

### Impact evaluation for 2014/15 projects

<b>Title and purpose of the activity</b>
<p>A. City Year - Pastoral Care &amp; Enrichment opportunities for Students</p> <p>B. Providing Alternative bespoke provision care for vulnerable students who not accessing main stream curriculum due to learning disabilities and/or behavioural challenges</p> <p>C. Team UP - Tuition programme targeting disadvantaged and underachieving students in Year 8 &amp; 9.</p> <p>D. In Harmony - Form Musical ensembles and Orchestra</p> <p>E. Use of Tablets - Maths -develop depth of mathematical understanding, increase independent learning skills and increase student engagement</p> <p>F. ICT Resources - Increase provision of Computer Science and help in fulfilling Curriculum needs.</p> <p>G. Laptop + Laptop Trolleys - develop independent research skill within the Academy.</p>
<b>Total funding and breakdown of funding required</b>
<p>A. 65,000</p> <p>B. 30,000</p> <p>C. 7,800</p> <p>D. 10,283</p> <p>E. 10,000</p> <p>F. 11,000</p> <p>G. 20,150</p>
<b>How will it improve attainment?</b>
<p>A. It will support improvements in pupil attainment by providing in class support to students who are struggling to access the curriculum or maintain good behaviour for learning. It would also enable us to provide additional after-school and lunchtime interventions, such as study and homework clubs.</p> <p>B. This initiative will allow identified students to achieve better Key Stage 4 results as the curriculum is designed for smaller classes, more one-to-one support and courses which will engage and motivate students to want to succeed and achieve as they are courses of particular interest to those students. The alternative providers offer a number of vocational courses which we can't offer at our school such as mechanics, construction, digital media, and hair and beauty.</p> <p>C. This initiative will have a direct impact on pupil attainment in maths and English as small group and one to one tuition is proven to have significant impact on student</p>

learning so that they make rapid progress.

- D. The expansion of the music provision supports the Academy's vision to deliver 'outstanding' outcomes for its students and provide them with a rich cultural capital:

Ofsted say that children's involvement in music engages and re-engages pupils, increasing their self-esteem, and maximising their progress in education and not just in music (Ofsted, 2009);

Research has shown a direct link between music and improved reading ability in children. It shows that pupils who were given certain types of music instruction had improved reading comprehension compared to those who did not (Hallam);

The majority of our students are from socially deprived backgrounds, the schools percentage of students that receive free school meals is 70%: while music touches the lives of all young people, the disadvantaged can benefit most (Gove, 2011);

Studies have shown different benefits from participating in music groups and needing to work together towards a common goal, for example school bands. These include discipline, teamwork, cooperation, self-confidence, responsibility and social skills (Brown, 1980; Hallam and Prince, 2000).

- E. Attainment will be improved through increasing engagement and a greater level of differentiation of learning, by providing a mechanism student to challenge themselves and work at their own pace. Research, Tablet PCs in schools Case study report, Open University(2005) conducted into the use of tablets has demonstrated:

It was clear both from the interviews and observations in all of the schools that using the Tablet PCs had a substantial impact on students' motivation (p.13)

In maths ..... the children, who felt that the Tablet PCs helped them learn by making learning more fun and by giving them different experiences. (p.14)

- F. These PCs would significantly increase our ability to provide all students with frequent access to high-spec computer equipment. This suite of 20 PCs would enable us to replace an older set of desktops which are no longer fit for purpose. This would enable us to increase our provision of computer science and ensure that all students gain experience of programming and coding. This upgraded ICT suite would be available for other departments to book when required, for example when completing a piece of research or coursework. This investment would therefore have an impact on all students in the academy.

The acquisition of these PCs would also enable us to improve our enrichment provision e.g. lunchtime computer clubs.

- G. Laptop + Laptop Trolleys - This trolley and the incumbent laptops will allow us to develop independent research skills at KS3-5. KS3 students will be able to bolster their work with secondary research on a topic and will develop their sense of enquiry. It will allow us to improve the quality of work and the attainment and progress levels at GCSE due to the ability to proof and draft work instantly instead of working with handwritten pieces. It will allow us to enable the students to engage with and use our online Virtual Learning Environment from within the school. At KS5 our Media Studies A level students will be able to access the ICT based coursework tasks such as video editing, media production and games creation and our Literature students will have access to online

resources such as thesis papers and research work.

