

Case Study

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.