

## **Covid-19 Catch Up Premium at Our Lady and St Anne's Catholic Primary School**

The Government first published info about this premium in July 2020. They stated:

“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. The aggregate impact of lost time in education will be substantial, and the scale of our response must match the scale of the challenge.

We know that we have the professional knowledge and expertise in the education system to ensure that children and young people recover and get back on track. Returning to normal educational routines as quickly as possible will be critical to our national recovery.”

### **The Catch Up Premium for 2020-21**

Our school received a Covid support grant provisional allocation figure of **£16719**. The funding is allocated for this academic year from Sept 2020 to Aug to 2021 to ensure that schools have the support they need to help all students make up for lost teaching time.

The first payment of **£9754** (£46.67 per pupil) for Autumn/Spring has been budgeted for and a balancing payment of **£6965** (£33.33 per pupil) has been budgeted to receive in Summer 2021.

Our allocation has been calculated on a per pupil basis, a total of £80 for each pupil in years Reception through to Year 6.

### **Use of these extra funds**

Schools should use this funding for specific activities to support their students to catch up for lost teaching over the previous months, in line with the guidance on curriculum expectations for the academic year.

Schools have the flexibility to spend their funding in the best way for their students and setting.

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) published a [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) support guide for schools](#) with evidence-based approaches to catch up for all students. In July 2020 they recommended:

- small group or one-to-one tuition (particularly through the National Tutoring Programme)
- summer school catch up
- extra teaching capacity from September

When this information went to print in July, it was obviously hoped we would not encounter on-going issues with the pandemic. Clearly, this is not the case. We have seen a second wave of the virus in the Autumn term and we have had to deal with increasing numbers of both children and staff self-isolating. School continues to be disrupted with positive cases, close-contact identification and both staff and students being sent home to isolate. Indeed, we are now in another full National Lockdown.

## **Accountability and monitoring**

School has to account for how the funding is being used to achieve the Government goal of schools getting back on track and teaching a normal curriculum as quickly as possible.

Given the role in ensuring schools spend funding appropriately and in holding schools to account for educational performance, governors and trustees will 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.

Also, Ofsted are conducting their programme of non-graded 'visits' to schools this term. During these visits (some of which are taking place online now) inspectors will discuss how the school has brought students back into full-time education and will include us explaining our plans to spend the catch-up funding.

When routine Ofsted inspections resume in January 2021, they will make judgements about the quality of education being provided, and that will include how leaders are using their funding (including catch-up funding) to ensure the curriculum has a positive impact on all students.

The DfE has also set out the following Curriculum Expectations, to ensure that all students – particularly disadvantaged, SEND and vulnerable students – are given the catch-up support needed to make substantial progress by the end of the academic year.

### **Education is not optional**

All students receive a high-quality education at Our Lady and St Anne's Catholic Primary, that promotes their development and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

### **Our curriculum remains broad and ambitious**

All students continue to be taught a wide range of subjects.

Our aim is to:

- To reduce the attainment gap between disadvantaged students and their peers
- To raise the attainment of all students to close the gap created by COVID-19 school closures

## Barriers to Learning:

Issues identified from September 2020 as barriers to learning (e.g. curriculum gaps / literacy / attendance / wellbeing)
<b>B1:</b> Early reading skills including phonics
<b>B2:</b> Gaps in curriculum as identified by each coordinator
<b>B3:</b> Readyng the school for further home learning needs (E.g. a second lockdown)
<b>B4:</b> Ensuring all pupils can access online learning at home
<b>B5:</b> Gaps in knowledge that have appeared between March and July 2020, as identified through assessment in September 2020
<b>B6:</b> Ensuring all pupils (including SEND) are making social, emotional and academic progress following the lockdown period
<b>B7:</b> Understanding T&L strategies within the 'new normal' way of teaching
<b>B8:</b> Supporting parents and carers with home learning platforms
<b>B9:</b> Understanding the ability of our new intake of EYFS pupils without the usual home school engagement
<b>B10:</b> Maintaining a high attendance % for all students is a priority
<b>B11:</b> Wellbeing: Students adjusting to the new school routines and structures
<b>B12:</b> Wellbeing: Concerns around anxiety and safeguarding issues following the lockdown period
<b>B13:</b> Ensuring parental engagement levels are maintained through our various communication platforms.
<b>B14:</b> The new routines in the school day could create a number of logistical difficulties which could hamper high quality teaching and learning if we are not careful
<b>B14:</b> The way resources across school are managed in accordance to our new COVID-19 risk assessments

We did not want to rush ahead into spending our catch up premium unnecessarily; therefore, we have decided to wait until our pupils have completed their 2<sup>nd</sup> autumn assessments In December before we finalise which actions we will prioritise. Pupil progress meetings will take place in January 2021 where teachers and SLT will meet to discuss whether the gaps that were identified in the September assessments are still prevalent.

Our primary aims in September 2020 were to focus on settling pupils and staff back into school routines, with health and wellbeing a priority. We also wanted to spend time setting up Microsoft Teams as our preferred platform for remote/blended learning from October 2020. Spring/Summer 2021 will primarily have an academic focus and standards and attainment will be prioritised.