



## COVID-19 CATCH-UP GRANT PLAN 2020 2021

### LOSS OF LEARNING

Our students experienced an unprecedented disruption to their education as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Whilst teachers endeavoured to provide high quality home learning resources during the Lockdown, the School recognises that the learning experience was not the same for all due to access to ICT and their home environment.

The School completed an extensive analysis to assess the levels of student engagement throughout the Lockdown period. The results demonstrated that certain student's engagement was less favourable than others; male, less able and the disadvantaged engaged far less than their peers. The outcome of the analysis mirrors existing trends prevalent in the Schools and National assessment data. Males were 12% more likely than females to be disengaged, FSM students 17% more likely than Non-FSM and the less able 23% more likely than the more able.

Analysis of our Year 7 writing ages, estimates that students are 10.6 months behind expected levels. Whilst this is significantly better than the national trend [22 months], the range was assessed to be between 6 and 14 years of age for our Year 7 cohort. The disparity between males and females was stark [13.6 months for males and 7.1 months for females].

Finally, it is recognised by the School that learning has been lost due to:

- The challenge of completing the planned curriculum in a virtual environment
- The limited opportunities for teacher feedback in a virtual environment
- The removal of students from a structured school environment
- The increased pressure on mental health and social and emotional development.

### CATCH-UP STRATEGY

Heston Community School believes passionately that the strategies highlighted below will have a significant impact on student progress. Furthermore, returning to normal educational routines will support the mental health and well-being of our school community.

The four strategies to support students to catch-up in their learning:

1. Strategic and targeted allocation of additional resources as identified by Curriculum Leaders
2. Appointment of Academic Mentors to overcome barriers to learning
3. Appointment of English and Mathematics Catch-up Teaching Assistants
4. Engagement with the National Tutor Programme and accommodation of after-school learning.

### COVID-19 CATCH-UP GRANT ALLOCATION

£79,000

## HOW WE PLAN TO SPEND THE COVID-19 CATCH-UP GRANT

### STRAND 1 – Curriculum Resources [£28,025]

Curriculum Leaders to identify resources to support targeted groups of students; to include digital and material resources to address identified gaps in learning and support effective blended learning.

### STRAND 2 - Academic Mentors [£7,250]

The appointment of two Academic Mentors to help students overcome barriers to their learning. In collaboration with 'Teach First', the Academic Mentors will be trained to provide academic support to identified students in English, Maths and Science and provide small group interventions. Furthermore, they will provide pastoral support to improve student emotional and mental wellbeing.

### STRAND 3 - English and Maths Teaching Assistants [£32,935]

The appointment of Teaching Assistants in English and Maths, directed by Curriculum Leaders, to support lower ability and SEND students in lessons. Additionally, they will provide after-school support to students that are struggling with homework and remote learning lessons.

### STRAND 4 - National Tutor Programme [£10,790]

The School will employ tutors, through the National Tutoring Programme, to provide additional support to for disadvantaged students. Targeted students will benefit from 15 sessions in English or Maths, depending on their area of need. The tutors will deliver remote after-school sessions for groups of no more than three students, aligned with our School curriculum.

## MONITORING THE IMPACT OF OUR STRATEGIES

The impact of the strategies outline will be reported to the Governors' Curriculum Committee and the Full Governing Body. The following key performance indicators will be monitored:

1. School attendance
2. Attendance at interventions
3. 'Attitude to Learning' grades
4. Reading ages
5. National Tutoring Programme baseline and progress assessments
6. In year progression

## REVIEW OF COVID-19 CATCH-UP STRATEGY

The Covid-19 Catch-Up Premium is funded for one academic year. The School's strategy and its impact will be reviewed, evaluated and reported to the Governors' Curriculum Committee in the Spring and Summer Term.