

 #oeClosingTheGap

Closing the Attainment Gap for Disadvantaged Learners

Engage parents, build aspirations and effectively evidence the progress of your disadvantaged pupils

oego.co/ClosingTheGap19



Expert speakers include:

Daniel Sobel

Founder and CEO, Inclusion Expert

Dr Pooky KnightSmith

Mental Health Advisor, Author, Speaker and Educator

Amanda Pugh

SENDCO, Abbott Community Primary School

Jimmy Cartledge

Curriculum Leader and Pupil Premium Coordinator, Woodchurch High School

KEY BENEFITS

ENGAGE PARENTS

Develop trust and build relationships to engage parents in learning

EVIDENCE PUPIL PREMIUM

Insight on best practice for pupil premium spend and evidencing progress

RAISE ASPIRATIONS

Break the cycle of low aspiration and fulfil potential

FEATURING SPEAKERS FROM:



Education
Endowment
Foundation



Closing the Attainment Gap for Disadvantaged Learners

As the attainment gap for the most disadvantaged learners in our classrooms continues to widen, what is your school doing to maximise pupil premium spend and help these children overcome their barriers to success?

Children eligible for pupil premium and free school meals aren't a homogenous group and their needs are complex and varied. From 'hard-to-reach' parents and challenging home backgrounds to behavioural issues, mental health concerns and low aspirations, no two children are the same.

This event will tackle the individual barriers to a child's success, bringing practitioners and experts together to provide you with the insight and strategies to take away and enact in school. Whether your challenge is ensuring high attendance, raising staff awareness or managing those difficult conversations with parents, our event will address these needs through practical workshops and inspiring and informative keynotes.

One-to-one consultations on your online pupil premium strategy with one of our top consultants will also be available as part of this course*.

Why should I attend this event?

- **Engage parents:** involve parents in their child's learning through innovative engagement strategies, building trust and establishing strong relationships.
- **Make the most of your pupil premium:** ensure your programme directly benefits your disadvantaged pupils and is evidenced effectively.
- **Mental health:** support children in their learning by identifying needs, raising staff awareness and helping them build resilience.
- **Aspirations:** encourage disadvantaged pupils to be more aspirational and motivated, to raise their engagement and attainment.

Who should attend?

- Deputy Headteachers
- Assistant Headteachers
- Headteachers
- Pupil Premium Coordinators
- Inclusion Managers
- SENCOs

*Delegates will be invited to book a consultation slot in the run-up to the event. Limited spaces available.

"An extremely interesting and thought-provoking day with outstanding presenters who provided a range of useful strategies and ideas."

ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER, TRAFFORD

Optimus Education offers a wealth of expertise to support your whole-school improvement.

From non-curricular awards, timely and informative conferences, packaged and bespoke consultancy, to in-house training and membership, Optimus is your one-stop-shop for your school or academy.

Head to oego.co/ClosingTheGap19 to find out more.

SPEAKERS



Daniel Sobel

Founder and CEO, Inclusion Expert

Daniel is an internationally respected leader in inclusive education and has advised the DfE, the EU and governments abroad. Daniel is a well-known speaker, writes regularly for publications including Headteacher Update and The Guardian, and is the author of several books including Narrowing the Attainment Gap.



Dr Pooky Knightsmith

Mental Health Advisor, Author, Speaker and Educator

An internationally respected face of child and adolescent mental health, Pooky works tirelessly to 'be the change she wants to see'. Pooky develops and shares practical, evidence-informed approaches to promoting mental health. Pooky has a PhD in child mental health from the Institute of Psychiatry, is the author of five books and is the current vice chair of the Children and Young People's Mental Health Coalition.



Amanda Pugh

SENDCO, Abbott Community Primary School

Amanda has spent the past 5 years teaching, predominantly in key stage 2, at schools in highly disadvantaged areas. Whilst at these schools her role has focused heavily on parental engagement and the longevity of this. Currently Amanda is working as a SENDCO and parental engagement coordinator, working towards the Leading Parent Partnership Award at Abbott Community Primary School.



Jimmy Cartledge

Curriculum Leader and Pupil Premium Coordinator, Woodchurch High School

A senior teacher at Woodchurch High School, Jimmy has worked as part of a team coordinating provision for disadvantaged students since 2013, with a focus on identifying and tracking 'priority groups' within the school. He is responsible for promoting engagement, particularly working with parents and enabling them to be involved in the education of their child.



Megan Dixon

Director of Literacy, Aspire Educational Trust and Research School Developer, Education Endowment Foundation

Megan divides her time between her role as an education and curriculum director for a multi-academy trust based in the North West, running a research school and working for the Education Endowment Foundation. She has been a teacher, consultant, a senior leader and a specialist literacy teacher and trainer with expertise in teaching children who find it hardest to learn.



Bradley Busch

HCPC-registered Psychologist and Director, Innerdrive

Bradley has worked with over 200 schools, running workshops for staff, students and parents with a view to using psychological research to improve mindset, motivation and learning. He is the author of 'Release Your Inner Drive' and his next book, 'The Science of Learning: 77 studies every teacher needs to know' is due for release in spring 2019. Bradley writes two blogs for The Guardian and works with elite athletes that include England international footballers and members of Team GB to help develop resilience and the ability to perform under pressure.



Nigel Bishop

National Trainer and Consultant

In his role as a national trainer and consultant, as well as a recently qualified counsellor and former primary headteacher, Nigel brings his wide experience of school-based learning and leadership to bear on a variety of current issues. Notably data analysis, the pupil premium and learning support. His warmth and gentle humour combine with enthusiasm to revive those who learn with him, as well as equipping them to continue moving mountains.

