

The Catch-Up Premium Report – 2019-20

The Literacy and Numeracy Catch-Up Premium gives schools and academies additional funding to support year 7 students who did not achieve the national standard of 100 in reading and/or mathematics at the end of Year 6.

The funding is designed to ensure that students who have not achieved their potential at Key Stage 2 are not disadvantaged by this and are provided with the same opportunities as their peers by the time they leave the secondary phase of education at the age of 16. The wider aims of the catch up funding include:-

- To increase social mobility
- To enable students from disadvantaged backgrounds to get to the top universities
- To ensure that students from all backgrounds have an equal opportunity to be successful
- To reduce the attainment gap between the highest and lowest achieving students nationally

Overview of the funding 2019-20

Total number of year 7 students on roll (September 2019)	180
Total number of students eligible for catch up funding	42
Total amount of funding received	£25,773

Our personalised approach to learning ensures that all students are effectively supported and challenged to make progress. However, the Progress Centre also provided Literacy and Numeracy support for students identified as requiring “Catch Up”. With four full time staff members, the group focuses on intervention and in- class support using a range of strategies, including Lexia, Rapid Reader Plus, Read Write Inc and Catch-Up Literacy.

Underachievement in Literacy (including reading and spelling) and/or Numeracy was also tackled effectively through a range of initiatives:

- **Dedicated Nurture Teacher (including dedicated nurture room)** – The academy continued to employ a dedicated nurture teacher to teach those students most in need of catch-up in Literacy and Numeracy in Year 7 (and in Year 8/9, where appropriate). Students in this nurture set were taught in the same environment by the nurture teacher for a significant proportion of their curriculum, easing transition from primary to secondary.
- **Appointment of an Assistant Principal for Teaching and Learning and a Literacy Co-ordinator** – These leadership positions, which included responsibility for Literacy and SEND, were created in September 2019 and have been strengthened by the separate appointment of a Faculty Leader for English. Their remit is to ensure high standards of Literacy across the curriculum, that students make more than expected progress with their reading ages and that all students who are in need of Catch Up get the necessary support and intervention. The academy is also an Ark Pilot School in support of this remit.
- **Small group literacy intervention group and 1:1 reading** – Small groups or individual students continued to be withdrawn from lessons to work on basic English and mathematics skills with our Intervention TAs,

these groups focused particularly on writing skills such as spelling and punctuation (Read, Write Inc.) and engaged in 1:1 reading.

- **An academy-wide Numeracy strategy for STEM subject areas** – INSET time for relevant subject areas ensured that Numeracy skills were delivered consistently across the academy; increased partnership working with our primary feeder schools ensured that key learning is not repeated in year 7/8 and that there was parity in the manner in which knowledge and skills were delivered.
- **Effective teaching and learning** – ‘Quality First Teaching’ has the strongest impact on student achievement and we believe this is critical to supporting future gains. Specific training days were used to promote Literacy and Numeracy across all subject areas. Staff professional development sessions also focused on how to work with students that arrive in the academy with lower than average grades/whose reading age is below 11 and the effective use of Teaching Assistants.

Due to the large number of students who arrived at the academy who were below the national standard of 100 in mathematics and English, we invested more into Literacy and Numeracy than is given in the premium. The table below reflects how much was directly spent from the catch up fund and should be read in conjunction with the academy’s Pupil Premium planned spend documentation:

Expenditure 2019-20	Cost (total funds available= £18,500)	Intended outcomes
1 x Literacy Coordinator	£54,340	To raise standards in Literacy with a view to supporting those students identified as underachieving meet chronological expectations.
Total Cost	£54,340	

Impact of Funding

	2019-20
% success in English	55%
% success in mathematics	23%

These figures are based on just under two terms of learning during academic year 2019-20 due to Covid-19.

Students’ progress was also tracked throughout the year as part of the Ark Mastery programme. When looking at progress, on average students made 1 year’s improvement.

The Catch-Up Premium no longer exists and has been replaced by the Curriculum Recovery Plan.