

Year 7 Catch-Up Funding Statement

In 2018-19, Barr's Hill School received £23,523 Year 7 Catch-Up Funding and it will receive similar levels in 2019-20. Last year 27 students were eligible for the funding although many more recent arrivals to the UK required literacy catch up intervention as early learners of English.

Over the last 12 months, targeted interventions in the form of: the Ruth Miskin Literacy phonics programme, the accelerated reader programme, lexonic, Lexia, mentoring and small group reading, writing and numeracy improvement sessions have taken place in The Bridge, the schools bespoke provision for Year 7 students. Much of this enhanced provision continues into Year 8. All of these strategies are proven to be amongst the most effective interventions when supporting students. Please follow this link to find out more: <https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/school-themes/literacy/>. The Education Endowment Foundation is an organisation dedicated to researching effective strategies for working with young people. This page lists the following strategies as being amongst the most effective (this is where our money is being spent):

Strategy	How many more months progress does this strategy add (in a calendar year)
Reading Comprehension strategies	+5
Oral Language Interventions	+5
Phonics	+4

An experienced primary practitioner has been employed as literacy leader and works full time in The Bridge and so expertise sits on site for both staff CPD and intervention delivery. Ofsted (Sept 2018) described the intervention for students not yet at ARE in The Bridge/Year 7 as 'exceptional'.

The impact of this intervention is clear with 59% of year 7s in receipt of catch up funding on track to reach ARE. Many of these students were significantly below national in scaled scores at the start of their secondary career so this is a huge success. Of the remaining students, all of them made significant and demonstrable progress through proven intervention programmes, meaning their progress was better than their peers.

In 2019-20 we will continue this work and plan to add capacity in The Bridge for the delivery and support of additional intervention.