

The Glenwood Way: Year 7 Catch up Grant 2017/18

Introduction

This funding has been provided by the Government to ensure that all pupils who have not achieved the relevant targets by the end of Year 6 are given every opportunity to make progress in Year 7.

For the Academic year 2017 to 2018

The school has received £5,500 Year 7 Catch up funding over the last year.

The grant has been used to fund the following;

- Purchase of books that relate to the particular interests of our current Year 7 learners
- Provide input and support from an independent specialist occupational therapist and the purchase of supporting resources
- Provide additional input from an independent speech and language therapist
- Provide an iPad for one learner so they can learn to express a choice
- Provide additional input from a music specialist

Looking back – What was the impact of this expenditure?

- Purchase of books:
The impact of purchasing new books that relate to the learners interests have enabled them to use the books for pleasure. One teacher explained that, “The new books which have been ordered to meet the interests of my two learners, have helped their communication and social skills immensely. It is exciting to listen to them talking about the books and sharing what they have found out.”
- Occupational Therapist Support and Resources:
The impact of this spend for the learners have shown that these resources have made a significant impact on their ability to concentrate and remain on task. For one learner, the impact of these resources have enabled him to be ‘ready’ to learn and to accept the adult’s support when they are teaching them. Staff acknowledge the impact that the therapist has on their own professional development.
- Speech and Language Therapist and Resources:
The purchase of iPads or communication books for these learners have impacted by supporting them to better communicate, in the school environment, when learning in the community and with their families in the home setting. Learners are better able to make a request or to ask or answer a question. Staff acknowledge the impact that the therapist

has on their own professional development.

- Music Therapist

This provision has a significant impact on learners' receptive and expressive communication. One learner has shown a marked improvement in how he is able to express his wants. One therapist stated, "As well as supporting concentration and attention, the instruments also motivate this learner to communicate his choices and preferences." This intervention also has a considerable impact on those learners that are finding people and situations more difficult to respond to and engage with. Another therapist commented, "The music supports this learners emotional and physical regulation and often she leaves the session in a more balanced state. It is important that she is able to express the whole range of her feelings and the sessions provide a contained and safe space for her to do so."

Looking ahead to the 2018-19 academic year.

Next academic year we intend to spend the grant by:

- Introducing a relevant reading scheme and purchasing the necessary books and resources.
- Purchasing furniture/storage for the books and resources.
- Purchasing software to use on the iPad, which works with the reading scheme.
- Purchasing assessment resources, which support the reading scheme.

