

Cost and Impact Review: Fresh Start Phonic Year 5 and Year 6

Background:

The school introduced Read, Write Inc in September 2012. All KS1 children receive a daily phonics lesson and the Year 1 phonics screening test results have improved as a result. However, it was identified that children within upper KS2 had gaps in their phonic knowledge and this was impacting on their reading.

In September 2013, an experienced TA working within Y5 and Y6 visited another school to receive training on the Fresh Start programme. By November 2013 the programme was in place and the children involved had been assessed and grouped. There is now a systemic approach to the teaching of phonics in upper KS2. There has also been a programme of evaluation and observations of TAs which has led to further improvements and development. There is a dedicated learning environment which is appropriate for the needs of our older pupils.

Costs:

2 hours/day for 1 TA over an academic year: £907.00

Training cost 1 day: £300.00

Resources: £3000.00

Cost of lesson observations and appraisal: £175.00

Cost of room set up: £200.00

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Impact:

Year 6 reading:

	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6 (Feb 2015 data)
Child A	2b	3c	3b	4c	5c
Child B	2b	2a	3c	3a	4b
Child C (SEN cognitive delay)	1b	2c	2b	2a	3c
Child D (SEN cognitive delay.)	2b	2b	2a	3c	3b
Child E	2c	2b	2a	3c	3a
Child F	1a	2b	3c	3b	4c

The average points score for these pupils from September 2014 to February 2015 is 3.66

Year 5 phonic and word knowledge assessment:

	Sept 2014 (score out of 300)	Feb 2015 (score out of 300)
Child A	147	260
Child B	208	278
Child C	204	289
Child D	197	283
Child E	185	280

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The children say:

“It taught me to read much better because I know my sounds.”

“It’s helped me spell hard words and sound out words. I use my fingers to help me.”

“It’s nice to do it. It’s helped me a lot. I’ve come along with my reading and my spelling. I can read more fluently.”

“It makes me happy cause I’ve learnt a lot. At the start I read really slowly – now I can read really fast and it’s really good.”

“It’s helped me with my reading. I was slow, now I’m much faster. I can answer questions about reading in full sentences.”

Summary:

The impact of the Fresh Start programme is clear to see with improvements across Y5 and Y6. The Y6 pupils have now completed the programme and an additional Y5 group is in place.

The programme will continue and the cycle of assessment, feedback, training and development will continue to improve outcomes for the pupils.