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We spoke to Nishita Patel, Literacy Leader, and Jo Beckwith, Assistant Head of School, about the impact of *Read Write Inc.*

“We are a big school and our children have very diverse needs, ranging from SLD to MLD. We knew we needed a programme that was consistent but that could also be tailored to each child. Our children make leaps and bounds in communication – *Read Write Inc.* has a large part to play in this.

“Our Consultant Trainer works with us to tailor the programme to our specific needs and to meet the challenges our children face. Our frequent Development Days mean we are always fine-tuning and updating our lessons and developing as practitioners.

“We are keen on visual prompts and adapted the images to be more accessible to our children. Some of our children only learn in one-to-one sessions, some in one-to-two, and others in small groups. These are simple adaptations, but they make the difference and fundamentally, we are still a *Read Write Inc.* school.

“The children absolutely love the programme. We’ve seen amazing progress across the school. The structure and routine that the programme gives to them is very valuable. It gives each child confidence that they can learn to read and sets them up to be successful. Every lesson is pitched at the correct level so it isn’t scary or frustrating for them anymore. For children who would have previously not accessed phonic learning, this has really made a difference. We’ve also noticed fantastic progress in children’s behaviour, not just in *Read Write Inc.* lessons themselves.

“We hold regular workshops for parents to enable them to engage with *Read Write Inc.* so that they can continue the work begun at school, at home. We’ve had lovely feedback from them.

School Name: **Pentland Field School**

Location: **Ickenham, Middlesex**

School Type: **Special School**

Pupils on roll: **137**

Age range: **4 - 19**

Often they say that their children are reading at home for the first time.

“The biggest impact we have seen is with our non-verbal children, who previously couldn’t access literacy. Thanks to *Read Write Inc.*, we have seen that the knowledge and understanding of our non-verbal children is greater than we knew. These children have an even bigger potential than we had realised. For the children, this is life-changing.”

Parent comments

“I’ve seen such a difference in my child’s communication.”

“My child loves telling me about what sounds they learn each week.”

“I can now share a book with my child.”

