

Department for Education

The Opportunity Area 25 Offer

Doncaster is a Social Mobility Opportunity Area; it is a borough with both poor social mobility and schools that face challenges.

'We are all charged with contributing to Social Mobility in Doncaster. The story of Doncaster is beginning to change. We are editing the story by looking forward and not back, by challenging ourselves and each other to seek new ways to overcome disadvantage.'

What is the OA25?

We're a family of 25 schools working in deprived areas. We want to rapidly raise attainment and broaden horizons for our disadvantaged pupils so that they can access opportunities which ordinarily they might not get. We'll do this by working together and with other organisations and professionals to develop and challenge our thinking and practice. We will access and evaluate some of the most current regional and national professional advice available, particularly evidence informed practice through the Research Schools Network and Education Endowment Foundation.

We'll understand and make good use of resources and funded opportunities which are available across the regional and national system to optimise our provision and break down barriers for our most vulnerable pupils. We will use the concepts of 'marginal gains' and 'personalised provision' so that each and every child can get exactly what they need and have the best chance to contribute to the school and borough attainment targets in 2019 and beyond.

Key Dates for your diary:

Friday 23rd November 2018 9-3.30pm Keepmoat Stadium- we'll build on the energy created so far to really enhance the package around the needs of our disadvantaged pupils. We will take cues and key messages from the EEF implementation guidance, national expertise and local case studies to examine the key elements of best practice in managing disadvantage pupil teaching, provision and therefore progress. We are not reinventing the wheel, rather looking at what evidence says, evaluating what we are doing already and then adapting our practice, systems and processes accordingly. This will also be a chance to set up collaborative working groups and any bespoke support needed. Colleagues from EXPECT Youth will also be joining us so that they can really help you to access the range of free wrap around and 'essential life skills' opportunities which your children could really benefit from.

Friday 25th January 2019-9-3.30pm Keepmoat Stadium- We will be joined by Marc Rowland, renowned author of 'Learning without labels' who will explore with us the local and national agenda around the use of the Pupil Premium. There will be some challenge for all of us which we can use as a catalyst to focus on what works best and what we can work on as a group going forward. We'll be specifically focusing on the design of pupil premium strategy, really understanding barriers to learning and planning for the needs of the individual. In particular, we'll be looking at what very recent research evidence is telling us about being a disadvantaged child (and an advantaged child for that matter) so that we can understand our children better and really get to grips with breaking down their barriers to learning and progress.

Spring/ summer 2019- Opportunity to take part in collaborative peer challenge and support triads, visits to other settings and developing effective policy and practice for the future.



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The Universal Offer

- £1000 training bursary which can be used to fund high quality Research School Network accredited training and professional development opportunities.
- Support from the School Improvement Lead Professional who will work with schools so that they can access the right information, programmes and support to improve educational outcomes.
- Involvement with specific and appropriate funded support which is well matched to the needs of pupils, leaders and teachers e.g. EXPECT Youth as part of 'essential life skills' focus.
- Training on using and applying key EEF guidance materials such as the use of the Teacher Toolkit and Guide to Implementation.
- Reviewing the use of best practice models and evidence-based practice for managing disadvantaged pupils' provision and progress.
- Collaborative termly data collection and analysis of tracking information, including collaborative evaluation of any plans, actions and their impact.
- Involvement in termly LA priority programmes which promote best practice.
- Priority places on any LA/ external moderation of assessment/ standardisation activity.

The Targeted Offer

- Participation in termly/ half termly school led triad model, facilitated by the OA Improvement Professionals, to provide collaborative peer challenge and support around key areas for development.
- Opportunities to visit settings which are local and regional pace setters in creating effective provision and excellent outcomes for disadvantaged pupils.
- Bespoke support and challenge from School Improvement Lead Professional by arrangement.

The Bespoke Offer

- Targeted support from the OA Improvement Professionals to identify areas for improvement, with a high level of specificity and subsequent best fit strategies and resources.
- Specific training on using and applying EEF guidance report materials focused on particular school improvement needs e.g. Preparing for Literacy, Improving Maths in KS2/3 and Metacognition and self-regulated learning.
- Access to a bespoke and newly developed Pupil Premium review process.



