

**Coronavirus (COVID-19) Catch up Funding 2020-2021**

The following plan outlines St Oswald’s Catholic Primary School’s intention regarding the catch up funding provided by the DFE. This funding (£80per child) will be used to help children close the gap(s) in their learning that have appeared following school closures due to Covid-19. St Oswald’s Catholic Primary School will receive a projected £19,440.00, paid into school’s budget in instalments. We have received the two payments, one in September 2020 of £4880.00 and one in February 2021 of £6424..00.

**Action** – Teachers will deliver targeted close the gap high quality lessons.

**Impact** – Learners will make rapid progress to close the gaps in their learning.

**Outcome** – Learners will be at age related expectations in areas that have been targeted.

The most effective method to close the gap within children’s education is quality first teaching. However, there are times when specific children require further support. Furthermore, due to the significant impact of school closures due to Covid-19 and following initial assessment of children in September further children have fallen behind the expected standard.

Teachers are to tailor their sessions to the needs of the children and focus on Reading, Writing & Maths. Teachers are to target children that are not at the expected level but with short term intervention will make progress.

**The St Oswald’s Catholic Primary School catch up program**

**Spending:**

At St Oswald’s, this money will be used in order to:

* Purchase curriculum resources and materials that support pupils to get “back on track”. These include reading books, across the Key Stages.
* Fund additional hours for support staff to develop the outcomes of children who have been identified as needing “catch up” in their learning.

**Aims:**

The broad aims for “catch up” at St Oswald’s:

* Attainment outcomes at end of 2020-21 for all year groups will be at least in line with those at the point of lockdown in March. This means that if a child was working at an age-related expectation in a subject in March they are working at least to an age-related expectation in that same subject by the end of the year.
* By the end of the 2021-22 year, attainment outcomes for all year groups will be at least in line with those at the end of the 2019-20 year.
* The mental health needs of pupils that have arisen as a result of the pandemic are met and supported by the school.

**Catch Up at St Oswald’s is:**

*(For all children)*

* **Working through well sequenced, purposeful learning schemes**. For example, our school-created writing schemes are being adapted to focus on missed objectives and consolidate the basics.
* **Focus on consolidation of basic skills**. The core skills which enable successful learning will require increased curriculum time across all year groups. These include: handwriting, spelling of high frequency words, basic sentence punctuation, times tables recall, basic addition & subtraction fact recall and reading skills relevant to age.
* **Additional lesson time on core teaching**. Reading, writing and maths teaching will require increased teaching time in order to cover missed learning – particularly in the autumn term. In order to keep a broad and balanced curriculum, some subject areas may be taught as blocked days rather than weekly lessons in the autumn term.
* **Particular focus on early reading and phonics**. This is always a focus in the school and will continue to be so in order to develop children’s reading ability and vocabulary.
* **Assessment of learning and of basic skills to identify major gaps**. Teachers will work to identify gaps in learning and adapt teaching accordingly.
* **Time spent on mental health, wellbeing and social skills development**. This will be at the core of all catch up work as many children will have not been in formal school setting for a number of months.

*(For some children)*

* **Additional support and focus on basic core skills**. Supported by additional staffing utilising catch up premium – dependent on need as identified through ongoing assessment.
* **Additional time to practice basic skills**. This again will be dependent on need of children in order to re-establish good progress in the essentials (phonics and reading, increasing vocabulary, writing and mathematics) and there will be flexibility on timetables to allow this.

**Catch up at St Oswald’s IS NOT:**

* Cramming missed learning
* Pressuring children and families into rapid learning
* Teachers time spent highlighting missed objectives
* Teachers time spent ticking off assessment points and extra tracking