COVID-19 Catch-Up Premium Funding Strategy 2021/22

Children and young people across the country have experienced unprecedented disruption to their education as a result of coronavirus (COVID-19). Those from the most vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds will be among those hardest hit.

Who is entitled to COVID-19 Catch-Up Premium Funding?

Previously, the government had announced £1 billion of funding to support children and young people to catch up. This included a one-off universal £650 million catch-up premium for the 2020/21 academic year to ensure that schools had the support they needed to help all pupils make up for lost teaching time.

Following the second closure January to March 2021, some changes were made to the plan. The school continues to regularly review pupil's needs and any allocation of additional funding that comes in under the Catch-Up agenda.

Statement of intent

We at Swanton Morley VC Primary School believe that the highest possible standards can only be achieved by having the highest expectations of all learners. Some pupils from both disadvantaged and none-disadvantaged backgrounds, now or continue to require additional support in order to ensure they get the best possible outcomes. Therefore, we will use all the resources available to us to help children reach their full potential, including the use of additional COVID-19 Catch-Up premium funding.

How is the funding used?

Guidance states (https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-catch-up-premium) schools should use this funding for specific activities to support their pupils to catch up for lost teaching over the previous months, in line with the guidance on curriculum expectations for the next academic year.

Schools have the flexibility to spend their funding in the best way for their cohort and circumstances.

To support schools to make the best use of this funding, the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has published a <u>support guide for schools</u> with evidence-based approaches to catch up for all students. Schools should use this document to help them direct their additional funding in the most effective way. This could include small group or one-to-one tuition

To support schools to implement their catch-up plans effectively, EEF published the <u>school planning guide</u>: <u>2020 to 2021</u>. This provides further guidance on how schools should implement catch-up strategies as well as supporting case studies to highlight effective practice.

Swanton Morley VC Primary - Catch-Up Premium Grant 2021/2022

Funding information	
Academic year	2021-2022
Total number of pupils on roll	184
Amount received per pupil	£33
Total received	£5960 (Autumn Term 2021)

In making decisions on the use of the premium, we will focus on approaches that:

- Use evidence based research on proven strategies which work to narrow the attainment gaps and adapt these as necessary to meet the needs of our pupils such as those suggested by the EEF
- Are focused on clear short-term goals providing opportunities for pupils to experience success.
- Recognise the fact that pupils who have fallen behind are not a homogeneous group and cover a wide range of needs. As such the strategies we use to raise attainment will take these groups and individual needs fully into account.
- Use high quality teaching and learning as the preferred way to narrow the gaps in attainment in the first instance
- Raise aspirations through access to high-quality educational experiences
- Promote pupil's awareness and understanding of their own thought process (metacognition) and help them to develop problem-solving strategies.



- o Ensure children emotional health and well-being are supported to the highest levels, enabling them to best access academic learning
- o Are for all year groups not just those in key end points

Evidence shows that targeted support has a positive impact and is a key component of effective Catch-up. We will spend the Premium on targeted support in the following ways:

- Structured interventions
- Small group tuition
- One-to-one support
- Increased nurture support available in school
- Supporting specific areas of training for relevant members of staff
- Increase amount of learning resources available to specific groups of allocated pupils

Accountability and reporting

- School leaders must be able to account for how this money is being used to achieve the central goal of schools getting back on track and teaching a normal curriculum as quickly as possible.
- Given their role in ensuring schools spend funding appropriately and in holding schools to account for educational performance, governors and trustees should scrutinise schools' approaches to catch-up from September, including their plans for and use of catch-up funding. This should include consideration of whether schools are spending this funding in line with their catch-up priorities, and ensuring appropriate transparency for parents.



Areas of Spend

As detailed above, the Covid-19 Catch-Up funding will be spent as follows during the 2021/22 academic year:

- Emotional support training (ELSA) previously accessed by a Teaching Assistant in order to provide nurture support to identified pupils.

 Additional hours given to Teaching Assistant in the Autumn Term 2021 (x2 afternoons a week) to fulfil role in school, in addition to existing hours worked. Total cost of the additional hours: £850
- Time4You sessions (run by the Benjamin Foundation) available for up to eight pupils in school each week throughout the Autumn term 2021 and Spring term 2022: £1,000
- Parent Support Advisor (PSA) employed for second half of Spring term 2022 and Summer term 2022. This is in order to provide additional nurture support for identified families in prioritising emotional health and well-being. Cost of support: £1500
- IDL Literacy/Numeracy interventions purchased in order to help identify & address the specific knowledge gaps created in Maths and English during Covid-19 lockdowns. Cost of interventions: £850
- Additional TA capacity (1 TA for x3 afternoons a week) added to the staff team for the Autumn Term 2021 and Spring Term 2022 to ensure targeted pupils have focused levels of support as required: £1750

Total planned spend: £5950 approx

Success Criteria(s)

Levels of pupil progress will be gauged during the second half of the Spring term 2022 when teachers (form all year groups) submit data onto Pupil Asset. This will help us gauge how successful these targeted interventions have been in terms of enabling consistent academic progress for pupils who have missed significant periods of learning following school closures.

We will also review several areas of 'soft' data, namely teacher and Teaching Assistant input on levels of engagement and emotional resilience of pupils who have been identified as needing additional nurture support.



Next Steps

Towards the end of the 2021/22 academic year, we will review the overall impact on pupil progress and levels of engagement that the areas of spend allocated to the school (£5960) from the DfE have had.