

COVID-19 Catch-up Premium

**What is Catch-up Funding?**

Children and young people across the country have experienced unprecedented disruption to their education as a result of coronavirus (COVID-19). Those from the most vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds are among those hardest hit.

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.

The government 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.

**Allocation**

School allocations will be calculated on a per pupil basis, providing each mainstream school with a total of £80 for each pupil from reception through to year 11.

MSPRU received a total of £75,240 for the 2020/21 academic year.

**Utilisation**

Schools should use this funding for specific activities to support their pupils to catch up for lost teaching over the previous months, in line with the guidance on curriculum expectations for the next academic year. Schools have the flexibility to spend their funding in the best way for their cohort and circumstances.

At MSPRU we have carefully considered the areas that would most benefit from this additional funding. The key areas of focus are:

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| Issues Identified from September 2020 as Barriers to Learning (eg Curriculum gaps/attendance / literacy / mental health and wellbeing) |
| B1 | Literacy Skills  |
| B2 | Gaps in Curriculum Knowledge |
| B3 | School readiness for further lockdown |
| B4 | Student access to on line learning |
| B5 | SEMH students impact of lockdown on well being and reintegration |
| B6 | New Teaching and learning arrangements to maintain Covid security |
| B7 | Gaps in CEIAG support |
| B8 | Assessment of students  |
| B9 | Maintaining High Attendance |
| B10 | Students adjusting to new arrangements in school |
| B11 | Impact on pupils’ safeguarding and anxiety issues |
| B12 | Ensuring and Maintaining Parental engagement in school processes |

**Accountability and Monitoring**

As with all government funding, school leaders must be able to account for how this money is being used to achieve the goal of schools getting back on track and teaching a normal curriculum as quickly as possible.

MSPRU will be transparent in tracking and accounting for the funding; Leaders provide regular updates to CoMLP Governing Body.