



Year 7 Literacy and Numeracy Catch-up Premium

Autumn 2019 – Summer 2020/ Autumn 2020 – Summer 2021

Provision in Departments

Setting

In 2019-20 Literacy and Numeracy Catch-up Premium was used to create an extra set in Year 7, this small group of Year 7 students were able to access more teacher/LSA time in Literacy and Numeracy. Maths and English are prioritised for LSA support in these groups.

Literacy and Numeracy Catch-up Programme

During 2020-21, catch-up premium has been used to fund the writing of a new Literacy and Numeracy programme, to begin in Sept 2021 for Year 7 and 8. This will involve a half-term of Literacy and a half-term of Numeracy development on a half-termly rotation with IT development to support both Literacy and Numeracy. The time for these sessions has been funded in the timetable and recruitment has taken place to staff the teaching of this programme.

SEND Support – 2019-20/ 2020-21 during time in school

Year 7 EHCP students are supported in mixed ability classes and have LSA support in Maths, English and Science. There is an additional homework session for students twice a week to support with Maths and Numeracy.

Guided reading programme had to be suspended in 2020-21 due to COVID-19 restrictions, but will be re-introduced in Sept 2021 – this involves Year 7 being paired with a Sixth Form student during registration time.

Fully funded Fresh Start Programme, run in 2019-20, allows those with a reading age below 9 years and 6 months to complete an intensive phonics based programme – 5 hours per fortnight, as part of the school timetable. Pupils are assessed and progress is reported to parents. LSA allowance for the organisation and management of this programme funded via Catch-up Premium. To re-start Sept 2021.

On-going staffing available in SEND Team for registration Literacy and Numeracy catch-up, PHSE intervention and after school homework clubs. Registration time used for MyMaths and PHSE/after school sessions used for homework support and further one to one tutoring.

Purchases made to accelerate the improvement of Literacy and Numeracy in Year 7 – 2020-21

To support the development of Literacy in Year 7 during the COVID-19 pandemic and also to improve literacy across the school more generally, St Mary's has invested in a new library management system, Accessit. This can be used directly with any internet-connected device in any location using a web app. Students are able to search the library's catalogue, visit approved websites and external databases and login to library accounts to check current loans, reserve, borrow and renew items, register reading interests and read and write book reviews. (Cost c £2,000).

Wheeler's ePlatform is used for students to borrow or download fiction and non-fiction books. (Cost £495.)

New library stock ordered for Year 7 – fiction, non-fiction and study resources. (Cost c £2,000.)

Audio books also added to the catalogue via Wheeler's ePlatform, to complement the eBook library. (Cost £795.)

Maths Book Club set up to accelerate both Literacy and Numeracy for KS3 students – library of mathematical literature has been created. Students write reviews of books they read and findings to be published in the school newsletter. Summer school w/c 26th July 2021 also used similar books for both literacy and numeracy catch up for the new Year 7. (Cost – staff time, c £300.)

How has the funding made a difference to students?

Student achievement and progress are measured via achievement points and reported to parents, usually twice or three times per year. Students make excellent progress in internal assessments and in external examinations or centre assessed grades, as has been the case over the last 2 years. Please see school achievement data.

In addition to the above support, the quality of first teaching in Maths and English is outstanding, including remote learning over the last year, and students benefit from differentiated bespoke lessons, to ensure they make maximum progress in Literacy and Numeracy. Staff with responsibility posts in each department use part of their leadership time to develop both Literacy and Numeracy.

In Maths, students in Year 7 improve their recall via a numeracy task at the beginning and end of each lesson and schemes of work (SOW) have been updated to ensure that Numeracy is at the forefront. Students are able to access resources easily, as departments work closely with the SEND team. Students are able to use Hegarty Maths, independently and as part of the curriculum, (c£1200 pa). Here they can build numeracy skills, catch up on any areas they find more difficult and the teacher is in turn able to find out where the student needs extra practice and can set extra 'building blocks' for students through the programme. Students benefit from a weekly consolidation task, which allows them to consolidate their 'learning blocks'.

The Maths department has created a 'Maths Box' for Year 7 to build on Year 6 skills, which is numeracy skills based. As a result, Year 7 teachers have been able to address any gaps in learning and address these early in Year 7. Part of the role of the 2 Deputy Heads of Maths is also to develop Numeracy resources to be used by students in Year 7.

In the English department, students have benefited similarly though the quality of first teaching and also the time allocated via dept responsibility posts to the development of materials to support Literacy. The teacher in charge of KS3 has developed specific assessment resources for Year 7, materials for lessons have been differentiated, SOWs updated and standardisation materials produced to support the marking of literacy tasks.

During 2019-21, the English department developed the 'Project' lesson, which aimed to develop Literacy and Oracy in Year 7. Students benefited from the purchase of abridged versions of Frankenstein and Oliver Twist for these lessons. As for Maths, part of the Deputy Heads of English role is to develop Literacy across all year groups. A programme of CPD was attended by one of the Deputy Heads of English 2019-20 and information and materials on vocabulary acquisition were disseminated to the dept and included in lessons for Year 7 students. Students in Year 7 were also able to access the Digital Library during 2020-21, as above, and accessed reading books bought for use in Form time and chosen by the English department.