

# St John's School & Sixth Form College

## Year 7 Catch-up Funding Plan 2018/19

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In 2013 the Government made a commitment to provide 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.

Recent changes to Key Stage 2 SATs means that schools now receive funding in order to support students who have not achieved the national benchmark score of 100.

The Department for Education website has not yet published any information on the proposed funding allocation for the academic year 2018 to 2019, however we anticipate that it will be in line with the funding received in the year 2017 to 2018, adjusted according to the Year 7 cohort size.

Our school allocation for 2017 to 2018 was £10,128. As we have a very similar cohort size in Year 7 this year we anticipate receiving a similar amount of funding.

In the current Year 7 cohort:

- 41 students failed to meet the expected benchmark of 100 in Reading
- Of these, 18 students scored less than 95 in Reading
- 51 students failed to meet the expected benchmark of 100 in Mathematics
- Of these, 16 students scored less than 95 in Mathematics

In September 2018 a meeting of the following members of staff was held to develop a plan for Year 7 Catch-up intervention in the coming academic year:

- Maths teacher responsible for Catch-up
- English teacher responsible for Catch-up
- Learning Resource Centre Manager
- Assistant Head of Year 7
- SENDCO
- Leadership Link for Catch-up

The views of the Head of Year 7 and other members of the Maths and English departments were also sought.

A detailed list of strategies was developed, appropriate to the needs of each individual student in the Catch-up cohort. This strategy will be reviewed at the end of each term and revised as necessary.

## **PLANNED STRATEGIES**

- All but the most able students in Year 7 have a one hour library lesson each week during which time they have access to the LRC and Accelerated Reader Programme. The reading ages of all students have recently been tested in September 2018 to provide us with further information on those needing additional support.
- Students in the year group needing the maximum level of support have been withdrawn from MFL lessons and are instead receive two hours of additional literacy and numeracy support from specialist teachers each week. This is being regularly reviewed and changes to this group have already been made during September to ensure that the right students are being targeted. Currently there are 20 students, divided into two groups.
- Six students who did not reach the required standard for Reading (and most for Grammar as well) will be receiving one session of additional literacy support; working with an experienced English teacher in two small groups.
- Ten students who did not reach the required standard for Maths will be receiving additional numeracy support in small groups working with a Maths teacher each week.
- Students in Year 7 have been assessed using the STAR Reading Tests. Ten students who failed to make the KS2 benchmark and have low reading ages below 9 years will be working with our LRC Manager once a week. This is a peer led programme involving a group of our Year 11 students. Already the students in both year groups have responded extremely positively to this initiative.
- A small group of students who are of a high ability level in reading (average score 109) but failed to reach the expected standard in mathematics will be trialling an online intervention programme where they are given specific tasks to complete each week. They will be monitored by a maths teacher with whom they will meet once a week.
- Seventeen students who all achieved the expected score in Reading but narrowly missed it in Mathematics (scores of 98 or 99) will be monitored by the maths

department with additional in-class intervention provided by class teachers. The Catch-up lead for Maths will feedback later this term on the progress of these students so that we can assess whether additional intervention is required.

- Twelve students who did not meet the expected score in Reading will be monitored by the Learning Resource Centre Manager and the Catch-up lead for English this term. They will monitor progress in lessons so that we can assess whether additional intervention is required. These students will also be supported in their Reading lesson each week to ensure that they are making progress. They will be tested again at the end of this term to assess their Reading Ages once again.
- KS2 Question Level Analysis has been completed by the Maths and English departments and this information shared with class teachers to inform planning and individual target setting with students.
- Our dedicated SEND team support a large number of Year 7 students both in and out of lessons. In particular they run an after school homework club providing help and support to a wide range of students, including many of those who find it difficult to work independently at home and who need additional help with task completion.
- The welfare team provide also specialist support for a small number of our Year 7 students for whom external factors continue to affect their progress.
- Regular meeting are being held between SLT, Head of Year, SENDCO, LRC Manager and Maths and English staff to discuss the progress of all the students in the Catch-up cohort and students are able to join and leave the different intervention programmes according to their rate of progress.
- The progress of all students in the Catch-up groups will be closely monitored by the team who will re-evaluate all of the strategies currently in place and extend the programme if it is felt that some students are not making sufficient progress in the relevant areas.

September 2018