



### **Covid-19 'Catch up' Premium**

In June 2020, a £1 billion fund for education was announced by the government. 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 Dorchester Primary School will receive £44,000 (550 x £80). It is up to schools to allocate this money as they see best, supported by the Education Endowment Foundation, who have published a support guide for schools with evidence-based approaches to catch up for all students.

At Dorchester Primary this money will be used to:

- Fund additional support staff to provide Speech and Language and OT provision
- Fund the purchase of a coherent reading scheme for Reception to Year 6, to enable children to develop their reading comprehension skills
- Fund additional ELSA support in order to meet the mental health needs of our children
- Fund Home-School Link worker to support children and families who have been adversely affected – particularly to boost school attendance and punctuality
- Fund termly assessments to identify any gaps in knowledge, with an intervention programme to close the gaps
- Pay the top up fee to access the subsidised national tutoring programme for disadvantaged pupils and for others who are identified as needing “catch up” in their learning
- Fund additional support staff to run pre-school interventions and support children in their learning
- Fund tools which will support catch up in basic skills, e.g. Sir Linkalot spelling to support the spelling of high frequency words, mental maths badge scheme to support the learning of maths facts
- Fund additional opportunities for sport, PE and outdoor learning – including additional Sports staff and a Forest School leader.

### **Aims of our Catch Up Funding**

The broad aims for “catch up” at Dorchester Primary are:

- Attainment outcomes at the end 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 those at the end of the 2019-20 year.

- The mental health needs of children that have arisen as a result of the pandemic are met and supported by the school
- The needs of families that have resulted from the pandemic are met and supported by the school to ensure good attendance and engagement with school.

### Catch Up at Dorchester Primary is:

*(For all children)*

- **Continuing to work through well sequenced, purposeful learning schemes.** Our schemes of work were reviewed to ensure coverage of elements that were more difficult to teach remotely.
- **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 table recall, basic addition and subtraction fact recall and reading skills relevant to age.
- **Focus on early reading and phonics.** Reading confidence is key to success across the curriculum. We will focus in this area 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
- **Time spent on mental health, wellbeing and social skills development.** This will be at the core of all catch up work as meant children will have not been in formal school setting for a number of months across two academic years.

*(For some children)*

- **Additional support and focus on basic core skills.** Supported by additional staffing utilising catch up premium – dependant on need as identified through ongoing assessment.
- Additional support for mental health and wellbeing. Including gardening club, Lego therapy, Drawing and Talking Therapy and ELSA support

See Pupil Premium Strategy tables for costing and specific actions