

# Bridgend school rises from fourth to first quartile in national literacy results using *Read Write Inc.*

## Abercerdin Primary School Bridgend, Wales

Abercerdin Primary School is in the top 11% of most deprived areas in the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation.

They received *Read Write Inc.* Phonics training in 2012: *“Every member of staff felt truly inspired, buzzing and raring to go. Training was passionate and energetic - the best school training we have ever had.”*

Within a year Abercerdin was awarded Model School status. *“Read Write Inc. is embedded from Nursery. The fast-paced, rigorous and structured lessons have a dramatic effect on the development of children’s literacy and communication skills. In a short space of time, the impact throughout the school has been phenomenal.”*

The school has closed the literacy gap between boys and girls. Reluctant writers, particularly boys, have become writing fans – *“Children adore writing now - they choose to write because they are bursting with words and not worries. The activities provide them with structure and a real reason for writing. We now see children applying their literacy skills in the role-play areas and across Foundation Phase provision.”*

Regular development days are vital to Abercerdin’s continuing success, *“Investing in termly development days ensures the*

**LA: Bridgend**

**Age Group: 3 - 11**

**Pupils on roll: 198 (2014)**

**Free school meals: 27%**

**Estyn rating: Good**

*programme is taught effectively and with fidelity.”*

*“One little boy who joined our school at the start of year 1, had very little phonic knowledge and the few words he recognised he mispronounced. He said ‘Look miss, I just haven’t learned how to read or write yet because no one would help me in my old school.’ At this point we made a ‘pinky promise’ that I would teach him not only to read and write, but to do so well. I could tell by his face that he didn’t believe me. He is now in our year 3 Read Write Inc. Literacy and Language group and has a reading age above his chronological age. Most days he pops into my class to see me and to tell me that I’m the best teacher he in the world because I taught him to read and write quickly.”*

**Helen Gentle, Headteacher & Sarah Walters, Reading Leader**

Language, literacy and communication skills - English (LCE) [Foundation Phase]	2012	2013	2014	2015
Number of pupils	23	22	20	32
Achieving outcome 5+ (%)	82.6% (Benchmark 3)	100% (Benchmark 1)	100% (Benchmark 1)	97% (Benchmark 1)
Achieving outcome 6+ (%)	8.7% (Benchmark 4)	40.9% (Benchmark 1)	55% (Benchmark 1)	56% (Benchmark 1)

*Abercerdin’s LCE results after beginning Read Write Inc. Phonics in 2012.*