**Report on the use of Coronavirus Catch Up Funding**

**September 2020**

**Highfield Ely Academy**

In September 2020 the Government announced that it would provide every Special School with £240 per pupil to help students catch up on any aspect of their education that had been affected by the COVID 19 pandemic.

Highfield Ely was given £28,800 based on the figures above. After many years of continuously reducing funding, we were at the point where we were having to consider closing down some valued parts of our curriculum in order to keep the school afloat. This extra money has allowed us to continue those parts of our wellbeing offer, identified by students, parents, carers and teachers as being of extreme importance in terms of helping learners be in a position to “catch up”. This includes parts of our provision such as our Nurture room and School Counsellor.

There has never been a time where the wellbeing of students has been more tested. We have been able to target those most in need and offer the support they need. This has boosted attendance and engagement in learning.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Overview of****Coronavirus****Catch Up****Funding****rationale** | 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 will be among those hardest hit. Schools’ allocations will be calculated on a per pupil basis. Special, AP and hospital schools will be provided with £240 for each place for the 2020 to 2021 academic year. There is an additional weighting to specialist settings, recognising the significantly higher per pupil costs that are faced. |
| **Use of Funds** | Schools are instructed to 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 in line with our renewal curriculum.Schools have the flexibility to spend their funding in the best way for their cohort and circumstances. |
| **How are we****accountable?** | Schools must be able to account for how this money is being used to achieve the central goal of schools getting back on track and teaching a normal curriculum as quickly as possible.Given their role in ensuring schools spend funding appropriately and in holding schools to account for educational performance, governors and trustees should scrutinise schools’ approaches to catch-up from September, including their plans for and use of catch-up funding. This should include consideration of whether schools are spending this funding in line with their catch-up priorities, and ensuring appropriate transparency for parents.This report aims to fulfil these responsibilities and openly document spending in line with school priorities and resulting outcomes. |
| **Total amount****allocated for the****current****academic year****2020 – 2021** | In financial year 2020/2021 the school is likely to receive **£28,800** to enable children to catch up educationally and for their progress to get back on track. |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Objective & Targeted Pupil****Group** | **Resource/Intervention** | **Resource /****Intervention****Cost** | **Progress Measure** | **Evaluation of Outcomes** **July 2021** |
| Provide counselling option for KS3/4 students who require it | School Counsellor | £7,968 p.a | Attendance, engagement, progress data, comments from stakeholders |  |
| Continue the Nurture provision at HEA for identified pupils | Nurture level 4 role | £26,000 p.a (inc on-costs) | Attendance, comments from stakeholders, Boxall profiles show good progress for learners signposted to Nurture |  |