



Oathall Community College

Use of COVID-19 Catch Up Funding 2020-21

“Children and young people across the country have experienced unprecedented disruption to their education as a result of coronavirus (COVID19). Those from the most vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds will be among those hardest-hit. The aggregate impact of lost time in education will be substantial, and the scale of our response must match the scale of the challenge.

We know that we have the professional knowledge and expertise in the education system to ensure that children and young people recover and get back on track. Returning to normal educational routines as quickly as possible will be critical to our national recovery, and the government intends for schools and colleges to fully open in September. The government has announced £1 billion of funding to support children and young people to catch up. This includes a one-off universal £650 million catch-up premium for the 2020 to 2021 academic year to ensure that schools have the support they need to help all pupils make up for lost teaching time.”

Department for Education website, 2020

At Oathall we welcome the additional funding to support our students in tackling the range of issues that the pandemic has caused. The impact of the disruption has been felt in different ways by different students and so we have approached the allocations of the funding with an open mind and involved staff from across the school. We have taken into account educational research and best practice, particularly that suggested by the Education Endowment Foundation.

The plan below sets out the intended use of the funds over the 2020-21 academic year. Mainstream schools have been funded based upon £80 per students which will provide Oathall with funding of approximately £85,000. The payment is made in 3 tranches over the academic year and is adjusted between each payment to take account of changing student numbers.

Areas to be addressed

The overarching aim of planned use of the funding is to resume teaching a normal curriculum as quickly as possible following partial or full school closure. Adjustments will be needed so that all students wellbeing is supported and to ensure that they are on track to make the very best progress they can.

Specific areas are:

- Some students have suffered significant impacts on their mental health and wellbeing during school closure with not all of these issues being initially apparent upon their return to school.
- Literacy and numeracy skills of students entering Year 7 are lower as a result of school closure.
- Students who did not engage in remote learning are making less progress than others.
- Access to high quality resources that support learning, such as textbooks and quality online materials will be needed to support independent, differentiated learning.
- On-going disruption to groups of students learning due to self-isolation and shielding.
- Access to quality laptops for sole use at home and in school for disadvantaged students.
- Access to reliable internet at home for some households.
- The absence of enrichment activities.

Planned allocation of funding for COVID-19 catch up

Action	Purpose	Cost
Increase teaching and TA staffing in English and maths.	To provide small group and one to one support.	£24,000
Fund additional teaching time.	To allow all subjects to provide extra teaching time when needed to increase student progress.	£10,000
Workshops to promote positive attitudes and good study skills.	To support the return to normal teaching and provide a positive focus.	£3000
Purchase online versions of textbooks and subscriptions to exam board accredited web content.	To ensure consistent access to high quality resources to be used in and out of school across a range of subjects.	£7000
Purchase additional teaching resources.	To support the great teaching, assessing and feedback across a range of subjects identified as best practice by the EEF.	£3000
Purchase SEN specific resources.	To provide additional support for students with SEN.	£3000
Payment towards the National Tutoring Programme.	To provide online tutoring for Years 7 and 10 students in English and maths through the National Tutoring Programme.	£5400
Purchase published and printed resources for exam preparation.	To provide all Y11 students with workbooks, revision guides, exam packs and so on to support exam preparation.	£3000
Purchase subscription to Digital Theatre for two years.	To provide an alternative to theatre trips and visiting theatre companies.	£2700
Online dance workshop.	To support Y11 exam dance group.	£300
Purchase practical resources.	To allow for adjustments so that practical work can be carried out in a range of subjects e.g. additional soldering irons in DT, DSLR cameras in photography.	£3000
Purchase and install 32 Chromebooks.	To enable more independent work in MFL.	£8000
Purchase 15 Chromebooks	To provide to students with limit access to a device in addition to the devices provided by the DFE (40).	£3600
	Total	£76,000
	Reserve	£9000