### How has attainment improved?

- A. City Year has helped to support improvements in pupil attainment by providing over 170 hours of in-class support to students each week. City Year has run specialist daily homework support sessions that have impacted on raised standards across Years 7-11.
- B. Alternative provision - 10 out of 11 students in Y11 are on course to achieve a Pass or higher in their vocational courses and 10 out of 11 are on course to pass functional skills in English, Maths and ICT. Without these courses these students were at risk of not getting any GCSE's and becoming NEET.
- C. Team UP - This did not have a positive impact.
- D. In Harmony - Form Musical ensembles and Orchestra
- Students find that they are more proficient when partaking in group work; this has resulted in higher level performances at the end of taught units when compared with similar units last year.
  - All students in year 7 have performed in front of large audiences which has helped develop their self-confidence and feelings of efficacy which is of benefit in all subjects.
  - Students are able to understand written music and technical musical terms which has enabled a language-rich environment in Music lessons.
  - Students find practical tasks in music that historically have been hard for classes to master a lot easier.
  - Students have started to understand the dedication that is needed to master a task.
- E. Use of Tablets - Maths - This is an ongoing measurement which will have expected results in the following Academic Year as during the year we had encountered technical issues that required further investment in the existing infrastructure to support the increase in student engagement.
- F. ICT Resources - The new computers have allowed the academy to deliver the computing curriculum and use resources that would not have been accessible on the old computers due to the limitations of the hardware for example Google app inventor used to teach programming. It would be hard to rate the improvement in attainment until we get the exam results this year
- G. Laptop + Laptop Trolleys - At KS5 students have been able to produce vastly superior pieces of coursework thanks to professional quality homework and software that has allowed them to access the top grade mark criteria.

At KS4 students have been able to revisit, revise and improve coursework grades thus improving overall attainment.

## What is the target outcome?

A

- Improved levels of engagement and motivation amongst some of our more disaffected students.
- Improved progress and attainment through support to those who are struggling to access the curriculum.
- Improved enrichment opportunities and broader experiences for a student cohort that experiences limited opportunities and higher than average levels of deprivation.

B

- For all students to finish KS4 and achieve grades in line with the level of progress they should make in mainstream education. To reduce the number of permanent exclusions and to increase attendance for those identified. Finally, these providers offer post 16 courses which guarantee a secure pathway and therefore improves students' employability and reduces the risk of unemployment at the end of their time in education.

C

- For students who are underachieving in maths and English to make outstanding progress and close the attainment gap. To also build self-esteem and confidence in maths and English so that these students are more motivated to learn and are more engaged in their learning.

D

- For every student to play a musical instrument and 3 COLAI orchestras to be established. To continue to build on the whole class instrument lesson work that has been developed this year.

E

- Improved progress ad Key Stages 3,4 and 5
- Greater numbers taking Maths at Key Stage 5 due to higher attainment and greater understanding of the functional application of Maths.

F

- Access to high-spec PCs for all of our students
- New courses and units will be able to be delivered within the ICT and Computer Science curriculum
- Launch a computer coding club

G

- Developed independent thinking skills
- Developed research skills
- Improved coursework grades
- The ability to access ICT based coursework tasks
- The ability to access online higher education resources

### How have the target outcomes been met?

- A. City Year staff have helped to improve levels of engagement and motivation amongst more disaffected students through putting in place pastoral support including mentoring sessions and a daily breakfast club. City Year have broadened the provision of enrichment opportunities by offering a wide range of clubs, trips and competitions including a design club, a history project, a creative writing competition, an inter-school football competition and a trip to the Ben Kinsella exhibition.
- B. Alternative provision - All students in year 11 on alternative courses have improved attendance and no student was permanently excluded. 10 out of the 11 students have completed their courses and are staying in education or training post 16.
- C. Team UP - The initial results were promising but long term gains: helping students to achieve better mathematical understanding and increasing independent learning skills were not fully realised.
- D. In Harmony - Form Musical ensembles and Orchestra
- Every student in year 7 plays a musical instrument as a result of this programme. Next year, orchestra is expanding into year 8 which will mean two complete years of students that play a musical instrument.
  - We have established 3 orchestras this year. Two are in curriculum time and are inclusive for all students in year 7. One is after school and this is an orchestra for students that have shown particular promise/dedication to the orchestra. As a result of the expansion of orchestra, next year there will be 5 orchestras as well as a string group, brass band and concert band, all heavily involved in driving the cultural life of the academy.
  - The significant amount of whole-class instrumental work completed as a result of this project has enabled the teaching of units which directly develop skills for GCSE performance and beyond.
- E. Use of Tablets - Maths - developed depth of mathematical understanding, increased independent learning skills and increased student engagement.
- F. ICT Resources - We have been able to deliver the course and use resources available to help with the new syllabus for computing curriculum for all key stages taught. Students have had more access to the computers and less time wasted while waiting to access resources; as a result, rooms have also been used more by other subjects to help deliver courses.
- G. Laptop + Laptop Trolleys - Students at KS5 have been able to access online and streamed resources and technology, thus developing their academic independence through practical research and learning.

