

Year 7 catch up funding 2015-2016

National Context:

The DFE provides additional funding to schools for year 7 pupils who have not achieved a level 4 in reading and/or maths at Key Stage 2. All state funded schools receive an additional £500 (maximum) for each of these year 7 pupils. This funding is not ring-fenced, however there is an expectation that pupils are given the support required to ensure that they are more likely to succeed 'at secondary school.'

Sandbach School:

Sandbach School received £16,500 (33 students) for 2015/16. This additional grant has been primarily used to target support in small groups and for individualised provision.

Targeted Support

Use of small group teaching and primary teaching techniques helps build up a strong skill base, giving pupils a toolkit of skills that allows them to access the mainstream curriculum more effectively.

Literacy Support

During 'Challenge 7' sessions the Wild Cat literacy programme was used to develop spelling skills and writing by sustained scaffolding of key concepts and skills including phonics, writing structure punctuation, comprehension, genre, tenses and extended writing skills. This was supplemented by the Accelerated Reader programme which builds reading skills in a structured programme of reading and reviewing both fiction and non-fiction and Read Write Ink, Fresh Start Programme.

Numeracy Group and one-to-one sessions were used to target students with low confidence in numeracy. Their aim was to enthuse and build confidence for using maths in everyday situations. Sessions focused upon developing functional numeracy skills and scaffold support for the basic skills of handling numbers including adding, subtraction, multiplication, division, decimals and fractions, and working with time.

Additional Resources and Support

Support sessions for students with low confidence and low success rates in completing homework was provided through the provision of an SEN Learning Mentor, home-learning and games clubs and SWITCH club, a social skills development programme. In addition half termly Parent Partnership Forums supported both parents and students in accessing provision at school. Impact of Year 7 Catch-Up Funding The impact of the Year 7 catch-up funding was evaluated through the school's data and assessment routines, where National Curriculum levels, attitude to learning, attendance, behaviour and homework were analysed for patterns and trends. If appropriate, support was adapted at these points in order to meet the student's individual need.

Overall impact

86% of students on the catch up progress have made good progress. A third of the students have progressed to a position where they would no longer qualify for reading support in public examinations.

