

Catch-Up Funding 2019/2020

In the year 2019/20 a total of 23 pupils entered Ian Ramsey CE Academy below national expectations at KS2 in both English and maths. 54 pupils did not meet the required standard for reading; 32 pupils did not meet the required standard for mathematics.

'Catch Up' funding will be used, once again this year, to strategically deploy intervention to support and enable pupils to achieve the desired proficiency in both subjects. The following strategies will be used:

- HLTAs and LSAs for bespoke, in-class support or, where appropriate, withdrawal as individuals or as small groups.
- Lexia: This nationally recognised programme will be used for small intervention groups for precisely targeted intervention. After an initial online assessment, the Lexia programme places pupils on a learning journey which they continue every time they log on. Staff monitor this, and when alerted - and where necessary - deliver short intervention sessions on areas pupils are struggling with. This ensures staff support pupils' learning and understanding of that topic. Lexia will also be used with Set 3 pupils in a designated lesson once a fortnight to help improve proficiency in reading, spelling and grammar. Homework will be set for pupils to complete units of Lexia to support home/school learning, which will be monitored by staff to ensure pupils who struggle are quickly identified and timely and effective intervention can be implemented. We encourage all parents and carers to support their children to access Lexia at home. Provision is made for pupils who do not have access at home, to be able to access the programme after school.
- The Academy employs a highly experienced literacy teacher for one day per week to teach pupils in year 7 reading, spelling and comprehension in focussed Literacy Workshops. This has had great impact historically and continues to support pupils in making progress. Weekly homework is set to support the work completed in the workshops.
- LSAs work with pre-identified pupils to improve their reading, spelling and comprehension on a regular basis.
- Hegarty Maths is a home learning package bought by the academy. Pupils are directed to the Hegarty maths website, and a specific unit (decided by their teacher). Pupils then watch a video about the topic, watch a modelled response, and then work their way through the subsequent sessions. This supports the work done in lessons and careful monitoring by staff ensures that areas of weakness are quickly targeted and improved.
- Reciprocal Reading is being introduced to the academy in all subject areas. The continuity of a structured approach to reading has been shown to be particularly beneficial to those pupils who are not at expected levels of reading on entry to secondary school.
- Talk for Writing is being introduced to the academy in all subject areas. The continuity of a structured approach to writing has been shown to be particularly beneficial to those pupils who are not at expected levels of writing on entry to secondary school.

Despite these strategies showing clear improvements in both reading and spelling ages in past years, the Academy continues to have some pupils who remain at a reading age below the chronological reading age and for this reason, this remains a priority for the academy as we move forward.