

Narrowing the Gap and Pupil Premium at Looe Community Academy – Academic Year 2011/12

	2011 Year 11 Leavers		2012 Year 11 Leavers	
	Disadvantaged students	Other students	Disadvantaged students	Other students
Number of students	11	111	17	105
% of students	9%	91%	14%	86%
% achieving 5+A*-C GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths	9%	58%	29%	63%
% making expected progress in English	36%	74%	47%	74%
% making expected progress in maths	36%	67%	67%	74%

Looe Community Academy received a Pupil Premium grant of £26K in its first 7 months of operation. The Pupil Premium is a sum of money received for each student who is either in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM) or who has been in receipt of them in the past six years, Children in Care (CiC) and Service Children. The purpose of this grant is to provide additional funds to help enable schools to 'Narrow the Gap' between the performance of 'disadvantaged' students and other students. Students who are FSM or CiC are termed as 'disadvantaged' in the Department for Education's Performance Tables.

How did Looe Community Academy spend this money?

- £18K was used to increase staffing ratios in the key areas of English and mathematics. This enabled all students to be taught in smaller classes and thus provided all teachers of English and mathematics more opportunities for One to One intervention.
- £8K was invested in the provision of pastoral and emotional support including One to One sessions with families and students. This enabled students and their parents/carers to better cope with home and educational issues and therefore focus on maximising their learning.

Staffing is our greatest asset and additional staffing enabled us to both raise achievement and Narrowing the Gap. Data was used to identify underachievement and to target additional interventions. As a consequence of our actions there was a dramatic improvement in key outcomes:

- The percentage of disadvantaged students achieving 5+A*-C GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and mathematics students more than tripled (from 9% in 2011 to 29% in 2012);
- Despite national concerns regarding GCSE English marking / grading the percentage of disadvantaged students making expected progress in English improved by 11 percentage points;
- The percentage of disadvantaged students making expected progress in mathematics improved by 31 percentage points.

Looe Community Academy will receive a Pupil Premium grant of £60K (indicative allocation) in the Academic Year 2012/13.

We will continue to use this funding to support additional staffing costs so that we may target additional support in order to help raise standards for those who are entitled to benefit from it through a range of intervention strategies in the current Academic Year.