

PP Strategy

Our school is a non-selective secondary Academy located in Scunthorpe it is in the bottom 50% of the country in terms of indices of multiple deprivation. Rates of unemployment, levels of health & crime are all high compared to national data. The high volume of rented accommodation, split and blended families, leads to high levels of mobility. Families new to the area settle and then move on, when they can afford better housing or work availability dictates. As a result the local stability rate features minimal internal population 'churn' but it does mean that families move frequently between schools.

Melior Community Academy opened in January 2013 and is proud of its position in the community and its development of capable and achieving citizens. It provides education for students aged 11 to 16 and is smaller than most secondary schools nationally. Over fifty-one percent of the students, which is significantly higher than that seen nationally, are supported by the pupil premium, (additional government funding for children in local authority care, students known to be eligible for free school meals and students whose parents are serving in the armed forces).

The school has 667 students on roll. The school PAN is 190. Despite low numbers in our partner schools in years 5 and 6, recruitment is strong. The year groups are generally balanced in terms of gender. 28 students in total have English as an additional language which is well below the national average. The vast majority of students come from white British backgrounds. 21.2% of students are on the SEN register which is above average. 10 students have a statement of Special Educational Needs or an Educational Health Care Plan and 132 students are identified as K. 338 students in Years 7 to 11 qualify for Pupil Premium with 1 student Looked After. 11 students qualify for Forces pupil premium and 1 for Pupil Premium Plus. This represents 50.7% of the school population.

At Melior Community Academy we believe that one of the biggest barriers for students can be poverty of expectation 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 (over 50%) of students who are eligible for Pupil Premium funding. Our strategy is initially to ensure all our students, especially our PP students attend well, have appropriate resources, uniform and wrap around support. Extra resources are directed at additional staffing and key literacy, reading, English and Maths interventions.

As a number of our PP 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: literacy intervention through accelerated reader, Fresh Start, the Lexia program and numeracy support in small groups developing the basic and fundamental skills needed for reading and numeracy. The key priority is literacy.

Students social and emotional needs are also identified early as a potential barrier to learning and progress and again depending on need special programs are designed with our pastoral staff to break down these barriers and allow students to enjoy the curriculum. Together with the academic and pastoral support we offer our PP students there is also a whole range of further interventions and support. These range from helping students enjoy and experience the 'arts' through access to drama lessons and creative arts enrichment, support with funding for trips, breakfast clubs to ensure PP students enjoy a healthy and nutritious start to the day. Appropriate alternative provision for students whose needs are more complex and extra resources across the whole range of subjects as and when they are needed.