

Catch-up Premium

The catch-up premium is allocated to schools for students who, at the beginning of Year 7, are below where they should be. Initially this was based upon the number of students who did not achieve at least a Level 4 in reading and/or mathematics. Due to the changes in assessment at the end of Key Stage 2, schools receive the same allocation as previous years, but have been given additional autonomy in deciding which student should receive the funding.

At City Academy Birmingham, we believe all students should thrive and achieve exceptionally well. Therefore, we aim to ensure every student who is behind at the start of Year 7 is given the opportunity to catch up through effective teaching. Due to the nature of the new assessment system at Key Stage 2, there are a number of students who need additional support to catch up with where they should be. In the first instance, this is achieved through high quality teaching in the classroom. However, where students are not catching up at the rate expected or where they are particularly behind, additional interventions are put into place.

We believe reading is the key to success. If a student is able to read fluently, they have the power to unlock other learning. It is often poor reading skills that are a barrier to success across the curriculum. Therefore, much of our effort in ensuring students catch up is put into developing reading.

We use our catch-up premium to fund a range of reading strategies:

- One-to-one reading tuition (Toe-by-toe)
- Small group reading intervention
- Accelerated Reader
- Focussed reading groups
- Training for staff to embed reading strategies across the curriculum

In addition to reading strategies, we also fund the following:

- Literacy/Numeracy coordinators
- Learning Support Assistants in English and Mathematics
- EAL targeted groups

Funding Allocation

2015-16	£11,000
2016-17	£10,252
2017-18	£10,000

In 2016, the number of students achieving a scaled score below 100 were 49 in reading and 55 in maths. At the end of the academic year 2016-17, 77.6% of students had caught up with where they should be by the end of Year 7 in reading and 94.5% in maths. Those who have not yet caught up have made significant progress but their starting point was well below expected and are currently working at just below the expected standard for Year 7. These students continue to receive intervention.