

# Year 7 "Catch Up"

2015-16

Brewood CE Middle School receives an additional £500 for each pupil in Year 7 who did not achieve at least a Level 4 in Reading and/or Maths at the end of Key Stage 2

## **Assessment of Reading.**

- All Year 7 pupils are assessed on their reading throughout the year with intervention strategies being put into place when required.
- The Catch-up pupils for reading had an average reading age of 10 years 8 months

## **Accelerated Reader (AR):**

Accelerated Reader has been in place at Brewood since Easter 2016. Accelerated Reader is a powerful tool used in school for monitoring and managing independent reading practise while promoting reading for pleasure.

Accelerated Reader has the potential to produce up to 2 years' reading age growth in just 1 year and monitors the reading that pupils undertake. Pupils choose from a selection of books within their ZPD (**zone of proximal development**) and when they have read their book each pupil takes a quiz to assess their reading and vocabulary skills.

Pupils are also assessed on Accelerated Reader every half term to measure their progress in reading. Using the initial test results, group tutors have helped pupils to select books that are challenging, but not too difficult so as to cause frustration. Over the past 2 terms AR has helped to improve literacy and reading skills.

Use of Accelerated Reader at Brewood has improved the focus of all staff when promoting literacy skills and has ensured that pupils are reading widely and often.

## **Target Setting for Catch-up Pupils.**

There is an expectation that all pupils will work to make at least expected progress per academic year in reading and writing.

## **Catch-up Intervention:**

- **English** – Funding was used to employ an extra member of staff within the English department allowing 4 classes to be taught by 5 members of staff. In addition to this a TA was also placed into the lower ability set ( 11 pupils) to target specific weaknesses (identified through monitoring of progress and 1 to 1 intervention) in pupils knowledge and understanding.
  - The introduction of accelerated reader, together with additional resources for the library, has also had an impact on the skills of Year 7 catch up pupils.

- **Maths** – Funding was used to employ an extra member of staff within the maths department allowing 4 classes to be taught by 5 members of staff. In addition to this a TA was also placed into the lower ability set ( 11 pupils) to target specific weaknesses (identified through monitoring of progress and 1 to 1 intervention) in pupils knowledge and understanding.

### **Progress Check: September 2015 – July 2016**

Year 7 catch-up funding has had a positive impact on the progress of Year 7 pupils with the majority making improved progress from their starting points in Year 7. Although some gaps in knowledge and understanding still remain in reading, a high proportion have made good progress.

#### **Reading:**

- 88% of the Catch-up pupils are now working at Level 4/ Age Related equivalent.
- 25% of the Catch-up pupils are now working above a Level 4 / Age Related equivalent .
- 88% of the Catch-up pupils have made at least expected progress from their KS1 level.
- 50% of the Catch-up pupils have made more than expected progress from their KS1 level.

#### **Mathematics:**

- 100% of the Catch-up pupils are now working at Level 4/ Age Related equivalent.
- 25% of the Catch-up pupils are now working above a Level 4 / Age Related equivalent.
- 100% of the Catch-up pupils have made at least expected progress from their KS1 level.
- 54% of the Catch-up pupils have made more than expected progress from their KS1 level.

## 2016-17

Catch Up funding has been used to fund 4 instead of 3 classes enabling us to organise 4 sets instead of 3 in Year 7 to focus on underperformance. This has enabled pupils in these classes to be better targeted ensuring their core skills, which underpin the rest of the curriculum, are developed.

### **Year 7 Maths catch-up**

Planning for Year 7 has been specifically tailored to meet the needs of pupils who did not reach the required standard at the End of Year 6.

A teaching assistant is being deployed in 2 x 30mins slots each week to do some extra 'catch up' for small groups of pupils. Pupils will work on ordering decimals, translations and rounding, as well as an emphasis on reading timetables, area, volume, annotating diagrams effectively and problem solving.

Pupils will have a post test and pre-test to measure impact of the intervention.

Each group will have 3 half an hour slots before support is rotated to another set of pupils.

## **Year 7 English catch-up**

Planning for Year 7 has been specifically tailored to meet the needs of pupils who did not reach the required standard at the end of Year 6.

Students in this group now access 2 x 30mins of extra English in small groups taught by qualified Teaching Assistants, with some focussing on reading and some on grammar. This small group allows intensive and extended support to meet the needs of these pupils, ensuring their core skills which underpin the rest of the curriculum are developed.

There is also a focus on writing in lessons with catch-up pupils being given more opportunities to write in different formats such as note taking, mind mapping and opportunities to complete a range of extended writing tasks. Also writing for a particular purpose and audience for example provides pupils with the opportunity to develop their writing skills. Developing the 'stamina' of pupils when writing is also being focussed upon with clear success criteria being adhered to in lessons and in some cases using pupils work to model and scaffold the key aspects of a piece of writing for pupils.

The children may be in a group or they may work individually, depending on the child.