

## **COVID**

### **COVID Catch Up Premium and COVID Recovery**

Catch Up Premium was allocated by the government to enable pupils to have the best chance of recovering any lost learning experienced during COVID lockdowns. The money was worked out on a per pupil basis and we had £13622 between September 2020-September 2021 and we are forecast to receive £6085 this academic year.

It is worthy of note that, by being out of school, children have lost two types of academic learning in primary school – loss of subject knowledge eg The Vikings and loss of skill eg long division.

We took the view that securing a strong skills base was more beneficial in the immediate term as it would better enable pupils the skills to access the knowledge they need to succeed. We invested our money in Maths and English ensuring the basic skills were embedded and then built upon.

We also very quickly ascertained that children in key stage two were in greater need of support as they had less time left to catch up than those in key stage 1.

We focused our efforts on building confidence and ability through re-enforcing basic skills. This was successful and enabled all children to access learning at the level they had done prior to lockdown.

We spent the money, in 2020-2021. on extending the hours of an existing and well valued member of staff so that children could have 1:1 interventions, small group sessions and in class support dependent upon their need. In this current academic year, we have used the money allocated to us to employ a member of staff for an additional afternoon per week so that all children in key stage 2 can access an extra reading lesson and an extra maths lesson; both of which focus on basic skills and are planned to meet the needs of the children and delivered in smaller groups of around fifteen pupils.

We are pleased with the impact this money has made as we are seeing accelerated progress amongst all children and those who had previously fallen behind their potential are now in a much stronger position to meet their potential this academic year – for example, we are predicting that in current year 6, 83% of pupils will achieve the stage of learning expected for their age in reading, 83% in writing and 83% in Spelling Punctuation & Grammar and 75% in Maths.