



# SPECIALIST SCIENCE COLLEGE

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## THE COOPER SCHOOL

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### The Cooper School: Catch up funding for Year 7s

#### Academic Year 2014/15

Last year, 27 students were in receipt of the catch up premium as they did not attain a Level 4 in their KS2 SATs for English or maths. The school received £13,500 and this money was used to target eligible students to give them the opportunity to become 'secondary ready'.

Much of this money was spent on teaching staff as well as to fund the continued allocation of four subject specific HLTAs. Department based strategies were also important:

#### **English**

- funding of a trip to inspire participation and a love of reading and writing
- lower band books to encourage reading for the students who are more reluctant to engage in our reading programme

#### **Maths**

- the use of numeracy intervention packages from GL Assessments
- a 'Puzzle Day' to encourage participation in mathematical challenge
- newly purchased Sandwell Diagnostic testing package to identify the areas of mathematics that students are finding challenging

#### Outcome and next steps:

87% of the eligible students are now achieving at least a 4c in English and 40% are now at this level in maths. The 60% of students who are not yet working at a level 4c in maths will continue to receive support in Year 8 to boost their grades.

#### Academic Year 2015/16

This year we have 25 students in Year 7 who did not achieve a level 4c in either maths or English or both. This means the school will receive £12,500 catch up funding.

We are spending the funding on staffing, specialist intervention packages and essential technology to run the intervention packages effectively:

- students will attend 5 hours of Skills Sessions a fortnight,
- these sessions will be staffed by a group of HLTAs,
- specialist intervention packages will be used during this time (including Lexia and Accelerated Maths),
- chromebooks and specialist software will support the use of the intervention packages.

We also plan to continue purchasing relevant and accessible reading books for the library as well as specialist maths materials.