

YEAR 7 CATCH-UP FUNDING REPORT TO PARENTS / CARERS

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| Date of Report: | 2 December 2015 |
| Report Author: | Mrs Swan, Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral) |

What is Year 7 Catch-Up Funding?

The literacy and numeracy catch-up premium provides schools with an additional £500 for each Year 7 Student who did not achieve at least level 4 in reading and / or maths at the end of Key Stage 2.

It is provided to all state-funded schools with a Year 7 cohort, including special schools, alternative provision (AP) settings and pupil referral units (PRUs).

Beccles Free School is eligible for Year 7 Catch-Up Funding. We opened in September 2012 and received our first Year 7 Catch-Up Funding in April 2013.

Leadership of Year 7 Catch-Up Funding in School:

The Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral), Mrs Swan, is also the Inclusion Leader (SENCO) for the school. Mrs Swan is the member of the Senior Leadership Team responsible for the impact of the Year 7 Catch-Up Funding. A member of the governing body, Mrs Chenery-Morris is the governor responsible for monitoring the impact of the Year 7 Catch-Up funding from a governance perspective.

Allocation of Year 7 Catch-Up Funding 2014-15:

Our total Year 7 Catch-Up Funding for 2014-15 from April 2014 was £16,265.90.

Funding was used to support Year 7 students who have achieved below a Level 4 in their Key Stage 2 SATs through one-to-one catch-up tuition with a qualified Higher Level Teaching Assistant in both English and mathematics. Students received individual tuition each week for 30 minutes offering both input and strategies to be used throughout other literacy lessons. The same cohort of students was targeted for intervention using the Lexia programme to develop literacy skills.

Students were supported through high quality in-class support from Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTAs) in both mathematics and English. The HLTAs provided support to enable students to overcome the barrier of low level literacy and numeracy in lessons and

supported this input with small group tuition, focusing on self-efficacy skills in numeracy and literacy. The HLTAs worked closely within their subject specialisms of English and mathematics planning with the subject teachers to ensure that the students' needs were met in the lesson. The HLTAs were able to guide the teachers' planning based on ongoing regular analysis of the English and mathematics intervention programmes.

The HLTA Literacy monitored and facilitated students' access to the Lexia programme, which took place each day for 20 minutes. Funding was used to ensure that there were annual subscriptions for each student, that the Lexia programme was installed on a dedicated suite of computers and that each student had their own set of headphones to access the programme. The HLTA received specialist training to ensure that they were able to monitor and analyse the progress made by students using Lexia and that specific areas of concern were shared with the Subject Leader for English to inform planning of lessons for Year 7. The SENCO was informed of any specific difficulties with aspects of the programme, which may have indicated a specific learning difficulty.

The HLTA Numeracy led individual and small group support for students in receipt of catch-up funding, with key numeracy skills, including multiplication strategies and addition or subtraction using the MyMaths computer programme. Students were able to access the programme at home to continue the intervention; this was monitored and analysed by the HLTA Numeracy. Students without access to the internet at home were provided with a CD Rom of the programme.

Impact of the Funding:

By the end of the academic year, 2014 to 2015, 40% of the students in receipt of Catch up funding raised their attainment to a Level 4 in English, this required many of those students to make above expected progress across the academic year.

Within mathematics, 35% of students in receipt of Catch up funding achieved a Level 4 by the end of the academic Year, making above expected progress.

Summary of intended spending 2015-16:

Our total Year 7 catch up funding for 2015-16 is expected to be £10,000. It should be noted that as our roll has been increasing over time, this figure is being adjusted regularly to account for new students joining us.

We have allocated for the following areas:

Our focus for the future allocation of catch-up funding will be ensuring more students are enabled to achieve four levels of progress between the end of Key Stage 2 and the end of Key Stage 3 in English. In addition to continuing to ensure that all students in receipt of Catch up funding benefit from in-class support from the HLTA Literacy, we intend to use funding to pay for training of the HLTA English to deliver, monitor and analyse the impact of the Nessy Read and Write programme. Individual accounts will be purchased for each of the students in receipt of Catch up funding and there will be a dedicated suite of computers and headphones for the programme. Nessy aims to rebuild self-confidence,

self-esteem and establish a love of learning. To maximise the effectiveness of the Nessy programme, students must take part in activities every day. To this end, students will have a programme of intervention enabling them to participate for a minimum of a twenty minute session each day. The HLTA English will liaise with the Subject Leader for English to share any specific areas that require additional input in the English and Literacy lessons.

The HLTA English will also work with students both individually and in small groups to improve students' reading skills through the Totem Reading series. The Totem Reading series (leading to the Talisman Reading series) focuses on the 'Letters and Sounds' essential phonics foundation that a Catch up reader will need in order to progress. Students will be given a Reading Record which is monitored throughout the week by staff from the Inclusion Team, under the supervision and guidance of the HLTA English. Additional reading support will be led by Peer Mentors in Year 9, who have received training from the HLTA Literacy using the Totem / Talisman scheme. This will be consolidated by the HLTAs within catch-up sessions.

The HLTA mathematics will be running small group and individual sessions each morning addressing key areas of foundation numeracy skills, including multiplication. The MyMaths programme will be used to support the tuition so that students can extend their learning independently. The HLTA mathematics will use the Nessy Numbers programme with students to engage them and motivate them via the game-based learning. Individual subscriptions will be purchased for each student and the laptops and headphones will be dedicated to the Catch up programme.