

EYFS and the Pupil Premium - Narrowing the Gap in Leicestershire

A successful formula for real, measurable impact in outcomes for children and EYFS practice and provision

Leicestershire Pupil Premium Project in a nutshell

Key aims of project:

To raise outcomes for all pupils, especially those most disadvantaged by:

- ensuring all disadvantaged pupils are identified, known to all staff and supported effectively
- further improving quality of practice and provision in the EYFS
- strengthening and embedding supervision systems and processes for EYFS practitioners

Expected outcomes:

- increase in % children eligible for FSM achieving a GLD
- narrowing of the gap between those eligible for FSM and their peers.
- improved quality of EYFS practice and provision
- embedded, sustainable systems established in schools for long term impact

Why is this particularly good for our Leicestershire schools?

- specially brokered/funded project to span across 3 terms
- bespoke training to meet the needs of Leicestershire schools
- each school to have a suite of resources which can be used by all EYFS practitioners
- focus on sustainability and continuity
- opportunity for senior managers to further develop EYFS knowledge and understanding

How does it work?



- 34 five minute training videos on specific skills



- Read related paragraph excerpts from OFSTED, EYFS Statutory Framework and other expert guidance



- Practice this specific skill with two children



- Guidance for line managers to review the impact of what has been learnt and implemented

The EYFS and the Pupil Premium Project – **which has 25 funded places** – is intended for EYFS practitioners in schools. Head teachers need to be involved in communicating with LCC should you wish to express an interest.

In addition to free access to the comprehensive, award winning online learning series, focusing on quality first teaching in the EYFS, the project offers:

- 2 full day training sessions on quality first teaching and effective practice and provision in the EYFS (1 x free place at each session per school – funding not supplied for staff cover)
- opportunities to ask questions, share challenges and seek solutions; chance to network with other EYFS practitioners throughout the project

LCC and Inclusion Expert ran this joint project previously and the pilot completed in 2017-18; 9 schools accessed the online learning series across one year and received face to face training throughout. Here is a sample of the findings:

The project encouraged EYFS practitioners to have sustained professional dialogue and fostered confidence in all staff taking part. Positive attitudes were consistently reported. Practitioners valued the open, honest, supportive relationships the project encouraged them to cultivate.

There was significant impact reported in all 9 schools involved. Outcomes improved for all children (GLD 2017 – 65.6%; GLD 2018 – 72.5%) and the percentage children falling in the bottom 20% of the EYFS Profile dropped from 59.9% to 7.2%.

“This project has been one of the most positive things that have happened within our school - staff are motivated, positive, on board ... it has raised their status and morale ... they are grateful!”

To express an interest, please email Jane McNee at jane.mcnee@leics.gov.uk

by Friday 3rd April.

Schools will be allocated the funded places based on the following criteria:

- schools previously or currently requiring LA support for the EYFS
- EYFS Profile data over the last 3 years
- numbers of FSM/PP children
- schools in a category
- schools requesting support/advice in the EYFS
- schools with teachers new to the EYFS