

## **Disadvantaged Pupils: Barriers to learning and individualised support**

### **Common barriers to learning**

- Attendance & punctuality
- Special educational needs (SEN)
- Low attainment in a core subject not letting them access the rest of the curriculum
- Confidence and resilience
- Parental aspirations
- Less support at home
- Not doing homework
- More frequent behaviour difficulties
- Weak language and communication skills (esp in the early years)

### **Provision to narrow the gap**

- **Individualised support – consider the child's context**
- Thinking about each pupil in the context of their home circumstances – asking themselves, for example, whether they needed to work closely with parents or support parents
- Considering whether poor behaviour, exclusions or low attendance were stopping individual pupils from achieving as much as they could
- Reflecting on ways in which they could better support older pupils to study independently outside of school
- Working to improve pupils' emotional skills, where these were barriers to learning
- Ensuring that low expectations were not a barrier to achievement, by considering the potential of individuals

### **What the research says provision might include**

The EEF says that some of the most effective strategies include:

- Quality first teaching
- Feedback
- Oral language interventions
- One-to-one tuition