

REPORT ON USE OF THE COVID 19 RECOVERY FUND



The Quest Academy

1. Action Plan 2020/2021

Total Recovery Fund expected = £58,120

Number of students On Roll 1st October 2020 = 830

Ensuring our students are not disadvantaged and minimising the impact on them due to the Coronavirus pandemic was a priority for all staff. We took a strategic approach to mitigating the impact of the school closures, reduced teacher/student contact time and other barriers/challenges that affected learning, and developed our Five Point Recovery Plan:

The Quest Five Point Coronavirus Recovery Plan

- We will develop **Google classrooms** as Quest's online remote learning platform
- We will promote **full attendance** to help everyone have the maximum chance of success
- We will address **technology poverty** to ensure everyone has full access to our online environment for 'remote learning' and 'blended learning'
- We will provide one additional catch up session each week for every year 11 and year 13 class throughout the year
- We will implement a **smart intervention plan** to meet the needs of every student

This plan was shared with all staff and Governors and formed the basis of the work done to minimise the impact of the pandemic.

2. Review of expenditure & impact

Funding received = £58,120

Action	Cost	Intended Impact	Review
Development of Google Classroom	0	Create an on-line learning platform that all teachers, students and parents can access to allow total remote learning	Practice in this areas developed rapidly and has continued its impact on learning throughout lockdown; enabling accelerated, blended learning. Further investment in skills of staff could further enhance impact.
Resources to enable remote teaching.	2023	Investment in visualisers to enable teachers to carry out live and recorded remote lessons, and also take images of written work.	These were essential for remote teaching and have also had tangible impact on recovering learning.
Ensure all students were fully equipped in lessons, enabling equipment to be sterilized between uses.	671	Smooth running of the curriculum to ensure delivery is not adversely affected by lack of resources.	This was essential to the smooth running of specific subjects and has been effective at doing this.
Increased support (including additional support from our EW services) to support attendance.	3580	To maximise student attendance and address concerns that students/parents may have about returning to school.	This has had a positive effect on attendance, and though this is not directly measurable against pre-COVID levels, there has been a positive impact on attendance of specific individuals.

Increased cleaning to ensure maximum attendance and reduction of viral spread.	16855	Minimise the chances of in-school transmission.	It is difficult to measure the impact of these measures, but COVIS rates were low in the school relative to the wider community, and staff and students also reported that this made them feel safer.
Action taken to address technology poverty.	13180	Ensure that no student is disadvantaged by not having appropriate access to our on-line learning platform	This had a very positive impact on learning, both in home learning during lockdowns, and also during recovery work. Students who previously couldn't access work effectively did so with this help.
Catch up sessions for Year 11 and Year 13 students.	0	To ensure students in these exam year groups did not have gaps in their knowledge following the previous academic year's school closure.	These sessions had a significant impact on student performance as measured through TAGs.
Smart targeted intervention for small groups and individuals.	10215	To identify individual students with gaps in their knowledge and hold one-to-one small group intervention sessions for them.	This was provided though specialist support from a Teach First mentor, and had clear impact in improving engagement and encouraging students to working more normally in school upon their return to the classroom.
Accelerated Reader catch up.	4152	To close gaps in reading levels which widened during the periods of home learning.	This had mixed/ low impact and has been replaced by a new literacy strategy for the 2021-22 academic year.

Total	50676	£7,444 was carried forward into the next academic year.	

3. Summary

The Quest Academy is committed to ensuring that all of our students achieve their potential, develop fully and are ready to positively contribute to society. To that end we recognise that many students required additional support at home to help them engage with remote learning. In addition, and despite this, we recognise that many will have been significantly set back following the missed contact time during the lockdowns and the other barriers that have hindered their learning during the pandemic. We believe that the best way to support students is through 'Quality First Teaching' – the additional funds support this by enabling the school to ensure maximum attendance of all students. In addition, further strategies were implemented (and continue) which were designed to ensure students made a positive return to face-to-face learning once in school, and that gaps in learning have been identified and closed as swiftly as possible.