

Year 7 Catch Up Funding 2016-17

For the academic year 2016-17, the school identified 47 students, who achieved Below Age Related Expectations (BARE) in at least one area. Those achieving in three or more areas at BARE totalled 22 and were eligible for “catch up”.

Of the 47 students, 25 have been able to “catch up” through High Quality Teaching provided. The remaining 22 have been provided with provision to help them “catch up”. This is demonstrated through ratio gains.

How have we spent Catch Up funding?

We have provided effective literacy lessons which have focused on:

- English skills including Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar – this is becoming a significant factor at GCSE level with additional marks awarded in a number of subjects.
- Reading and comprehension – this is done individually or in groups, reading aloud. We continue to use the Accelerator Reader intervention. The intervention tests the students’ reading ability and identifies a correlating level, which are colour coded in the library. The students read the books and are quizzed using the Accelerator Reader app on their iPads to test their understanding. The programme keeps a record of books read and quizzes completed, and valuable data regarding progress, books read, quizzes taken and whether the student passed, word count and time spent reading and completing quizzes.
- Spelling – the students use Word Shark since SuccessMaker became unavailable in 2016-17.
- Spelling and individual reading tests – these were carried out termly. The first on entry to give a baseline, with one in the Spring and the last in the Summer term. It is using these tests that we can measure “ratio gains” made by students over a year.

What are ratio gains?

On average a student, without intervention, will make one month’s progress in a single month. Students who receive an intervention should make two months progress in a single month. At the end of the year we can expect such students to make two years progress.

Numeracy:

This was run on an individual basis. Some students utilised interventions that teach basic maths skills. These include “Plus One”, “Power of Two” and “Timestables”, all of which were delivered during tutor time in Learning Support.

Literacy and Numeracy:

In addition, students received one to one individual tuition for one hour per week for a 10 week period, working with a sixth form student under the supervision of an experienced Learning Support Assistant.

Catch Up 2017-18:

In line with school targets the Learning Support department will be targeting raising attainment for SEND students particularly with boys. This will include the following priorities:

- Purchasing computers to run the Word Shark programme
- Purchasing Word Shark and Number Shark to support literacy and numeracy intervention.
- Purchasing exam reader pens to allow students to read examinations.
- Books for the Accelerator Reader programme.
- Introduction of numeracy lessons for students who have caught up in literacy.
- Research and review the feasibility of a Functional Skills programme with a view to offering provision for selected students.
- Phonics development for weaker readers.