COVID Catch-up Support Policy

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SCHOOL ETHOS AND VALUES

Our Christian values are at the heart of the ethos of the school and through these we grow individually and as a community. The Story of the Good Samaritan underpins our 7 core values of:

- Honesty
- Forgiveness
- Empathy
- Courage
- Resilience
- Kindness
- Respect

These core values underpin our policies, procedures and the way we treat one another in our community

What is the Catch-up fund?

The government is providing funding to cover a one-off universal catch-up premium for the 2020 to 2021 academic year. It aims to support pupils to catch up for lost learning so schools can meet the curriculum expectations for the next academic year.

Total allocated to our school is £48000 based on £80 per student from year 7 to year 11, based on the numbers of students for the academic year 2020 to 2021.

Strategic Intent

To support all students return to school in a safe and secure environment
To provide trained counsellor to any student who needs support
To continue a broad and balanced curriculum model to continue learning effectively
To use quality first teaching following school teaching and learning policy
To identify the students who have lost the most learning time and biggest gaps

Catch-up Principles

When our student pupils return, it is important to us to make sure that they are all emotionally settled and feel secure in our school. Students will have quality time with their tutor on their first day to discuss how they are and to explain new procedures and to signpost to any support, they may need. Any student who needs further support will be able to access a trained counsellor.

The curriculum model will be developed to allow a broad and balanced curriculum for all students as this will support students return to a normal school environment. The PHSE programme will be used to support wellbeing. Students will be 'grouped' to allow support, challenge and breadth of study

Following the schools teaching and learning policy, teachers will be using Low Stakes Quizzes (Assessments) every lesson to ascertain gaps in students learning and to identify key concepts and knowledge that will need to be retaught.

The catch-up approach with vary depending on the needs of the student with the following principles being the guide (reference Mary Myatt and Tom Sherrington)

- It should be intense and time-limited:
- Collaborate with our SENCO
- Focus on key knowledge and concepts
- Target teaching at filling pupils' specific gaps
- Employ high quality 1:1 teachers
- Ensure students experience success early on
- Ensure time is given to practise and show understanding
- Avoid adding to teacher workload
- When pupils finish catch-up, provide 'pre-teaching' and 'post-teaching'

Discussions will take place with the heads of year who have an understanding of who did not 'engage' with learning through 'lockdown' and use this information to target intervention

We will look to provide weekend and holiday lessons that focus on core subjects (mathematics, English and science) which will be staffed by our teachers, as they know our students and can focus effectively on their knowledge gaps. This may be held online (TEAMS) to support teachers' wellbeing and to achieve a wider audience, which proved successful during lockdown and will be well planned and learning focussed.

Where teachers are not used, other 1:1 tutors we be employed in the core subjects and will focus around key concepts and take place over a short period of time. They will target student's specific needs and will be told exactly where pupils have gaps. It will align to the learning that is happening in the classroom.

Costing

£12000 for extra two days for counsellor to increase capacity of support for students
1:1 or small group tutoring/staff costs at £35 per hour for either online or in school.

Linked policies and documents

Pupil Premium Strategy
Curriculum Policy
Assessment, Recording and Reporting Policy
Teaching and learning Policy
SEND Response to Covid-19
Blended Learning