

Broadford Primary School: TES School of the Year, TES Primary School of the Year and Read Write Inc. Model School

The leadership of Malcolm Drakes (Executive Headteacher) and Lois Nicholls (Headteacher) has transformed Broadford Primary School and created an environment of continuing professional development, so children have the best opportunities regardless of their background, special need or language status. We spoke to Lois about the school.

“When Ofsted graded our school ‘Outstanding’ they were interested in our teaching, which is rooted in the Ruth Miskin Training and *Read Write Inc.* principles. We leave no child behind and aim to get every child reading by 6.

“Read Write Inc. Phonics and the training have a massive impact – reading underpins all other learning and access to the curriculum. All our staff are trained even if they aren’t teaching *Read Write Inc.* groups.

“We’ve had a dedicated Reading Leader from the beginning. Commitment and dedication are key. Every day counts –



School Name: **Broadford Primary School**

Location: **Romford, Havering**

EAL: **20.4%**

Free school meals: **58%**

Pupils on roll: **504**

Age range: **3 - 11**

we never miss a day of phonics lessons. We use the behaviour management and learning styles (e.g. silent stop signals and Turn-To-Your-Partner) throughout the school so children get used to the routines and expectations.

“The children make extraordinary progress and so do the staff. Continuing professional development (CPD) for staff is at the heart of our success. You can’t expect excellent results without excellent teachers who feel valued by the leadership team.

“We have a culture of CPD in the school – everyone is used to observing and being observed. We never judge or grade; we are constructive and aim to help each other be the best teachers we can be.

“Teachers really value their weekly practice sessions and face-to-face coaching. They are fantastic teachers, but the next lesson can always be better.

“With Read Write Inc. Phonics training, TAs can be expert reading teachers and lead phonics lessons. We had a new TA start at the beginning of 2017 and she is already teaching the programme confidently and

with fidelity. We are proud of our two TAs who have gone on to teacher training college. Two more are going next year.

“Read Write Inc. is crucial in supporting our staff because it cuts down their workload.

Structure and techniques become habits, all the planning is done and just needs tweaking for each lesson and class.

“On Development Days, our Consultant Trainer visits school to provide a different set of eyes – to evaluate and advise.

It's valuable to have guidance from an outside expert. She has also fostered links for us with other schools so we can share and observe excellent practice in other challenging contexts.

“As we grow the school, our biggest challenge is organising small groups in limited space with more children. I have no doubt we will be able to work through it with our Consultant Trainer.

“We were delighted that the TES picked us as School of the Year. The judges cited our ethos as integral to the decision: every day counts for continuing improvement and delivering an enriched curriculum.

“Children who come from families where there is no culture of reading are at a particular disadvantage. We employ a Reading Champion to develop a love of reading. She runs book clubs – we have a ‘Harry Potter’ Book Club for pupil premium children. They read the books together

and are offered immersive experiences like ‘Hogwarts’ house competitions and quizzes. We are taking them on the ‘Harry Potter’ Studio Tour this term. A Year 6 book club read ‘Hamlet’ and went to see ‘The Lion King’ in the West End. Back at school they had discussions comparing the two.

“These experiences encourage the children to develop and use additional skills. We have managed to maintain this ethos as we expanded from 1.5- to 3-form entry. The TES judges picked up on our commitment to an enriched curriculum.

“We believe in working with our parents and providing them with opportunities to learn alongside their children. We welcome the parents into school for Reading Afternoons – an opportunity for the parents to spend time with their children in a learning context, which feeds positively into home life.

“Our demographic is changing. As we expand, more EAL pupils are joining. They easily fit into the *Read Write Inc.* programme and learn rapidly, especially with extra one-to-one tutoring to help them keep up. One girl joined with a few words of English learnt from films. She made a year's progress in half a term.”

Broadford Primary School is a Read Write Inc. Model School. Call 01708 342880 to arrange a visit to see Phonics in action.

Year	National PSC Average	School PSC Average	Pupil Premium
2014	74%	85%	68%
2015	77%	85%	83%
2016	81%	87%	84%
2017	81%	88%	89%