

Abbey School's Year 7 'Catchup' Strategy 2016-17



'Catch up funding' is money provided to schools by the government for pupils who did not meet the expected standard of learning at the end of Year 6. The amount of funding for Abbey School in the 2016-17 school year is £5,700 (19 pupils)

'Maintained schools and academies may spend the grant for the educational benefit of pupils registered at that school' (DFE Guidance: Year 7 catch-up: 2016 to 2017 conditions of grant (published 2nd March 2017). This means that schools are free to spend this money as they see fit but must ensure it has impact on the progress and attainment of the current Year 7 pupils. Schools 'may also spend it on community facilities, for example services where the provision furthers any charitable purpose for the benefit of pupils at the school or their families, or people who live or work in the school's locality.' (DFE Guidance: Year 7 catch-up: 2016 to 2017 conditions of grant (published 2nd March 2017).

However, we are held accountable for how we use this additional money 'Books and other documents and records relating to the recipient's accounts must be open to inspection by the Secretary of State and the Comptroller and Auditor General. The Comptroller and Auditor General may, under Section 6 of the National Audit Act 1983, examine the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which the recipient has used its resources in discharging its grant-aided activities.' (DFE Guidance: Year 7 catch-up: 2016 to 2017 conditions of grant (published 2nd March 2017). This is why this information is on our school website and it is reviewed annually by the Governing Body of the school.

In the 2016-17 school year this money was spent on creating a new class so that the current Y7's could transfer into the school prior to September 2016, in line with their primary peers, in order to be settled and ready to start their secondary school career as soon as the school year began, thus making the most of the time they had in Y7 and not spending time adjusting to a new school and new friends. Along-side this, intensive, individualised intervention is taking place for identified pupils around pupils' self-esteem with the Youth Sport Trust.

In the 2015-16 school year the impact of the spending was 69% of pupils making expected or accelerated progress and 46% of these pupils making accelerated progress over the school year.

This strategy will be reviewed in September 2017