

The Catch Up Premium at NUSA

What is the Catch Up Premium?

The Catch Up Premium is funding given to schools to provide additional support to those Year 7 pupils that did not reach the 'expected standards' in literacy and / or numeracy at the end of Year 6. These pupils secured a key stage 2 scaled score of less than 100 in either reading; grammar, punctuation and spelling; or maths. For the 2016-17 academic year, NUSA received £20,079 to help our Year 7s to 'catch up'.

How did NUSA use its Catch Up Premium last year?

Some of NUSA's catch up premium is invested into our pupils' curriculum provision. Our lowest attainers are taught in very small class sizes, and benefit from additional classroom support. The staff that teach and support these classes are provided with additional training (e.g. phonics), and learning is further supported through investment in specific resources.

Some of NUSA's catch up premium is invested into withdrawal groups for reading and maths. Pupils come out of their normal lessons to receive more intensive coaching in order to accelerate their progress and help them to reach the expected standards. The catch up premium contributes towards the cost of the staff and the materials used. (e.g. Catch Up Literacy, Lexia, Dancing Bears, and Numicon)

Some of NUSA's catch up premium is invested into reading schemes, like 'accelerated reader'. Pupils follow a structured programme of reading that involves regular testing of their understanding, which in turn provides important information that teachers can use when planning lessons. The catch up premium contributes towards these subscription and resource costs. It also helps us to train our peer and volunteer reading partners, and to pay for reading age tests.

Some of NUSA's catch up premium is invested into numeracy schemes like Numicon, which are used with small groups to help pupils build their mathematical understanding and confidence. The Catch Up Premium contributes to the costs of staff training, and resources for teachers and pupils.

Some of NUSA's catch up premium is invested into our transition processes that are developing our understanding of the key stage two curriculum, and the ways in which we can most effectively build upon the work of our primary colleagues. The catch up premium contributes towards the cost of releasing teachers to visit and work with our primary feeder schools, and it also contributed towards the costs of our Transition Summer School, which we actively encourage pupils eligible for the catch up premium to attend.

What was the impact of NUSA's Catch Up Premium for 2016-17?

Leaders at NUSA evaluate the effectiveness of our Catch Up strategies by analysing pupils' progress in key stage 3 English, reading, and key stage 3 Maths. Pupils' progress is compared to similar pupils nationally, and we evaluate how many pupils have caught up to a point where they are on track to secure an awarding pass (grade 4) at GCSE at the end of Year 11.

Pupils' progress in English and reading

In September 2016, 55 pupils had a key stage 2 scaled score of less than 100 in either reading or grammar, punctuation and spelling, or both. Their progress in key stage 3 English and reading is shown in the table below:

KS2 scaled score (average of reading and GPS)	Number of pupils (Sept. 2016)	% who made good progress in Year 7	% on track to secure a grade 4 at GCSE (July 2017)	% who made at least 12 months progress in reading
95 – 99	27	63%	67%	52%
90 – 94	16	56%	25%	81%
85 – 89	6	50%	0%	83%
80 – 84	3	33%	0%	33%
Below 80	3	33%	0%	67%
Cohort	55	56%	40%	64%

Our assessment data indicates that the number of pupils not on track to secure a GCSE awarding pass in English has reduced from 55 to 33. Inevitably however, all of our ‘catch up’ pupils will continue to require and receive additional support in Year 8 in order to maintain this progress.

Pupils’ progress in Maths

In September 2016, 59 pupils had a key stage 2 scaled score of less than 100 in Maths. Their progress in key stage 3 Maths is shown in the table below:

KS2 scaled score (Maths)	Number of pupils (Sept. 2016)	% who made good progress in Year 7	% on track to secure a grade 4 at GCSE (July 2017)
95 – 99	22	95%	73%
90 – 94	16	88%	50%
85 – 89	13	23%	0%
80 – 84	5	20%	0%
Below 80	3	100%	0%
Cohort	59	71%	41%

Our assessment data indicates that the number of pupils not on track to secure a GCSE awarding pass in Maths has reduced from 59 to 35. Inevitably however, all of our ‘catch up’ pupils will continue to require and receive additional support in Year 8 in order to maintain this progress.

What are NUSA’s plans for 2017-18?

NUSA’s plans for 2017-18 will build upon the successes of last year. The Department for Education has stated:

In 2017 to 2018, we will allocate funding to schools on the basis that they receive the same overall amount of year 7 catch-up premium funding they received in 2016 to 2017. It will be adjusted to reflect the percentage change in the size of their year 7 cohort, based on the October 2017 census.

This additional funding will help us to continue to develop and improve the additional support we offer pupils who do not reach the ‘expected level’ in reading and / or maths by the time they leave primary education:

We will continue to provide additional curriculum resources for the lowest attaining pupils in Year 7.

We will continue to provide small group withdrawal sessions.

We will continue to deliver reading schemes that help pupils to reach their chronological reading age.

We will continue to invest in staff training, resources, and release time for our teachers to work with our primary feeder schools.

Date of last review: October 2017

Date of next review: October 2018