08:45– 09:45 Registration and refreshments

Book one of ten one-to-one consultation slots with one of our top consultants to learn how to make the most of your pupil premium online strategy and guarantee a great first impression for Ofsted

09:45 – 10:00 **Chair's introduction and welcome**

Building early, positive relationships with parents to improve engagement

- Practical strategies to successfully achieve early buy-in from parents in their child's education.
- Gain the latest methods in engaging 'hard-to-reach' parents.
- Know how to create efficient two-way communication between parents and the school.

Daniel Sobel, Founder and CEO, Inclusion Expert

Maximising the impact of pupil premium

- Understand the latest expectations from Ofsted and how to evidence your pupil premium spend.
- Cost-effective strategies to make the most of your pupil premium budget.
- Hear the latest guidance on managing pupil premium plus funding.

Nigel Bishop, National Trainer and Consultant

11:10 – 11:10 Questions and answers

11:10 – 11:40 Morning refreshments

11:40 – 12:30 Streamed Sessions 1

1A: Behaviour

Understand the triggers and effects of poor behaviour to minimise its impact and help students re-engage with their learning

Dr Pooky Knightsmith, Mental Health Advisor, Author, Speaker and Educator

1B: Early language development

Practical and innovative strategies to improve early language and communication skills of disadvantaged pupils and help close the gap in early years

Megan Dixon, Director of Literacy, Aspire Educational Trust and Research School Developer, Education Endowment Foundation

1C: Parental engagement

Sustainable strategies to raise and maintain engagement through effective communication to help parents support their child in their learning

Plus, gain access to our six-step parental engagement action plan
Amanda Pugh, SENDCO, Abbott Community Primary School and Phillippa Wilson, Headteacher, Abbott Community Primary School

12:30 – 13:20 Lunch

Book one of ten one-to-one consultation slots with one of our top consultants to learn how to make the most of your pupil premium online strategy and guarantee a great first impression for Ofsted

Breaking the cycle of low aspirations

- Motivate students to unlock their potential and raise their attainment.
- Help students identify their strengths to get the most out of their education.

Bradley Busch, HCPC-registered Psychologist and Director, Innerdrive

14:00 – 14:10 Questions and answers

14:10 – 15:00 Streamed Sessions 2

2A: Attendance

Hear best practice on how to tackle poor punctuality and persistent absenteeism to give students the best chances of raising their attainment

Steve Baker, Behaviour and Attendance Consultant

2B: Difficult conversations

Build trust and develop relationships to help identify issues at home and tackle difficult conversations with parents and pupils

Kirsty Stewart, Deputy Headteacher, Fulwood and Cadley Primary School

2C: In the classroom

Learn how to differentiate teaching yet challenge all pupils in the classroom and foster a welcoming learning environment

Daniel Sobel, Founder and CEO, Inclusion Expert

15:00 – 15:20 Afternoon refreshments

15:20 – 16:10 Streamed Sessions 3

3A: Staff engagement

Ensure teachers and staff are on board and fully aware of individual pupil needs inside and outside the classroom through effective communication and engagement

Tom Fay, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, Pontefract Academies Trust

3B: Pupil mental health

Identify needs, provide targeted support, help pupils develop the skills they need to help themselves and support them with specific approaches for high-stress times

Dr Pooky Knightsmith, Mental Health Advisor, Author, Speaker and Educator

3C: Case study

Hear how one school addresses the indirect effects of poverty on day-to-day school life by 'poverty-proofing' the school and using data scrutiny effectively

Jimmy Cartledge, Curriculum Leader and Pupil Premium Coordinator, Woodchurch High School

16:10 Conference close

Closing the Attainment Gap for Disadvantaged Learners

ONE DAY CONFERENCE - 19 March 2019, Manchester

Engage parents, build aspirations and effectively evidence the progress of your disadvantaged pupils

Easy Ways to Register

1. Book online and receive instant confirmation: oego.co/ClosingTheGap19
 2. Email: conference.bookings@optimus-education.com
 3. Questions: call us on 0845 450 6404
- Please see oego.co/TandCs for our subscriptions, cancellations and refund policy

Pricing

Prices	Book before 04/02/19	Book after 04/02/19
Primary	£269 + VAT	£299 + VAT
Secondary & Colleges	£349 + VAT	£379+ VAT
LAs	£399 + VAT	£429+ VAT
Others	£429+ VAT	£459 + VAT
Premium Plus	You could attend this conference as part of your Premium Plus package. For further information, please contact your Account Manager.	

If you do not fit into one of the above categories, please contact us on 0845 450 6404 or email oe.conferences@optimus-education.com

4 steps for overcoming the barriers of disadvantaged learners

1

Before
the day

Create your account at oego.co/Delegate and gain access to pre-event reading and resources

PLUS

- Read our case study on empowering parents, improving wellbeing and changing lives.
- Gain access to a five-step guide on ensuring robust provision for disadvantaged learners.
- View our summary of the research on effective pupil premium spending to help narrow the gap.

2

During
the day

Have your burning questions answered by our experts and outstanding practitioners

PLUS

- Discuss challenges with peers and build up a network of support.
- Select targeted workshops to suit your specific needs.

3

After
the day

Log in at oego.co/ClosingTheGapResources to access key resources from the day

PLUS

- Download speaker presentations and share these with colleagues.
- Access our guide to promoting resilience in school.
- Gain strategies for reducing pupil stress and download our pupil wellbeing checklist tool.

4

Share
across your school

Gain access to our course on promoting positive behaviour and tackling low-level disruption*

*Access to download and deliver training modules for Premium and Premium Plus members only. Get in touch to find out more about the benefits of becoming an Optimus Education Premium Plus member.