

Coronavirus Catch-up Funding Statement

What is Catch-up Funding?

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.

We know that we have the professional knowledge and expertise in the education system to ensure that children and young people recover and get back on track. Returning to normal educational routines as quickly as possible will be critical to our national recovery.

The government has announced £1 billion of funding to support children and young people to catch up. This includes a one-off universal £650 million catch-up premium for the 2020 to 2021 academic year to ensure that schools have the support they need to help all pupils make up for lost teaching time.

Allocation

School allocations will be calculated on a per pupil basis, providing each mainstream school with a total of £80 for each pupil in years reception through to 11.

The Forge will receive £8,947.25 across two academic years 2020/22.

Utilisation

Schools should 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 on curriculum expectations for the next academic year. Schools have the flexibility to spend their funding in the best way for their cohort and circumstances.

At The Forge we have carefully considered the areas that would most benefit from this additional funding. The key areas of focus are:

Year 11 Tutor Sessions: Groups of students to receive additional Maths and English lessons delivered by experienced and specialist tutors.

Remote Learning Provision: Lease of laptops with access to Office 365 for all students

Pastoral Support: Pupils emotional needs have increased due to the pandemic and isolation of lockdown. Extra staffing has been assigned to focus on students' emotional needs and general well-being. Supporting the emotional needs of staff

The Forge will be transparent in tracking and accounting for the funding.

Resource	Action	Cost
Additional tutoring	Year 11 pupils received 1:1 academic mentoring and tutoring in English and Mathematics	£2572.75
Laptops	Laptops leased to ensure all learners were able to access remote learning programme	£5000
Wellbeing support	Pupils received additional calls and home visits to minimise effects of isolation and support safeguarding.	£2000