

Beyond the gap:

Boys, belonging, and achievement

A **fully funded** professional development and implementation programme that aims to build understanding of the impact of compounded socio-economic disadvantage and support schools to tackle the pervasive gaps for boys eligible for Free School Meals.

Move beyond the gap. Understand the barriers.
Lead meaningful change.



Face-to-face conference
Monday 2nd November (Leeds)



Four online twilight sessions
November 2026 - March 2027

Expert input

Implementation support

Network and share

Bringing together research evidence, practical strategies, and implementation support to improve outcomes for boys experiencing educational disadvantage. Work alongside experts and other school leaders to identify priorities and turn evidence into sustainable action.

James Rew (Chair of the West Yorkshire Boys Impact Hub, and Luminate Education Group's Research and Evaluation Manager) and Helen Sykes (Head of Go Higher West Yorkshire) can also offer participating schools a **dedicated review**.

Who is this for?

This programme is suitable for Headteachers, central Trust colleagues and Senior Leaders including Pupil Premium and Inclusion Leads.

Maximum of two colleagues per organisation.

What will you gain?

- Deeper understanding of the challenges and experiences of boys experiencing educational disadvantage.
- Evidence-informed approaches to improve engagement, attendance, wellbeing, and achievement.
- Practical tools to diagnose barriers and identify priorities within your setting.
- Implementation support to develop and embed a targeted, sustainable action plan aligned with your school priorities.
- Expert input, coaching, and collaboration with colleagues from across the region.

Your commitment

- Attend face-to-face conference (all resources and refreshments provided) on **Monday 2nd November, 9.00am-3.30pm.**
- Attend online twilights.
- Complete context-specific gap tasks.
- Share learning with other colleagues in your organisation.
- Complete questionnaires and support other evaluation activities.



Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to register online. Further information will follow by email.



Deadline:
Friday 9th
October 2026



Funded by
UK Government

This project is funded by the Department for Education's Regional Improvement for Standards and Excellence (RISE) programme, connecting schools to the experts already making a difference in classrooms. For more information on RISE, please visit [Regional improvement for standards and excellence \(RISE\) - GOV.UK](#)