Belford Primary School

Coronavirus catch-up premium

Children and young people across the country have experienced unprecedented disruption to their education as a result of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Although all children have had their education disrupted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, it is likely that disadvantaged and vulnerable groups will have been hardest hit.

Schools’ have been given a catch-up premium to support all children and allocations have been calculated on a per pupil basis, providing each mainstream school with a total of £80 for each pupil in years reception through to 11. Belford Primary School will receive a total of £6,000 over the 2020-2021 academic year.

To support schools to make the best use of this funding, the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has published a [coronavirus (COVID-19) support guide for schools](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/covid-19-resources/covid-19-support-guide-for-schools/#nav-covid-19-support-guide-for-schools1) with evidence-based approaches to catch up for all students. We have used this document to help us use the catch-up funding in the most effective way.

Ways we are using the funding:

* Throughout school – additional small group and one-to-one tuition for those children identified with significant gaps in their learning. We have increased the amount of TA support in KS2 to facilitate this (total cost - £5, 000).
  + In Reception we are engaging with NELI. This is a high-quality, evidence-based, 20-week intervention designed to improve the language skills of reception age pupils. It involves scripted individual and small group language teaching sessions, delivered by trained school staff, usually teaching assistants. Several EEF trials have found that NELI improves both children’s oral language and early literacy skills. A recent trial of the programme found that children made on average three months of additional progress compared to children in the comparison group. Resources and online training will start in January 2021. Some of the catch-up funding will be used to pay for the additional hours worked by staff to complete the training course (approximately £200).
  + Additional resources to support learning (budget of £800).