Coursework grades are much improved from last year thanks to the software platforms being used.

### How will outputs be measured?

A

- Progress data
- Attendance at extra-curricular clubs
- Regular reviews of the effectiveness of activities and interventions

B

- Progress data
- Pupil and parent questionnaires
- Attendance data
- Exclusion data
- Post-16 educational or training progression success rates

C

- Progress data in English and maths. The tutors also provide impact reports which are presented at the end of the programme.

D

- Through whole school data collection of students attendance and attainment.
- Through regular concerts within school and at external venues.
- By entry of groups into competitions.

E

- Through half termly collection of student attainment data.

F

- Attainment of students in ICT
- Frequency of access to ICT suites for students in other subjects
- Attendance to computer coding club

G

- A better quantity of independently generated research and ideas in pupil essays
- Improved contextual knowledge when dealing with authors and their works
- Improved coursework grades at GCSE
- Greater uptake of complex tasks at A level Media
- Improved use of literary criticism and reference to other academic work in A Level English

### How will it be evaluated?

A

- Analysis of behaviour logs and exclusions
- Student focus groups/questionnaires
- SLT monitoring of activities
- Parental feedback

B - Analysis of:

- Results
- Pupil and parent feedback
- Enrolment onto post-16 courses
- Attendance data

C

- Progress data in English and maths

D

- Data will be collected through lesson observations, musical performances and concerts, student participation, student and parental interviews and student data.

E

- By comparing student progress data with that of the previous years.

F

- Impact of new hardware will be reviewed on a termly basis following installation to ensure that the transition to new hardware is smooth.
- Annual ICT audit will track impact of the upgrade.

G

- Through the monitoring of written work and the accompanying grades at KS3
- Through the improvement of grades for coursework at KS4
- Through the tracking of grades at KS5 and the monitoring of coursework choices

#### **What is the outcome of the evaluation?**

- A. City Year - The students who regularly attend the homework sessions have seen their maths and English levels rise by an average of 4 sub-levels since September. Students who regularly attend the homework sessions have seen a decrease of 25% in the number of detentions they get. The number of extra-curricular opportunities has increased. There has been an increase in the attendance of extra-curricular opportunities.
- B. Alternative provision - 10 out of the 11 students will remain in education or training. Attendance improved significantly in Y11 once the students were on their chosen courses. 10 out of 11 students in Y11 are on course to achieve a Pass or higher in their vocational courses and 10 out of 11 are on course to pass functional skills in English, Maths and ICT.
- C. Team Up did not attain the standards required. Due to concerns raised on the quality of what was being delivered and the requirement for additional resources to be invested, the decision was made to cancel the partnership with Team Up.
- D. In Harmony -  
All observations in Music - including orchestral lessons - have been graded good or outstanding. A review of the department specifically highlighted the orchestra project as having a significant impact on both attainment in Music and on the wider cultural life of the academy.
- Students have performed regularly to both school and local community audiences at such events as: concerts, talent shows, achievement assemblies, awards events and chamber concerts.
  - Student participation and engagement is extremely high as noted in observations of the project and parental support for the orchestra is overwhelmingly positive.
  - Student responses to questionnaires demonstrate that they understand the impact that taking part in an orchestra and learning a musical instrument is having on their education and their lives.

- E. Use of Tablets - Due to unforeseen technical limitations the project is running behind schedule but outcomes are predicted to be realised.
- F. ICT Resources - The overall impact has been positive and it has enhanced the student learning experience. Students spend more time working and less time frustrated with issues or limited access to resources, which has had a positive impact on the students' learning.
- G. Laptop + Laptop Trolleys - There are far more pupils accessing and completing the more complex, and thus rewarding, coursework tasks at KS5 which has led to a marked improvement in coursework grades.

The quality of academic reference and the level of confidence in handling and integrating critical work is vastly improved.