



West Leigh Junior School

Part of the Portico Academy Trust

Executive Headteacher - Mrs C. Woolf

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CEO – Mrs C. Woolf

6th May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As you are probably aware, the Government has given schools extra funding to support children to 'catch up' on missed learning caused by the coronavirus outbreak, following the weeks of schooling they missed out on during the two lockdowns.

There has been a lot of media coverage regarding the money being made available to secondary schools to run summer school programmes, particularly for the September 2021 intake for Year 7. We believe our local secondaries will run that provision and you will hear directly from them. We have received some extra funding too, but rather than spend it on external tutors, as suggested by the Government, we are using our own teaching staff to deliver high quality, precisely targeted group or individual work to support the children. All recovery work (as we prefer to call it rather than 'catch-up') is being taught during lesson time.

Some children have been identified as needing a short, sharp programme of intervention. Others may be in smaller groups for English work or maths for the term. Some children are working in this way as we can see they have knowledge gaps, some because remote learning didn't suit them at all, some because they worked so hard in lockdown that they now need increased challenge. If we think the children need to do more at home than our usual request for daily reading, tables' work and spelling we will contact you. For more information about how we are spending our catch-up premium funding please see the school's website or click on this link:

https://0ccc73c7-5a41-4db0-b2b3-19839df592a2.filesusr.com/ugd/163d15_72bfe954768b4e20b5165e8012f22d45.pdf

We are aware that we have not been able to fit in another round of learning conferences this term and that some families are disappointed by this. We have taken the decision that it is more important for our teaching staff to concentrate on tailoring the curriculum to individual needs, rather than spend that time preparing for and then holding discussions.

As previously shared in our recent curriculum bulletins, you will receive your child's annual report in July and have an opportunity to discuss it with the classteachers following that if you feel the need. Please contact us if you want more information prior to your child's report.

Year 4 parents/carers will receive information in the next 2/3 weeks about plans for transition to Year 5.

Please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards

Executive Headteacher

Head of School