

The DfE has made additional funds available for improving the attainment of our disadvantaged students, known as the Year 7 Catch-Up Premium. The premium is given for any Year 7 students who are recorded in the 2014 Key Stage 2 assessment data as not having achieved level 4, 5 or 6 in reading or mathematics. The funds are primarily aimed at improving maths and English levels. This short report summarises how funding was spent.

Year 7 Catch-Up Premium 2015-16:

Total number of students on roll in Year 7: 89

Total number of students eligible for Year 7 Catch-Up Grant: 8

Amount of Year 7 Catch-Up Grant to be received per student £500

Total amount of Year 7 Catch-Up Grant to be received £4000

Funding has been used in the following ways:

- To create a differentiated curriculum and programme of intervention for an identified group of learners.
- To give this identified cohort 4 hours extra literacy on their curriculum every fortnight.
- To give this identified cohort 2 hours extra numeracy on their curriculum every fortnight.
- To provide support from a teacher qualified with respect to EAFL who has worked with one individual in order to develop this student's understanding of subject specific language.

In order to support our efforts to diminish any within school variation between students eligible for the catch-up premium and students not eligible for the catch-up premium with regard to attainment, whilst continuing to improve progress for both groups of students our departmental teams have engaged with a bespoke programme of training and development. A summary of the initiatives the training and development programmes engendered are presented below:

The maths and English departments developed their understanding/use and application of Question Level Analysis to produce short to medium term intervention plans to address the weaknesses in understanding of the students eligible for the students in receipt of the Catch-Up premium. Students who were underachieving were given intervention opportunities re catch-up/booster sessions (lunchtime and after school in order to support their in-lesson provision)

In order to complement the 'Catch-Up' initiative, the school used the Renaissance Reading Programme, and in particular, Accelerated Reader. This system allowed the school the opportunity to personalise and guide the students' independent reading practice, while the ATOS readability formula allowed teaching staff to assess the complexity of the language used in the course materials they provided for their students and therefore, granted teachers the opportunity to differentiate by resource to a greater degree than previously was the case.

The Literacy Coordinator delivered an academic training mentoring programme to selected Key Stage 5 students in order to provide students with the skills set to mentor Year 7 students in receipt of the premium in their academic studies.

Impact.

Reading:

2 students improved their Reading Age by 18 months

5 students improved their Reading Age by 12 months

1 student improved their Reading Age by 6 months

Numeracy:

All eligible students are now working 'at' or 'above' expected with respect to levels of progress from KS2.