

Use of the Year 7 Catch-Up Premium

The Year 7 Catch-Up Premium is used within Frank Wise School to support engagement and achievement of all pupils, following our inclusive ethos.

The principles underlying our use of this grant are that we want to:

1. Prioritise the deployment of highly trained and well supported staff able to focus on the individual needs of our pupils.
2. Have staff working with our children who are as highly skilled in teaching Literacy and Numeracy as possible.
3. Provide the best teaching resources that we can, ensuring that the inclusive ethos pervades this layer of the use of funding too.

Use of the Year 7 Catch-Up Premium 2013 - 2014

| Allocation This Year | Staff Training | Resources |
|----------------------|--|--|
| £2,500 | £2,000 | £500 |
| | Contribution towards the school's overall training budget of £10,000 | Enhance the school's Literacy and Numeracy budgets of £200 |

This is an all-through school, taking children from 2 years old through to 19, and our data gives us confidence that our Year 7 children do not experience a dip in their steady progress when they change from Year 6 to Year 7. We recognise that although our children don't experience the classic Primary into Secondary dip, we routinely have children joining us from other schools at ages spread right through the school. We know that when children join the school, in any Year group, there is a period of adjustment for them as they get to know new staff and learn to understand the boundaries and expectations in our setting. For this reason we use the Year 7 Catch-Up Premium to focus on staff training and resources across the school, knowing that people and equipment need to be in place to minimise the impact of this post-Summer challenge for our pupils, as they adjust to the new setting.

This means that it is important that all of our staff are supported in working at the highest quality, and that the resources available to all pupils through our Subject Leader system are of a very high standard.

We have a very well established programme of training for teaching and support staff. This incorporates a substantial induction period and the allocation of a personal mentor, as well as ongoing training so that staff across all areas of the school are equipped with what we refer to as Essential Qualifications. Further to this we support staff in gaining professional qualifications, from degrees and Qualified Teacher Status to post-graduate degrees and Middle and Senior Leadership courses.

We also place great value on informal staff development, and we pay our support staff to start work 15 minutes before the children arrive every day and to work on for 15 minutes after they leave as well. This enables every class team to discuss general matters relating to classroom practice as well as individual children's needs.

Each year our Subject Leaders are allocated a modest budget to update or purchase new resources for their areas, and for several years now this has had to be substantially restricted. Therefore the Year 7 Catch-Up Premium has helped us to bolster this funding and has meant that we have been able to purchase new resources supporting the teaching of phonics in the school as well as enhancing our Numeracy resources too.