

Sacred Heart Catch Up Premium

What is a Catch-Up Premium?

The Government announced £1 billion of funding to support children and young people to catch up following the school lockdowns in March 2020 and Jan 2021. This included a one-off universal £650 million catch-up premium for the 2020 to 2021 academic year to ensure that schools have the support they need to help all pupils make up for lost teaching time.

The universal catch-up premium funding is available for all state-funded mainstream and special schools, and alternative provision. Funding has been allocated on a per pupil basis, providing the equivalent of £80 for each pupil in years Reception through to Y6. Schools have the flexibility to spend their funding in the best way for their cohort and circumstances.

In order to support schools with school planning whilst we are in a world pandemic, the Education Endowment Foundation (EFF) has produced guidance. This information suggests schools plan using a tiered approach with respect to school improvement and also with respect to planning how to support children to catch-up. “Catch-up” in this context refers to the children learning the main aspects of the curriculum they missed when they were in the first lockdown (March-August 2020.)

This tiered approach describes 3 tiers and the areas of provision within the tiers which schools suggest should be focused on to have the greatest impact this year.

Tier 1

Teaching (High-quality for all, effective diagnostic assessment, supporting remote learning and focusing on professional development.) Teaching and whole school strategies (Supporting great teaching, Pupil assessment and feedback and Transition support)

Tier 2

Targeted academic support (high quality one to one and small group tuition, teaching assistants and targeted support, academic tutoring, planning for pupils with SEND.) Targeted approaches (One to one and small group tuition, Intervention programmes and extended school time)

Tier 3

Wider strategies (supporting pupils social, emotional and behavioural needs, planning carefully for adopting SEAL (social and emotional aspects of learning) curriculum, supporting parents with pupils of different ages and successful implementation in challenging times)

Wider strategies

(Supporting parent and carers, access to technology and summer support) It is suggested that a school’s focus should also be split ½ on Tier 1 and a ¼ on Tier 2 and a ¼ on Tier 3.

Catch Up Premium for Sacred Heart – we have been allocated a total of £6,880.00 for the academic year 2020-21.

The DFE guidance on catch-up premium references the two school planning documents so we as a school have decided to use the tiers to support our decision-making with respect to how we spend our catch-up premium. The decisions are also guided by the school’s vision and our determination to ensure all our children “catch-up” and we do not allow this pandemic to adversely affect any of our children’s academic or emotional development.

TIER 1

- Testing of all children on return to school in September 2020
- Increased resources purchased to support the physical well-being of all pupils
- Staff to further enhance and develop the Curriculum to ensure that it is fully cross-curricular, motivational and engaging
- Technology provision across the whole school along with staff subject knowledge has been upgraded and enhanced
- Blended teaching to support any transition to home learning.
- Homework to support blended approach
- Subject leaders to ensure that staff secure subject knowledge
- Half termly monitoring to measure impact and curriculum coverage
- Termly progress meetings focusing on attainment and progress
- Support for mental health and well-being
- Subscriptions bought to enhance children’s learning: MyMaths, Numbots and Times Tables Rockstars for Maths; Spelling Shed for English

TIER 2

- Teachers and teaching assistants to deliver targeted Maths intervention to close the gaps.
- Teacher & TA Led consolidation: Handwriting, Word classes, Sentence structure, Spelling & Phonics Teacher & TA led Maths consolidation: Place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division. Use of newly purchased IT devices to support catch up using variety of proven apps for Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar and times tables.
- Teacher led Reading interventions for GDS children (focusing on reasoning questions)
- Use of private and Local Authority provision to support the needs of children with SEND
- Timetable adaptations in Y1 to support additional phonics to writing sessions and continuous provision

TIER 3

- Absence management to help prevent any persistent absenteeism. School will aim to maintain an average attendance of 96%
- Well-being support from the school Family Support Worker for children identified
- Use of external agencies when required to support well-being of children and families
- Careful planning of Personal Social Emotional Development activities to support children
- Reintroduction of community coaches to support extra-curricular activities (rebuild and allow friendships and social interactions to flourish)