

Covid Catch-Up Premium Funding 2020 / 2021

As a result of COVID-19 young people across the country have experienced an unprecedented disruption to their education. Those from the most vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds will have had significant impact to both their education and wellbeing. The funding will allow schools to return to normal educational routines as quickly as possible and allows those hardest hit to catch-up. Schools allocations has been calculated on a per pupil basis, and it will arrive in three tranches with an initial part payment in autumn 2020, a second payment in early 2021, based on updated pupil and place data and a final payment in the summer term. This funding will be used to support students to catch up for lost teaching over the previous months, in line with the guidance on curriculum expectations for the next academic year.

Student Profile September 2020

Year Group	Male	Female	Total
7	2	0	2
6	11	2	13
5	9	0	9
4	7	1	8
3	10	0	10
2	1	0	1
1	0	0	0
	40	3	43

Coronavirus (COVID-19) catch-up premium is to ensure that schools have the support they need to help all pupils make up for lost teaching time. The funding provided is £240 per pupil. The amount of Covid Catch up Premium allocated to The Spires Academy is: **£18,240** (based on 76 spaces available this academic year)

Planned Expenditure for 2020/21

Rationale: Our plan is to use the majority of our funding to support literacy development. On entry to the academy, the majority of our children have literacy difficulties – in some cases this is related to a specific SEN; however, for others, their previous experiences mean there are gaps or delay in literacy development. Children with literacy difficulties will often lack motivation - as it is just too difficult to access any learning without some level of literacy being involved. Our plan is to increase motivation by developing a safe space for children to enjoy all types of literacy – audiobooks, share a story with a grown up or curl up on a bean bag with a story. Over the COVID-19 lockdown period the majority of children were not attending school. We provided books for all of our children and literacy activities to complete at home, however many of our children struggled with not having the routines and structure of school.

Improving Academic Outcomes		
Renovation of the library area to become an 'awe and wonder' space for children to enjoy books in a safe space.	Circa £10,000 (quote pending)	Vinyl wall coverings and fixtures to create a fantasy/fairytale space.
Purchase of age-appropriate, quality reading materials.	£5000	Books and magazines for the library space
Accelerated Reader programme to motivate children to read and gauge understanding of text.	£2500	Rewards for number of words read, completing quizzes etc. Motivation tool.
Purple Mash	£600	Use of Purple Mash resources to enable remote learning to continue for those pupils who are self-isolating, who wish to continue extra home learning as they have enjoyed this approach. Allows teachers to set pupil specific work targeted to their gaps and begin to close gaps.

Evaluating the Impact

The success of The Spires Academy's catch-up strategy is evaluated through:

The rigorous quality assurance of classroom practice by the MAT Central Education SLT and the school's Senior Leadership Team.

The progress made by pupils in reading and writing (and indirectly the knock-on effect for maths)

The performance of pupils in nationally accredited tests and examinations (where appropriate).

The analysis of pupil tracking and testing data for both individual pupils and cohorts.

Parental involvement in daily telephone contact calls and review process (annual review, PEP etc.).

Accelerated Reader data (engagement through quizzes and words read)

Comments from parents and pupils (The School Council / Rights Respecting Schools – collection of parents and pupil voice in a range of ways)

Information that is collated in order to self-evaluate the success of the Catch-Up Premium Funding Strategy, building on success and looking for areas for improvement and innovation.