

Year 7 Catch-up premium strategy 2017 - 2018

The literacy and numeracy 'Catch Up Premium' provides schools an additional £500 funding per Year 7 student who did not achieve the expected standard, as set by the Department for Education, in reading or maths at the end of KS2. As we are a generic special school, this is the case for all our young people who attend Hazelbeck. Our additional funding for the year 2017–2018 was therefore £8000.

What the money has been spent on 2017 -2018.

Catch Up funding was used on additional staffing to enable small group work for Year 7 students in Maths and English.

Assessments took place to identify individual student's strengths and areas for development identifying any misconceptions that were hindering progress. Interventions were then put into place either on a 1:1 basis or in small groups to work on specific skills, for example the ability to apply mathematic skills to solve problems or to decode and understand a text.

All teachers delivering maths to supported and independent learners in Y7 have received training in 'Talking Maths' which looks at improving students understanding of mathematical vocabulary in order to solve problems. A teacher who had a predominantly Y7 class went on a Philosophy for Children course to support students speaking and listening, an area that had been identified as in need of development through assessments. Part of the course fees were funded by the Catch Up premium.

There has also been a focus on promoting students' ability to apply learning be it basic mathematical skills of functional reading to real life problems. Some funding has therefore been used to provide students with real life opportunities where they can independently put their knowledge into practice, for example through shopping and community trips.

Resources purchased to promote the use of Maths and English.

Maths	English
Education City	Boardmaker online
	Sensory story bags

From arrival in September 2017 to July 2018 100% of students made expected progress in English with 82% exceeding expected progress. In maths, 95% made expected progress and 59% exceeded expected progress.

Plans for 2018-2019

Our 2017 – 18 funding allocation was £8000 and will be spent during 2018-2019. This will allow staff to be further trained in communication strategies that will meet the individual communication needs of all year 7 students as effectively as possible. As communication continues to be a school priority funding will be used to allow trained staff to be released from class responsibilities to deliver timetabled interventions and embed the use of strategies for individuals. We have also allocated some funding to go towards buying a sight reading scheme to develop reading those Y7s who do not use phonics as their primary reading strategy.

Some catch up funding has been allocated to the maths coordinator to buy resources that will support students in developing their calculation and problem-solving skills as these were identified as areas for development.