

Year 7 Literacy and Numeracy Premium

What is it?

The literacy and numeracy catch-up premium gives schools additional funding to support year 7 pupils who did not achieve at least the expected level (secondary ready) in reading or Maths at the end of key stage 2.

What is expected?

As a school we are expected to assess the individual needs of each pupil who is eligible for the funding and decide the best way to use the funding.

The Government recommends that you could use the funding to pay for:

- individual tuition
- intensive small-group tuition
- external services and materials
- summer schools that help students catch up over a short period of time

2016-2017

Each student that is eligible for this funding is awarded £500. This money is then pooled to allow for support to be organised amongst the English, Maths and Inclusion team.

For this current year we have received £18,000 to support these students.

Expenditure

Additional funding has allowed for 8 small groups to be formed that take place during the school prep sessions on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. This is manned by qualified English and Maths mentors outside of their contractual working hours for the school. £11,000 of the additional premium catch-up funding has gone in paying for the services of these mentors.

The small groups offer an intensive programme of study based around level 4 materials that will allow these students to rapidly make progress to reach the expected level 4. One reaching level 4 students are then continued to be supported in small groups to ensure that the progress is maintained and protected.

To support English, a reading schedule has been created. Students will study 3 short novels together to improve their reading and comprehension of texts, as well as focus on skills such as the use of dictionaries and purpose of blurbs.

In Maths, an external programme has been bought in for students to follow known as Passport Maths. There are five units that students study to help improve their maths ability. These areas include algebra, fractions, percentages, geometry and statistics. It is a computer based activity that can monitor areas of strengths and which areas require attention. This has allowed students to be tested for their mathematical needs and then a suitable and tailored programme has been devised to support rapid progress to level 4. This software has cost the school £2000.

Both the Maths and English department have been allocated £1000 each to support the learning of the catch up students within lessons. This has allowed the production of additional materials and resources to support these students in reaching their level 4 and beyond goals.

Surplus funding remains for the rest of the academic year for use as and when it is required. It has been noted that students from this catch up premium category may come across barriers further into the school term and therefore funding has been allocated to allow for this.

Impact

2016-17

| Subject | Number of students eligible in Year 7 | Percentage of eligible students making significant improvements in targeted skills | Percentage of eligible students reaching expected level |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| English | 83 | 90 (75 students) | 85 (70 students) |
| Mathematics | 73 | 86 (63 students) | 71 (52 students) |

As part of the 2017-2018 evaluation process a more in depth review will take place.

2015-16 Impact

Whilst catch-up premium groups have been in existence for some time in schools, this venture is part of the new Inclusion department and under new management and therefore difficult to comment on impact in depth.

However statistical data can allow us to declare that at the end of year 7, 97% of those students that entered year 7 with lower than level 4, made the necessary progress, suggesting a successful course of intervention.

In Maths the statistic is somewhat lower at 50% making the necessary progress to level 4 and highlights the decision this year to utilise more resources to support Maths.