

Dartmouth Academy Year 7 Catch Up Funding

2014 - 15

Catch-Up Funding is allocated by the Government for each Year 7 pupil who has not achieved level 4 in reading and, or maths at Key Stage 2 before they joined Year 7 at Dartmouth Academy.

We received an additional premium of £500 for each Year 7 pupil who did not achieve at least level 4 in reading and, or maths (maximum £500 per pupil) at Key Stage 2.

"The money is to be used by schools to deliver additional tuition or intensive support in small groups, giving pupils valuable support to bring them up to speed so that they are more likely to succeed at secondary school. The funding will not be ring-fenced for catch-up activities but we expect that this funding is used for additional literacy and numeracy catch-up during Year 7 given that this can make a critical difference to pupils at this important stage." (DfE Website)

In 2014-15 Dartmouth Academy received £9,000 for the 18 students who had not achieved level 4 in either reading or maths at Key Stage 2. In 2013-14 this was £7500 for 15 students.

How we will and have spent the allocation of funds during 2014 - 15:

- Staffing to allow for smaller sets for lower ability students
- Summer school run between Y6 and Y7 to enable all those who were not "secondary ready" to catch up
- Phonics training and resources
- Additional reading support with the Librarian
- Additional numeracy support with the Maths Student Achievement Manager
- Accelerated Reader and subsequent follow up intervention
- Educational Psychologist / SEND Assessments
- Attendance intervention
- Lunch time drop in, Home learning club
- Staff professional development for supporting students, through Learning Briefings and staff Briefings.

What affect the expenditure has had on the attainment of pupils at the school for whom it was allocated this year, 2014 – 15

English:

There were 17 students eligible for the catch-up funding who, when tested on the Star Reading test, were found to have reading ages 2 to 4 years below their actual age. They were removed from French lessons to be given small group support in the form of a reading intervention programme for three 50 minute lessons per fortnight, involving vocabulary acquisition, quizzing on books through the Accelerated Reader Programme, reading aloud and reading with the whisper audio facility on Kindles purchased for this purpose. As well as developing a personal reading habit, for the ten month period September to June, their reading age was elevated by an average of 11 months each.

2014-2015 Mathematics:

Catch-up funding was used with students that were below a secure level 4 through the delivery of the Passport Maths intervention in year seven. These students were selected because they achieved below NC level 4 in Maths upon entry to Year 7.

All pupils showed an increased confidence in, and enjoyment of Maths. Students who completed the Passport maths programme made accelerated progress compared to rest of the year 7 year group.

Students who had completed the intervention in both the 2013-2014 cohort and 2014-2015 cohort showed yearly gains of, on average, three sub-levels. This compared favourably with the average student.

2015-16 Mathematics:

Catch up funding has been allocated to be spent on further delivery of Maths interventions in year 7 to support students making progress and not being 'left behind'. Passport maths will be delivered to students in small intervention groups. It will be delivered to those students who achieved a low level 4 or a high level 3 NC key stage 2 result in Mathematics. It will be supplemented by a further intervention aimed to support better, those students who fall significantly below level 4 who are not suitable for Passport Maths intervention. This intervention will be delivered in small groups and the additional support received will attempt to assist those students that fall below a secure Level 3 in NC key stage 2 tests in Mathematics.

How we assess the effect on attainment

Attainment was measured through teacher assessment of their levels, the progress in terms of reading age through Accelerated Reader assessments, and Passport Maths completion and progress.