that whole school approaches should work most effectively for the DA pupils in our school. There are a wide number of barriers that these pupils face. These include-

- Gaps in their literacy and numeracy skills.
- Lack of effective social and emotional support, causing pupils to lack the resilience to cope with demands of school life.
- Low self-esteem.
- Lack of support in relation to the completion of homework and revision.
- Lack of confidence.
- Low aspirations.
- Intergenerational underachievement.
- Intergenerational gaps in literacy and numeracy skills.
- In some instances intergenerational disengagement with school.
- Poor attendance.
- Lack of parental engagement with the school such as attending parent's evenings, school events and specific meetings with staff.
- Limited financial support to provide the resources needed to fully engage in all aspects of school life

Objectives in spending DA Funding:

1. To provide the same opportunities and experiences for DA pupils as that of their peers.
2. To ensure all DA pupils make at least expected progress during the academic year.
3. To ensure all DA pupils in Year 11 make at least expected progress. We wish for the number achieving a pass in English and mathematics to meet or exceed the national

average for all pupils. We also wish for all our DA pupils to make as good progress from their starting points as other pupils with similar starting points in the majority of their subjects.

Whole school T,L+A approaches for DA pupils-

1. All staff are aware of DA pupils and use seating plans to support planning and teaching.
2. All staff model language and writing for all pupils but target DA pupils especially carefully.
3. All staff prioritise the marking of DA pupils books or folders.
4. All staff use questioning techniques that support DA pupils to engage and learn more effectively in lessons, as well as check DA make good progress in lessons.
5. Staff also plan careful verbal feedback to DA pupils so that these pupils are very clear about what they need to do next.

The school has invested in a range of strategies to further support DA pupils. These are:

Strategy	Cost	Intended outcome
Outcomes group	<i>£40,000</i>	To ensure DA pupils make good progress and achieve their target grades. This group will monitor and track the progress and attainment of DA pupils and implement appropriate interventions. There is a specific learning leader who leads and holds other staff to account and ensures that OSL is effectively targeted prioritising DA pupils first.
Teaching and Learning Team	<i>£35,000</i>	To improve the standard of teaching and learning in classrooms so that it is at least effective; as a result, all DA pupils are able to make good progress. There have been additional appointments to this team to increase its effectiveness in science and mathematics.
Professional Development of/for Teaching Staff	<i>£25,000</i>	To ensure DA pupils make good progress by continuing to develop staff in their feedback, teaching and other aspects of their professional development. The T,L+A team has been given additional capacity to train and support individual staff who are less consistent or confident in implementing whole school approaches.
Reduced Class Sizes	<i>£130,000</i>	To ensure our most disadvantaged pupils make at least good progress and are exam ready by placing them in smaller focused classes with our best teachers. This is especially the case in English, mathematics and science. We have also appointed additional leadership in humanities to address the poor performance of DA pupils in this area.
Nurture and curriculum support	<i>£70,000</i>	To ensure pupils who are not ready for secondary school receive the support they need academically as well as personally so they can succeed in secondary school. This provision is now extended to Year 8 to ensure pupils who need extra support are catered for.

Study Clubs, Saturday and Holiday Schools.	<i>£20,000</i>	To ensure all DA pupils have access to focused in-school revision sessions, we will ensure they are fully prepared for their exams. This will deliver the highest possible examination results for them which will ensure they have access to Post-16 and more post 18 options to pursue..
1-2-1 or 2-2-1 Support	<i>£35,000</i>	To ensure DA pupils are fully equipped with the skills and subject knowledge they need for their exams in the core. This will be implemented where pupils require more intense support or where pupils need to catch up on missed work.
Accelerated Reading, Reading Recovery and Phonics	<i>£15,000</i>	To improve the reading skills of all learners so they can access the curriculum, we intend to continue with our reading interventions.
Careers and Post-16 Guidance	<i>£7,000</i>	To ensure pupils are making informed choices about their futures, we will continue with our tailored careers programme which starts in year 7 and continues throughout.
Mentoring	<i>£11,000</i>	To ensure pupils are supported so they have the life skills and the strategies to succeed academically at Sittingbourne Community College and beyond.
Attendance support	<i>£27,000</i>	To ensure pupils with prior low attendance improve their attendance.
Breakfast club	<i>£10,000</i>	To ensure disadvantaged pupils have a good start to the day.
Enrichment	<i>£10,000</i>	To ensure DA pupils have the same opportunities their non-disadvantaged peers have so they can experience the same activities and take part in life changing experiences.

Total DA funding- £415,000