

Covid-19 'Catch up' Funding- Christ Church (Church of England) Infant School and Nursery

In June, a £1 billion fund for education was announced by the government. Further guidance has now been released (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-catch-up-premium>) showing that the money is split between a catch-up premium and a national tutoring scheme.

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 and will not include Nursery numbers, meaning that:

Christ Church Infant School will be in receipt of £13,920 (174 x £80).

The spending of this money will be down to schools to allocate as they see best. To support schools to make the best use of this funding, the Education Endowment Foundation has published a support guide for schools with evidence-based approaches to catch up for all students.

Although, funding has been calculated on a per pupil basis, schools should use the sum available to them as a single total from which to prioritise support for pupils according to their need. As the catch-up premium has been designed to mitigate the effects of the unique disruption caused by coronavirus (COVID-19), the grant will only be available for the 2020 to 2021 academic year. It will not be added to schools' baselines in calculating future years' funding allocations.

Spending:

At Christ Church, this money will be used in order to:

- Purchase curriculum resources and materials that support pupils to get "back on track".
- Fund additional staff to develop the outcomes of children who have been identified as needing "catch up" in their learning.
- Fund release time for teachers to attend CPD on the recovery curriculum.

Aims

The broad aims for "catch up" at Christ Church:

- Attainment outcomes at end of 2020-21 for all year groups will be at least in line with those at the point of lockdown in March. This means that if a child was working at an age-related expectation in a subject in March they are working at least to an age-related expectation in that same subject by the end of the year.
- By the end of the 2021-22 year, attainment outcomes for all year groups will be at least in line with the expectation set for the end of the 2019-20 year at the point of closure.

- The mental health needs of pupils that have arisen as a result of the pandemic are met and supported by the school.

Catch Up at Christ Church is

(For all children)

- **Working through well sequenced, purposeful learning schemes.** For example, our school-created writing schemes are being adapted to focus on missed objectives and consolidate the basics. In maths, we will utilise White Rose Maths Units.
- **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. There will however be an increased focus and emphasis in ensuring that gaps in knowledge are addressed efficiently and effectively.
- **Assessment of learning and of basic skills to identify major gaps.** Teachers will work to identify gaps in learning and adapt teaching accordingly.
- **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.

(For some children)

- **Additional support and focus on basic core skills.** Supported by additional staffing utilising catch up premium – dependent on need as identified through ongoing assessment.
- **Additional 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) and there will be flexibility on timetables to allow this.

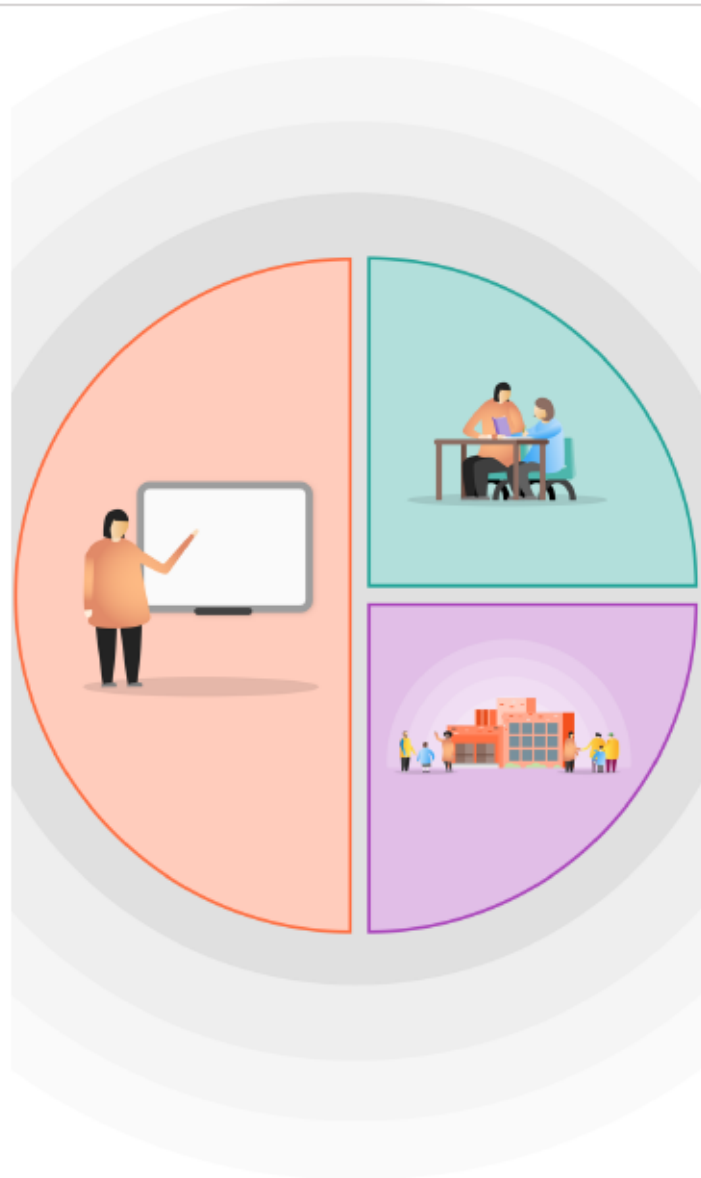
Tuition/ Catch Up Sessions.

At Christ Church we will not be using the National Tutoring Programme as we are limiting visitors to our school. We do not know who the tutors are or the quality of provision they will provide. We would need to supervise children working on line with tutors and quality assure the service being provided.

The staff that we employ to deliver the Catch Up sessions will be staff that are well known to our school and have a proven track record of providing quality first teaching. These staff will be working in school directly with the pupils and in collaboration with their class teacher.

1. Teaching

- To provide an effective remote learning offer so that children in school and at home are able to access the same curriculum content wherever possible.
- Engagement of children working from home and celebration of their achievements will provide a strong foundation for successful home learning.
- Daily access to their teacher for help and support via email, telephone or Teams provides every child with the opportunity to be supported and achieve success.
- In school children continue to receive a high standard of quality first teaching.
- From the 8th March a high standard of quality first teaching will be provided for every child on site.
- All children will complete a series of assessments and observations to determine a new baseline of their learning and understanding.
- The assessments will be analysed to identify what each child has remembered/ forgotten/ understood/misunderstood. This information will provide the structure for informed and effective teaching of the cohort.
- We will develop an efficient curriculum model to prepare children for what they need for the next year of learning. Prioritising the teaching of key skills and exploiting opportunities to practice and embed them across the curriculum.
- We will regularly review, through classroom observations and practice, the impact of that teaching in addressing gaps in knowledge and understanding to adapt and amend our planning and teaching to meet the pupils' needs.



2. Targeted academic support

- Where we identify small groups of children in need of additional support to address the gaps beyond the planned classroom teaching 'Catch up Lessons' will be provided. These will be blocks of 15+hours over a 5-week period with specific learning objectives. The lessons will be delivered in the afternoon sessions in addition to the class based English and Maths Lessons by an experienced teaching assistant or qualified teacher. The work will be planned in collaboration with the class teacher to ensure it complements the morning class based lessons.
- Additional small group interventions will be provided by Teaching Assistants using evidence based programmes to meet the needs of individuals: phonic skills, Precision Teaching, the Well Programme.

3. Wider Strategies

- The school will continue to provide the support of a school counsellor to support children with their social, emotional or mental health needs.
- Remote Learning Structure will remain in place and will be activated in the event of a bubble closure.
- A reviewed approach to marking ensures an increase in direct teacher contact within each lesson to support and guide individuals.