

COVID CATCH UP FUNDING 2020-21

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.

A schools' allocation has been calculated on a per pupil basis, providing each mainstream school with a total of £80 for each pupil in years reception through to 11. This has been based on the previous year's census and will not include Nursery numbers.

Guidance states that schools should use this funding for specific activities to support their pupils to catch up for lost teaching over the previous months, in line with the guidance on curriculum expectations for the next academic year.

The guidance goes on to state schools have the flexibility to spend their funding in the best way for their cohort and circumstances.

The Education Endowment Fund (EEF) has provided early research evidence around projections for the impact of school closures during lockdown, predominantly on the impact for disadvantaged pupils. In summary, the EEF projections for the impact of widespread school closures identify that:

- The disadvantaged attainment gap widens
- Assessment of lost learning is crucial
- Targeted support in addition to wider school initiatives are required
- Absence rates upon return are crucial

With this in mind, the school's strategic response to devising and implementing our Catch- Up programme has taken these findings into account.

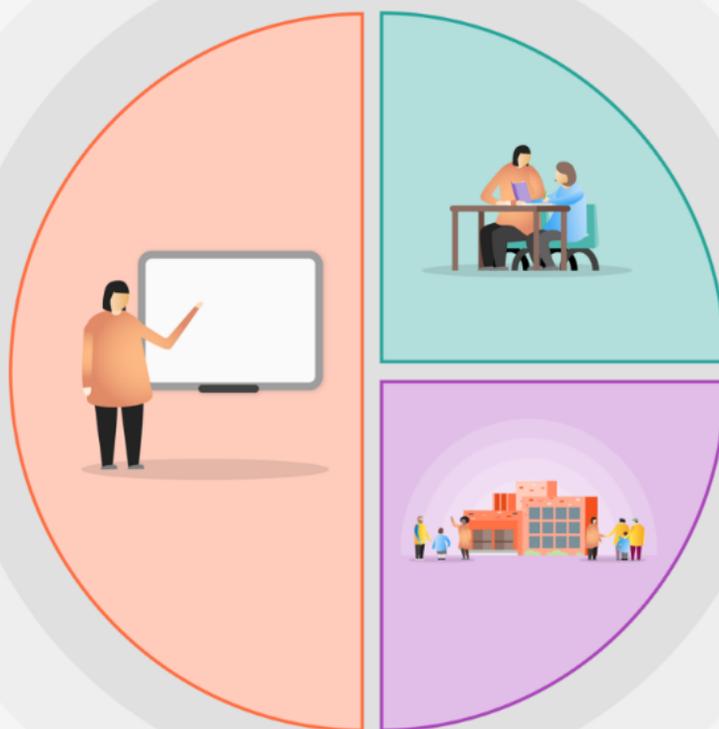
Therefore, the aims for 'catch up' at Portswood Primary School are:

1. The wellbeing needs of pupils, that have arisen as a result of the pandemic, are met so that they positively reengage with learning and school life.
2. Attainment outcomes for pupils at the end of 2020-21 are as close to those set at the beginning of the academic year as is possible.
3. By the end of the 2021-22 academic year, attainment outcomes for all year groups are in line with the schools expected norms pre pandemic.

To ensure that the funding received is used to address the issues that have arisen, and is allocated so that it impacts on understanding and learning of the greatest number of affected pupils, the school is focusing on:

1 Teaching

- Quality First Teaching
- Modification of the curriculum, particularly for Maths and English based upon identified needs of pupils.
- Alterations to year group timetables to increase time available to address gaps in learning caused by covid-19.
- Maintaining core elements of foundation subjects to ensure broad curriculum remains in place.
- Using feedback & assessment to support reduction of gaps in learning caused by covid-19.
- Identifying groups of learners who would most benefit from small group intervention work to rapidly close gaps.
- Developing the understanding of metacognition within the SLT and then staff to further support pupil learning.
- Delivery of home learning that matches the curriculum content in school.



2 Targeted academic support

- Targeted interventions delivered by additional members of staff to small groups of learners across the school to address gaps core skills.
- 1:1 learning delivered by additional members of staff to identified learners for specific areas including reading and phonics.
- Adjusting the school's assessment calendar to effectively support identified gaps in learning.

3 Wider strategies

- Pupils who require additional wellbeing support are offered pastoral support from a range of sources.
- Altering timing and focus for Spring Term parents' meetings to discuss pupil wellbeing.
- Increasing provision of electronic devices to families to support learning at home.
- Continuing provision of ongoing technical support to families.
- Continuing Increased contact between school and identified families.

SUMMARY INFORMATION	
Total number of pupils:	446
Amount of catch-up premium received per pupil:	80
Total catch-up premium budget:	£35,680
EXPENDITURE	
Additional staffing to support targeted interventions	£26,823
Provision of electronic devices to support home learning	£7,024
Interactive board to support small group intervention work	£1,697
Total Expenditure	£35,544
Carry forward	£136