

Summer school report

The Highland summer school ran for two weeks from the 9th August to the 20th August, from 9:00 to 13:00. The total funding we received from the government was £27,028.67.

We invited students who had been identified as working below their expected level by their primary schools. We also targeted students from year 7 and year 8 cohorts who had been identified as underperforming. We wanted to use the summer school to narrow the gap between students who were worst affected by the disruptions to learning over the past two years due to the Covid pandemic.

In order to provide the best support possible we employed a wide range of staff to ensure that all the needs of the children were met. We had qualified teachers running small groups of up to eight students, we also had hearing impaired specialists to cater for hearing impaired students and the assistant SENCO to support SEND students. The whole planning process from inception to completion, including staffing the summer school came to £18,203.28.

Over the two week period we delivered; 377 hours of learning, 31 hours of one-to-one tuition, 400 lunches and 10 hours of physical activity. The data from the maths program we used recorded that 688 maths goals were achieved and 2253 quizzes were attempted. We have also asked classroom teachers to record the progress that the students who attended the summer school made. We have seen there to be a positive correlation between attendance and progress in all age groups.

The Lexia program had some positive outcomes in student progress. Most of the year 6 students invited to the summer school were assessed by the Lexia program as having year 3 level of literacy. Two students were assessed as having a literacy level of below year 1, these students were given one to one tuition. 18% of the year 6 students who took part in Lexia made progress towards year 4 level literacy over the two week period. From the 28 year 7 and year 8 students who took part in the Lexia program 40% were assessed as having only foundation level vocabulary, grammar and comprehension skills. By the end of the two weeks this had dropped to 25%. The older students involved made more progress with Lexia compared to the younger students. We used some of our funding towards a one year Lexia subscription, this was done so students could continue to access this support throughout the duration of the academic year.

At Highlands School we recognise the importance of literacy in academic success. In order to inspire students to read more, we spent the two weeks reading 'The Lion Butterfly' to the students and completing oral comprehension activities. These were carefully planned activities, which focused on enriching students with the wider understanding often required to fully understand a story. This type of intervention can yield progress of up to 6 months according to EEF research ([Oral language interventions | EEF](#) and [Reading comprehension strategies | EEF](#)). We completed the summer school by giving students their own copy of another Michael Mopurgo book 'Kensuke's Kingdom' to read over the remainder of the summer holidays. The cost of providing these resources was £6,203.99.

As we are a PFI school we are only allocated a certain number of days which we are able to make use of the school site. If we go above those allocated days we are charged an hourly rate for using different parts of the school. The summer school has taken part of our allocation of free days, which may mean over the next academic year we would be required to pay to run similar activities, open

days or even parents evenings. Therefore, we have claimed for this as part of our summer school funding as this could eventually come from our school budget, this came to a cost of £2,621.40.

We collected the opinions of parents as part of the summer school evaluation as feedback is essential to making improvements. Some of the highlights from the feedback was that:

- 84.2% of parents felt the summer school was well run.
- 89.5% of parents felt that their children benefited from attending summer school.
- 100% of parents felt the balance between academic and enrichment activities was good
- 100% of parents felt that the summer school was effective at giving their children an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the school site and teachers.