



Sherburn High School Summer School Impact Report



Background:

The government decided to create a nation-wide programme for Summer Schools that would help to overcome some of the lost learning for students entering secondary school. Data provided by the government suggested that students in Years 3-9 were on average 1.6-2 months behind on their reading skills and those students in Years 3-7 were on average 3.2 months behind on their maths.

Government Aims:

The aim of the programme, drawing on the evidence of good practice, is to deliver a short summer school offering a blend of academic education and enrichment activities.

Government Summer School Guidance 2021

Our Aims:

Working within the framework set by the government, our aim at Sherburn High School was to provide a week-long Summer School, focused on literacy and numeracy skills in an immersive, thematic programme of activities.

Our Plan:

The school initially sent communication to parents and staff to enquire what the take-up would be for running a summer school at Sherburn High School. Following a positive response from these stakeholders, interviews were conducted for a Summer School Coordinator position. Callum McIntyre was the successful candidate.

The design of our programme was based on literacy and numeracy for our new Year 7 cohort, ensuring that at least part of the day was devoted to developing these skills for students. It was also understood that impact might be minimal gains during the five days, and therefore we would also seek to use this as an opportunity for diagnostic assessments of the cohort, from which adaptations to our curriculum in September could take place.

Each day was also focused on a different theme. This was in the hope of providing a more enjoyable, immersive experience, as well as being more familiar for students exiting primary schools.

We also sought to include at least one external activity each day that would ensure students were enjoying enrichment activities and ultimately reduce anxiety for students as they transition to Secondary Education.

Implementation:

Recruitment / Publication:

As part of our transition programme, members of the school staff who visited our primary feeder schools advertised the Summer School for our students so that they were aware of what we were planning. We also sent several communications home via email and post, including an invitation postcard, home to parents to ensure that all information was shared. As part of this process, we created designated email addresses and phone number to ensure that parents were able to get the information they needed.

Alongside this, as part of our ongoing transition programme, each student and their carers met with members of the staffing body that was used to chase up those who had not responded to the initial invitation.

Curriculum and Programme:

When planning the curriculum, we worked collaboratively across the departments, but in particular core subjects of English, Maths and Science, to ensure we were hitting key markers. As a school we continue to have collaboration with our feeder schools to better map the skills students leave primary school with and where areas of development are needed for Year 7.

Budget and Finances:

Working alongside the School Business Manager, a budget was created based on the sign up of student responses to the initial invitation. This was then adapted as student sign-up increased following the initial sign-up. Further details of the finance of the Summer School is included further on in this report.

Catering:

In collaboration with our Catering Manager, we decided that school meals would be available for students at the normal school prices. Free School

Meals were provided and form part of our expenditure for the Summer School. Water and other refreshments were included throughout the time at school.

End of Week Celebration:

As part of our planning, we decided that we would have a “show and tell” event at the end of the week where parents can visit our Summer School on the Friday afternoon and get to know the school and staff as well.

Funding and Attendance:

Below are the attendance figures for our Summer School as well as the sign up prior to the event. There was no expectation that students had to attend the whole week, but rather could select which days they would like to attend.

Numbers of attendance did fluctuate due to illness and some students who attended and wished to attend extra days. These will be used to calculate the school’s budget for the Summer School, set at £59.70 per student, per day.

Day	Prior to Summer School		Actual Attendance	
	Students	Staff	Students	Staff
Monday 23 rd Aug	105	19	105	18
Tuesday 24 th Aug	118	20	116	20
Wednesday 25 th Aug	123	20	120	20
Thursday 26 th Aug	121	20	111	19
Friday 27 th August	107	17	100	15
TOTAL DAYs	574		552	

Total income budget: £59.70 x 552 student days = £32,954.40

Expenditure:

Please find below a summary of the expenditure of the Summer School programme to the school.

Summer School Coordinator	3,250.00
Staff pay	15,030.78
Free School Meals	104.47
Publication Materials	102.00
External Activity Providers	2755.00
Internal Activity Supplies	3,985.13
Infrastructure*	4,927.48
Consumables**	3,814.14
Total	33,969.00

**Due to the high COVID risk, the majority of the Summer School took place outside, and therefore some additional equipment was necessary.*

***Consumables included prizes, treats and stationary/photocopying materials for the various activities and admin undertaken over the week.*

Balance:

Total income expected from sign up	£	34,267.80
Total income received from students	£	32,954.40
Total expenditure	£	33,969.00
(Unrecoverable funds)	(£	1,014.60)

Impact:

Student Feedback: 98 responses

	1 strongly disagree	2 somewhat disagree	3 neither agree nor disagree	4 somewhat agree	5 strongly disagree
I have enjoyed the Summer School	0	0	0	26	72
I have managed to make new friends	0	2	11	40	45
I am looking forward to starting Year 7	0	10	31	31	26
I feel better about starting Year 7 now	0	0	17	58	23
I feel confident in my Literacy skills for Year 7	2	8	13	47	28
I feel confident in my maths skills for Year 7	3	12	28	27	28

Parent Feedback: summarised

- Parents were extremely impressed with the quality of programme and care provided by staff over the course of the week.
- Parents relayed that their children had an enjoyable week with us and were now much more enthusiastic about starting school again.
- Parents/carers of particularly anxious students were pleased that this had managed to relieve some of the anxiety around September.
- Many comments were received to highlight how beneficial the week had been for students following extensive period indoors as part of lockdowns / remote learning, and how it was a great benefit for students be working outdoors.

- Parents shared their gratitude to staff for putting on the week over the summer holidays
- Parents were pleased that they had the opportunity to speak to staff about practicalities and concerns regarding September
- There was a clear appreciation for the hard work and time that staff had given to the project
- Many parents hoped that this would be possible to recreate in future years for younger siblings.

Evaluation:

- The curriculum on offer focused on both literacy and numeracy, which has successfully enabled evaluation of students' current abilities and had a direct impact on English and Maths teaching for September.
- Wellbeing for the new cohort was particularly positively impacted by the Summer School. The Head of Year also has been able to alter tutor/class groups to accommodate anxious students and avoid personality clashes.
- Staff have commented that they felt more relaxed also about meeting the new cohort of students and noted that they were able to build stronger professional relationships with students having given the time to connect in a low-stakes, non-academic setting.
- Students have reflected positively to settling into a new school, and transition has been smooth, with students knowing from the outset the layout of the school and where to go for lessons.
- Due to pre-booked holiday commitments, not all students were able to attend, which some parents were concerned about. We were pleased that 120 students attended from the cohort of 178 students.