



# Covid-19 'Catch up' Funding at BPS

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 we are predicting Berkeley Primary School will be in receipt of £14,720 (184 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.

At Berkeley Primary school, this money will be used in order to provide:

- 🌱 curriculum resources and materials that support "catch up" and mental health of pupils.
- 🌱 Additional staff to develop the outcomes of children who have been identified as needing "catch up" in their learning.

There are two broad aims for "catch up" at Berkeley Primary school:

- 🌱 Attainment outcomes at end of 2020-21 for all year groups will be at least in line with those at the end of 2019-20.
- 🌱 The mental health needs of pupils are met and supported by the school.

## Catch Up at Berkeley Primary school is

*(For all children)*

- **Working through well sequenced, purposeful learning schemes.** For example, our school-created writing Journeys are being adapted to focus on missed objectives and consolidate the basics in grammar and punctuation. We have used catch up funding to purchase **reading benchmark assessments** to identify any learning gaps, and plan for these in our teaching of reading and phonics. In maths, we will utilise **Cando maths ready to progress** assessments and use their '**keep CALM**' maths materials to ensure we deliver any gaps identified in our baseline assessments. We have been able to use catch up premium to purchase adapted plans that have been purpose written for catch up.
- **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. This will also be the focus for homework throughout the Autumn term.

- **Cross Curricular learning:** Fortunately, Berkeley Primary has an established creative curriculum, where skills in the core subjects are applied across the curriculum and planned for within topics. Therefore, there will be ***no narrowing of the curriculum*** at Berkeley Primary school, as further focus on application of skills will be carefully planned into termly topics by our creative, skilled teachers. This means all children will have access to a broad and balanced curriculum where skills are learned and repeated in different contexts over time to enable children to know more, enjoy more and remember more in their learning.
- **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.
- **Assessment of learning and of basic skills to identify major gaps.** Teachers will work to identify gaps in learning and adapt teaching accordingly. Baselines will be assessed in September 2020, and recovery plans will be put into action, reviewed regularly with the SLT to ensure all children are given every opportunity to catch up as much as they can to the best of their ability.
- **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 practise 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.

**Catch up at Berkeley Primary school is about consistently assessing the emotional and academic needs of our children, ensuring we provide them with the greatest opportunities to achieve their potential.**