

Barriers to Learning

Our Cohort

Data for this academic year shows that:

- 75.8% of our pupils are eligible for Free School Meals compared to 70% September 2023
- 3.26% of TPRS pupils are Cared for Children: this compares to 4.4% in September 2023
- 1.9% of TPRS pupils are subject to Child Protection plans, compared to 5.2% in September 2023.
- 6.5% of TPRS pupils are subject to Child In Need plans, compared to 5.86% in September 2023. This is significantly higher than the local and national figures. This rise is partly due to the stepping down of cases in Children's Social Care.
- 6.2% of TPRS pupils are supported by the Early Help Team compared to 5.8% in September 2023.
- 4.6% of TPRS pupils are working with the Youth Justice Service.

SEND and EHCPs

- All TPRS students are on the SEND List for their Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs which have resulted in their exclusion from mainstream school. A number of these students and their families receive help and support through Children's Social Care, Healthy Young Minds and a range of other services.
- 30.7% (47 of 153) of TPRS students have an EHCP for their complex learning needs. This compares to 4.8% nationally. This demonstrates that schools in Tameside are under-identifying SEND. This is seen in TPRS as the number of students coming to us with unmet need remains very high.
- Although all students attending TPRS with an EHCP have SEMH as their main category of need, many of our students also have needs in other areas such as Cognition & Learning and Communication & Interaction.

Attendance and Punctuality

- The average attendance for all pupils stands at 55.29%. Attendance is better at Elmbridge School than at White Bridge College, (68.23% and 54.63% respectively.) There are some new permanently excluded students who are awaiting induction, one has moved into other authorities and are awaiting the allocation of local schools, who have 0% attendance affecting figures. We also have a number of students refusing to attend due to school-based anxiety.
- Students with EHCPs attend marginally better than the other students onsite at White Bridge College, with an average attendance of 68.23%. As above, there are some students on 0% affecting this figure
- Where students have a long history of persistent school refusal, and have attendance of less than 10%, it is extremely difficult to engage them in any offer of education, as it appears that they and/or their parents and carers have given up on education and/or feel let down by the system. We offer a range of options to these students including: the pathways in school; Summit outdoor education; an online offer; small group tutoring; community tutoring, In Reach programme, transport support with pick-ups and drop offs, alternative provision where appropriate; and work experience. Take-up remains very low with this group of students, despite intervention from our attendance officer, Education Welfare Officers and often Children's Social Care. However, the In-Reach programme is becoming more successful with increased numbers attending the onsite provision across both KS3 and KS4
- There are 5 Cared for Children in our school, with an average attendance of 51.4 %.

Home Learning Environment / Readiness to Learn

- For significant numbers of children, home support for learning was lacking.
- Many of our students' parents/carers were unable to support their children in home learning, due to either a lack of time or knowledge. This was improved with the provision of live lessons and an improved and developed online learning offer.
- Many parents lacked the confidence, organisation and skills to provide the kind of support needed for learning at home – parents who did have these skills were often at work and could not be there to supervise their children during the school day and encourage them into engaging in their online lessons. This meant that uptake for online learning was low and ultimately prevented children from consolidating learning or extending learning done in school.
- Audits were completed with parents to find out whether students had access to an appropriate form of technology with which to complete schoolwork and whether they had internet access. Laptops were provided by the Virtual School for Cared for Children, and we were able to give out laptops provided by the government to students who needed them, though we did not initially receive enough laptops for those who needed them. There was little we could do about lack of access to the internet at home, but when networks began to provide data for home learning, we signposted parents to this. Laptops have been provided where possible, but this has still proved to be a difficult learning platform for many young people to access
- Restricted access to books, educational IT and internet in the home and wider experiences out of school time also had a bearing on children's wider vocabulary, general knowledge and confidence in a wide range of social situations. Workbooks and revision guides have been provided to encourage independent learning for students who struggle to access learning other than being at home.

INTENTION: ADDRESS COMPLEX FAMILY NEEDS

INITIATIVE	COSTINGS	REVISED COSTING	CURRENT SPEND	IMPLEMENTATION	IMPACT
Behaviour Mentor	£36,860		£	They work as part of the pastoral team within the school. Identifying barriers to learning, social factors, such as disadvantage working with PP children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Measurable Improvement in Absence for Pupil Premium children whose attendance falls below 60% - evidence by case study.• Decrease numbers of children who are Persistently Late or Absent – Able to evidence by case study.• Measurable improvement in number of KS4 students re-engaged in education.• Improved parental engagement at all tiers of Safeguarding.

INTENTION: IMPROVE ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Outreach - Home Tutor	£41,948		£	We are going to develop our Outreach Home Tutor Programme by recruiting another full-time member of the team. Home tutors liaise with the DSL and Attendance and Engagement officer to provide learning to identified school refusers or those students who are unable to access	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Target students consistently engage in learning
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Key achievements to date				Areas for further improvement and evidence of need 2025- 2026	
				learning on site due to safeguarding reasons. In addition, they provide small groups and 1:1 tuition in a safe setting both on and off site in school.	
Alternative Provision	£35,000		£	Alternative Provision will be commissioned for some of the students who are the hardest to reach, or whose attendance in school has a negative impact on the attendance and engagement of other students. Heads of Centre will work with the DSL and SENCO to identify appropriate students and provisions. The SENCO will work closely with the AP providers to ensure quality, engagement and positive outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual case studies will demonstrate improved attendance and engagement of targeted students
School Meals	£20,000		£	A school meal is provided to all students at TPRS daily, regardless of FSM status.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
School Uniform	£10,000		£	A set comprising of school hoodie, t-shirt, polo shirt x 2 is issued to each child at TPRS without charge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Total Pupil Premium Planned Spend	£143,808				
Total Income from Pupil Premium		£			