

St John's Marlborough Year 7 Catch Up Funding for Maths and English 2017-18

What is 'Catch Up' Funding – The National Context

The DfE provides additional funding to schools for a proportion of Year 7 students who have not reached an age related standardised score of 100 in reading and/or mathematics at the end of Year 6 in national testing (SATs).

Funding levels for 2017/18 were broadly in line with those in the previous year.

The funding is not 'ring fenced' however there is an expectation that the money the school receives is used in a way that will enhance progress in English and/or maths to enable the student to 'catch up' and ensure they are more likely to succeed in the secondary phase of their education.

For the academic year 2017-18 we have received £11,000 through catch-up premium.

Number of pupils and funding received	
Total number of students on roll (current)	1678
Total number of pupils eligible for catch up (current)	22
Amount of funding received per pupil	500
Total amount of funding:	£11000

The funding for our Catch Up students is carefully allocated to support the students eligible to it. Careful transition meetings are used to ascertain specifics on students' learning in order to support them upon entry to secondary school.

Objectives in spending Catch Up Funding

- Narrow the gap between 'Catch Up' students and the rest of the cohort
- Improve levels of progress made by these students
- Develop literacy and numeracy skills for students

Summary of spending and actions taken and planned for the current academic year:

Literacy Catch-Up Strategy

1. High quality teaching and learning and staff training ensure that work is suitably differentiated to support the development of reading across the curriculum.
2. All Year 7 students undergo a reading assessment prior to joining the school in Year 6. Identified catch up learners will meet the SEN team prior to joining the school.
3. Targeted literacy intervention for a 6-8-week period (small groups of 4-6 students, 3 times a fortnight and run by a specialist English teacher)
4. Additional TA support in one group
5. Reciprocal Reading intervention programme for 6 students.
6. All catch up students receive high quality, personalised, reading intervention using a sophisticated range of resources and proven strategies to support struggling readers.
7. Regular analysis of progress data is undertaken to ensure students are receiving appropriate and successful interventions.
8. Interventions are delivered by a highly trained team of SEND specialist teachers and teaching assistants.

9. Use of Accelerated Reader for all Year 7 students during a dedicated reading lesson in the school library. Weaker readers work with a sixth form student during tutorial sessions to develop fluency and reading comprehension.

Numeracy Catch-Up Strategy

1. Small class sizes in mathematics for Year 7 students identified as requiring catch up for numeracy.
2. Quality First Teaching of numeracy skills throughout all mathematics lessons to target areas of weakness identified in initial Year 7 baseline assessments.
3. Delivery of high quality numeracy intervention for key students in the catch-up cohort. This intervention is planned by our specialist SEND mathematics teacher and delivered by specialist intervention teachers.
4. Regular analysis of progress data is undertaken to ensure students are receiving appropriate and successful interventions.
5. Workbooks purchased to support students develop their skills with the four strands of mathematics; number, geometry, data handling and algebra.

Impact of Literacy interventions on Year 7 2017-18

We are measuring whether a student has 'caught up' through their reading age. A student who has caught up will have a reading age which is either at or exceeds their chronological age. 20 students were identified as weak readers Data shows that these students made more progress when compared to their peers. On average reading ages improved 13 months overall.

Impact of Numeracy interventions on Year 7 2017-18

Students were identified for the programme if they had a scaled score of 101 or less. We are measuring whether a student has 'caught up' by monitoring their progress in mathematics towards their end of Year 7 target, and improvement shown from KS2 mathematics SAT result. At the end of the year 53.2% of the cohort were on or above their end of Year 7 target. Students yet to achieve their target will continue to receive intervention into Year 8.

Maeve McNeill
Assistant Vice Principal
July 18