

The Milestone School Covid-19 Recovery Fund Strategy

Background

Milestone is an all phase 2-16 Special School in Gloucester. 47% of pupils are in receipt of Pupil Premium funding. All pupils have an EHCP and are classes as vulnerable according the Government definition. During lockdown, overall attendance fell to 30%, gradually rising to 60% in July, which has severely impacted on progress and children’s ability to re-engage with learning. Current attendance is at 85% (91% prior to Covid). Many families have been negatively impacted by jobs losses and / or a reduction in income due to furlough.

The Senior Management Team have prioritised Covid-19 related barriers to learning as:

- Pupils having been absence from school being unable to re-engage in learning
- Pupils who did attend school during lockdown being unable to adjust to full class groups
- Increased numbers of children attending school without having had breakfast
- Increased numbers of pupils who are presenting with mental health / anxiety issues either associated with Covid measures, or long periods of time spent at home during lockdown
- Pupils needing increased access to quiet areas to sit, reflect or read
- Increased numbers of children whose weight has increased due to inactivity and poor diet
- Pupils experienced long periods of time without EHCP outcomes being met
- Staff lacking confidence in their knowledge of / ability to be able to deal effectively the above issues

| Area of concern | Planned intervention | Impact | Anticipated weekly costs | Anticipated total cost (to end academic year 2020-21) |
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| Poor diet Not being provided with breakfast | Ensuring that individual classes are funded to provide breakfast for children. Ensuring that DT lessons focus on healthy lifestyles. | Children will be provided with breakfast and will be ready to access learning. Food technology sessions will provide children with information about healthy lifestyles, and how to prepare healthy meals. | £20 per class per week (20 weeks initially) | £17,500 |

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| Re-engagement in learning / meeting EHCP needs | Increase in the current levels of intervention groups such as: Lego therapy sensory group OPAL play-based therapy music interaction | Pupils are provided with strategies to cope with their emotions, enabling them to engage in learning. EHCP needs are met, enabling progress towards learning intentions. | 9 x hours per week at £16.68ph | £4,803.84 |
| | | | 12.5 x hours per week at £16.68ph | £6,672.00 |
| | | | 15 x hours per week at £16.68ph | £8,006.40 |
| | | | 6 x hours per week at £20.00ph | £3,840.00 |
| | | | 10 x hours per week at £20.00ph | £6,400.00 |
| | | | | £29,722.24 |
| Poor pupil mental health | Commissioned EP assessments | Strategies are in place to support individual complex needs pupils. | £200 per assessment | £2,000.00 |
| | Increase the number and quality of quiet reading areas across the school | Pupils are able to access quiet, reflective spaces. | n/a | £10,000 |
| Staff skills levels | Headsight project | Staff are provided with practical support and strategies enabling them to recognise and support pupil mental health needs. | n/a | £10,000.00 |
| | Staff training (Timpson project, Mental health awareness) | | n/a | £5,000.00 |
| | | | | Total anticipated expenditure: £74222,24 |