







COVID 19 CATCH UP STATEMENT 2020-21





In 2021, the government announced funding to support children and young people to catch up. Further guidance has now been released (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-catch-up-premium>) showing that the money is to be split between a catch-up premium and a national tutoring scheme. The money for the catch up premium is designed to ensure that schools have the support they need for all pupils make up for lost teaching time, and the money for the national tutoring school is designed to provide additional, targeted support for those children and young people who need the most help.

The catch-up premium is funded on a per pupil basis at £80 per pupil. This will be based on the previous year's census, meaning we are predicting Phoenix St. Peter will be in receipt of £14,320.00 (179 x £80), based on census figures. It is not expected, however, that there will be a spend of £80 on each and every pupil in schools. The government has made it clear that the spending of this money will be down to schools to allocate as they see fit. To support schools to make the best use of this funding, the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has published a support guide for schools with evidence-based approaches to catch up for all children.

There are four broad aims for “catch up” at Phoenix St. Peter

-  To meet the mental health needs of children after lockdown and not coming to school.
-  Ensuring that attendance is good, with a reduction in Persistent Absence, which will mean children can access education and start to ‘catch up’.
-  To review our curriculum to ensure that outside learning and collaborative learning experiences are maximized summer term for children's well-being and mental health.
-  To initiate a baseline in Reading, Writing and Maths to establish where Teaching must be focused to ensure children's gaps in Literacy and Numeracy are addressed.

At Phoenix St Peter, following the advice from the EEF the Covid-19 ‘Catch up’ money will be used in order to provide:

-  Curriculum resources and materials that support mental health and well-being of children.
-  The purchase of curriculum resources and materials that support “catch up” e.g. additional phonics resources to allow 1:1 phonics “catch up” to take place.
-  Investment in a Literacy Spine of new books to broaden, enrich our curriculum, Cultural Capital and promote a love of reading.
-  Employment of an extra(s) support staff to support small groups of children who have been identified as needing “catch up” in their learning.



Catch Up at Phoenix St. Peter is:

(For all children)

- 🏆 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. We will continue to use our bespoke scheme of work to deliver our PSHE curriculum, alongside this additional time will be spent focusing on mental health and well-being for example taking part in daily breathe, sports and / or yoga activities.
- 🏆 Working through well sequenced, purposeful learning. For example, class teachers have adapted planning in order to focus on missed objectives and to 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.
- 🏆 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. Year 2 will continue with daily phonics lessons during the summer term to ensure all children are confident with their phonic sounds.
- 🏆 Assessment of learning and of basic skills to identify major gaps. Teachers will work to identify gaps in learning and adapt teaching accordingly and conduct a very early baseline in April and carry out assessment procedures in line with the Academy Trust's procedures.

(For some children)

- 🏆 Additional support and focus on basic core skills. Supported by an experienced teacher utilising catch up premium – dependent on need as identified through ongoing assessment.
- 🏆 Additional curriculum 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).
- 🏆 Additional targeted language support for Foundation children. Teachers will work to identify children who will benefit from small group and one-to-one language support.

Catch up at Phoenix St. Peter 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