

St John's School and Sixth Form College

Year 7 Catch-Up Funding Summary of 2013-14 and Plans for 2014-15

In 2013 the Government made a commitment to provide annual additional educational funding to schools for each year 7 student who had not achieved level 4 in reading and/or mathematics at Key Stage 2.

St John's School received additional funding of £500 for each Year 7 pupil who did not achieve at least level 4 in reading and/or maths at Key Stage 2. The allocation for 2013/14 was £11,000 (22 students). This additional grant has been primarily used to target support in small groups and for individualised provision.

Targeted Support

Small group teaching was utilised in both the Maths and English curriculum in addition to the Nurture group input (which included several Year 7 catch-up students). It helped build up a strong skill base, giving students a toolkit of skills that allows them to access the mainstream curriculum more effectively.

Literacy Support

The Accelerated Reader programme, which builds reading skills in a structured programme of reading and reviewing both fiction and non-fiction texts was used extensively with Year 7 students in order to compliment the 3 x 25minutes weekly reading sessions. Year 7 Catch-up students were organised into small reading groups to provide a personalised approach for those students. This programme complimented to small-group withdrawal by HLTAs as part of Year 7 literacy catch-up in the English curriculum.

Numeracy

Additional numeracy tuition was provided by specialist Maths teachers on a small group basis by withdrawing key students from other lessons on a rolling programme designed to maximise the impact on numeracy and minimise the impact on other students.

Additional Resources and support

Support sessions for pupils with low confidence and low success rates in completing homework were provided through the Nurture Group provision, Welfare team, and via Homework Clubs.

Impact of Year 7 Catch-Up Funding

The impact of year seven catch-up funding was evaluated through the school's data and assessment routines, where National Curriculum Levels, progress, attitude, behaviour and homework were analysed for patterns and trends. Support was adapted at these points, if appropriate, in order to meet individual students' needs. Within literacy, pupils reading and spelling scores were regularly analysed for progress, and teaching support was then adapted to suit need.

By the end of the 2013-14 academic year:

- 94% of students at pre-level 4 in English had made 2 sub levels of progress. 50% of the group made 3 sub-levels of progress in this year.
- 67% of students at pre-level 4 in Maths made 2 sub levels of progress. 60% of the group made 3 sub-levels of progress in this year.

Future Plans for Academic Year 2014/2015

Any remainder of the allocation for 2013/2014 will be used to help Year 7 students who failed to make expected progress in the first Year. We continue our commitment to small group tuition and Accelerated Reader. However, we also intend to make provision for Accelerated Maths to complement the introduction of a specific, pastorally based, numeracy programme for Year 7 & 8 students in need of this level of intervention.