

Case Study

Children at Newark school become ‘fluent readers and confident writers’ using *Read Write Inc. Phonics*

Tuxford Primary Academy Newark, Nottinghamshire

What made you choose *Read Write Inc. Phonics* and how would you describe the training you received?

In September 2013 we had a high number of children struggling to read, which was affecting their confidence and ability to achieve. We had no consistent system for phonics, so didn't know who needed help, what help was needed or how we could help them. We also needed to motivate children to enjoy reading again. We had heard about the success of *Read Write Inc.* in other schools and it seemed the obvious solution to our problem. Training was fun and engaging and taught us how to teach the programme in a fun and lively way. It also gave us lots of important behaviour strategies to use across school.

How has the role of the reading leader had an impact on teaching and pupil progress?

The reading leader carries out regular assessment, identifying children who need to move on and those needing more support. Most importantly, the reading leader is a constant source of support and guidance to the reading teachers.

How has one-to-one tutoring had an impact on your PSC results?

Regular, consistent assessment allows the reading leader to see which children are on track to pass their phonics screening check and those needing one-to-one tuition. The reading leader tailors the tuition to individual needs and this has helped many to pass the check.

Have you had positive reactions from parents and pupils?

Parents and children have responded positively to *Read Write Inc. Phonics*. We keep parents up to date with the sounds and spellings their children are learning, and tailor the homework spelling activity around this. We also give parents the speed sounds cards to use at home with their children.

Children are passionate about *Read Write Inc.* because they are always successful. The books are

LA: **Nottinghamshire**

Age Group: **2 - 11**

Pupils on roll: **299**

Free school meals: **12%**

EAL pupils: **11**

Ofsted rating: **Good**

written to match the sounds that the children know, and they enjoy the lively stories and illustrations. One child said: *'I like reading these books the best because I like the characters and I know I can use my speed sounds'*.

Children have the tools to be independent writers. One child said: *'I can use my fred talk to help me write all on my own!'*

What would you say to other schools considering adopting *Read Write Inc. Phonics*?

Our children are now fluent readers and confident writers. Key Stage 2 teachers no longer need to plug gaps, as children arrive with solid foundations. Children have also become more creative with their writing, as they can now express their imaginations on paper. The training has up-skilled our staff and our teaching strategies. We use many of the *Read Write Inc.* approaches in other lessons. The children enjoy the consistent use of pace, praise and participation.

Year	Nottinghamshire LA PSC Average	Tuxford Primary PSC Average
2013	67%	59%
2014	71%	85%
2015	74%	86%
2016	77%	85%
2017	79%	86%

Tuxford PSC results vs. Nottinghamshire LA PSC Average