

COVID-19 Catch-Up Funding Grant

In June, a £1billion fund for education was announced by the government. The catch-up premium was funded on a per pupil basis at £80 per pupil. This was based on the previous year's census and did not include Nursery numbers meaning that St Thomas' was in receipt of approximately £18,480. The spending of this money was down to schools to allocate as they saw best. To support schools to make the best use of this funding, the Education Foundation published a support guide for schools with evidence – based approaches to catch up for all students.

St Thomas's will spend this money:

- Purchasing curriculum resources and materials that support pupils to get 'back on track'.
- Funding additional staff to develop the outcomes of children who have been identified as need 'catch-up' in their learning.
- Supporting children with well-being issues including poor mental health and anxiety associated with COVID-19 e.g. resources and staff training.
- Training current staff in teaching and learning strategies that will support 'catch-up' e.g. precision teaching, emotional resilience etc.

The broad aims for 'catch-up' at St Thomas's was that attainment outcomes at the end of 2020-21 for all year groups was at least in line with those at the point of lockdown in March 2020. This means that if a child was working at age-related in a subject in March, they will be working at age related in the same subject by the end of the year.

We also aim to ensure that the mental health needs of pupils that have arisen as a result of the pandemic are met and supported by the school. This is our ongoing pledge.