

# Covid-19 Catch up Funding



In June, a £1 billion fund for education was announced by the government. Further guidance has now been released (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-catch-up-premium>) showing that the money is split between a catch-up premium and a national tutoring scheme.

The catch-up premium is funded on a per pupil basis at £80 per pupil. This will be based on the previous year's census and will not include Nursery numbers, meaning St Margaret's will be in receipt of £17,040 (213 x £80). The spending of this money will be down to schools to allocate as they see best.

## **Spending:**

At St Margaret's this money will be used in order to:

- Purchase curriculum resources and materials that support pupils to get "back on track". These include Bug Club, staffing to deliver the Speech and Language programme -NELI, Doodle Maths, Doodle English, Times Tables Rockstars and Toe-by-Toe reading programme books.
- Fund additional support and SEND staff to develop the outcomes of children who have been identified as needing "catch up" in their learning.

## **Aims:**

The broad aims for "catch up" at St Margaret's:

- Attainment outcomes at end of 2020-21 for all year groups will be at least in line with those at the point of lockdown in March. This means that if a child was working at an age-related expectation in a subject in March they are working at least to an age-related expectation in that same subject by the end of the year.
- By the end of the 2021-22 year, attainment outcomes for all year groups will be at least in line with those at the end of the 2019-20 year.
- The mental health needs of pupils that have arisen as a result of the pandemic are met and supported by the school.

## **Catch Up at St Margaret's is**

*(For all children)*

- **Working through well sequenced, purposeful lessons based on our Recovery Curriculum**
- **Focus on consolidation of basic skills.** The core skills which enable successful learning will require increased curriculum time across all year groups. These include: handwriting, spelling of high frequency words, basic sentence punctuation, times tables recall, basic addition & subtraction fact recall and reading skills relevant to age.
- **Particular focus on early reading and phonics.** This is always a focus in the school and will continue to be so in order to develop children's reading ability and vocabulary.
- **Assessment of learning and of basic skills to identify major gaps.** Teachers will work to identify gaps in learning and adapt teaching accordingly.
- **Time spent on mental health, wellbeing and social skills development.** This will be at the core of all catch up work as many children will have not been in formal school setting for a number of months.

*(For some children)*

- **Additional support and focus on basic core skills.** Supported by additional staffing utilising catch up premium – dependent on need as identified through ongoing assessment.
- **Additional time to practice basic skills.** This again will be dependent on need of children in order to re-establish good progress in the essentials (phonics and reading, increasing vocabulary, writing and mathematics) and there will be flexibility on timetables to allow this.

## **Catch up at St Margaret's IS NOT:**

- Cramming missed learning
- Pressuring children and families into rapid learning
- Teachers time spent highlighting missed objectives
- Teachers time spent ticking off assessment points and extra tracking