

Greater Manchester Learning Partnership Targeted Support Bid: December 2017

Project Title: Attend Today; Achieve Tomorrow

Objectives: To have a positive impact upon punctuality and attendance of disadvantaged pupils and increase pupils' standardised scores in Reading.

Research Proposal Outline:

There is evidence that a free universal, before-school breakfast club delivered an average of +2 months additional progress for pupils in Reading, Writing Maths (EEF:2018). Following its success, the DfE has made the decision to continue developing this project through focusing on disadvantaged areas. Currently, most evidence is primarily gathered in Primary Schools and there is no research about how 1 to 1 tuition could be used to enhance breakfast club provision. Linked to each schools' school improvement plans, we would like to explore the impact of 1:1 tuition and targeted breakfast club provision on attainment and attendance in a range of primary school settings.

Our project would have two aims:

- To have a positive impact upon punctuality and attendance of disadvantaged pupils
- To increase pupils' standardised scores to impact positively on pupils' progress and attainment.

A between participant design would be used with a pre-test and post-test. The independent variable breakfast club attendance will be defined operationally by creating three conditions:

- IV Level I – Control condition – normal practice (pupils attend school at normal start time)
- IV Level II – Intervention A - pupils attend breakfast club in addition to the normal school day.
- IV Level III – Intervention B - pupils attend breakfast club where they receive additional 1:1 tuition on their next steps in addition to the normal school day.

Dependent variables:

- DV1 – standardised score on an age appropriate test (a comparable test will be used as the pre and post-test with the same number of questions set).
- DV2 - Attendance/punctuality data
- DV3 – Likert scale to gather pupils' attitude to learning and attendance

Year 6 pupils in each primary school will take part in the project (total of 60 pupils). All three schools serve separate communities within Wigan with varying levels of socio-economic deprivation.

In each school, there will be 3 groups of pupils (which are already stratified in mixed gender groups) that will be randomly allocated to experience one of the three conditions.

15 pupils from each school would take part in the project: 5 in the control group; 5 in Intervention A (who would attend paid breakfast club for the duration of the project) and 5 in Intervention B (who attend paid breakfast club where they receive 1:1 tuition on their specific next steps).

At the end of the project the academic progress of pupils in each condition will be calculated by comparing gains scores from each standardised test and the impact upon attendance and attitude to schooling will also be measured from the attendance data and likert scales.