

Watling Academy - How we plan to accelerate catch up learning for those students who have fallen behind

1. Identify students likely to have the biggest gaps in knowledge

As part of our transition programme at Waling Academy we have received information from all primary schools that have students transitioning to Watling. Part of this information included

- the engagement of students with remote learning
- those who don't have access to the technology needed, or where home learning has been difficult
- Those who are vulnerable or have EHC plans, so learning from home may have been challenging
- Students who have experienced difficult family circumstances, such as a bereavement, that may have got in the way of their learning

2. We will use low stakes assessment in lessons to see that our predictions are correct

While we are looking for gaps in knowledge among all pupils, we will make sure teachers are also assessing who has **significant** gaps. This means:

- Pupils who have more gaps in their knowledge and skills than others (if all pupils have significant gaps, the teacher should just adjust their normal planning to account for this)
- Pupils who are unlikely to catch up with the consolidation lessons we've planned for all pupils

We will ask teachers to carry out some **low-stakes** quizzing and **low-threat** knowledge checks during lessons to find out what pupils can remember and where they have gaps.

When we have a clear idea of which pupils have significant gaps, and where their gaps are, we can start to put the measures in place to help them catch up.

3. We will also use a nationally set Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT 4) to identify students that are below the standard expected for their age.

4. Principles for our 'catch-ups'

- It will be intense and time limited
- It will be informed by teachers working closely with our SENDCO
- It will focus on key concepts and knowledge
- It will target specific gaps
- It will be led by fully trained staff
- Students will experience success early on
- Students will have the opportunity to practice what they are learning demonstrating that they understand it.
- It will avoid adding to teacher workload

5. Catch up sessions may take place after school and be 1-1 or small group work.