

An Estyn Double Excellent dual stream school - 42% of children with additional learning needs

We spoke to the leadership at Parcyrhun County Primary School about...

Their *Read Write Inc.* Phonics journey

We scrutinised our data and children's work and identified a need to improve reading and writing. One of the biggest gaps was in phonic teaching. We found out about *Read Write Inc.* Phonics through Carmarthenshire LEA who subsidised initial training.

The 2-day training filled our teachers and teaching assistants with confidence and enthusiasm. We came away knowing the programme would provide progression and consistency in literacy across the school.

We gave *Read Write Inc.* Phonics high priority – within 2 terms we saw significant improvement. The children were very enthusiastic because they could see their own reading successes. Once they had the tools, their writing improved.

Estyn paid tribute to our pupils 'excellent literacy... skills' from 'a very early age' (2016).

Continuing Professional Learning Opportunities

We make sure all our staff are trained. The consistency and quality of the training is excellent and it has been vital to the continued success of our pupils. Our termly Development Days are tailored to the specific needs of our school, keeping our teachers up-to-date with the latest research

"In the Foundation Phase pupils...apply their literacy skills very effectively. This is a notable strength...Most pupils' oracy skills in the Foundation Phase are very good [and they] have a very good understanding of different writing styles."

Estyn, Dec 2016

School Name: **Parcyrhun County Primary School**

Town: **Ammanford**

Age group: **3-11**

Pupils on roll: **196**

Free school meals: **25%**

Additional learning needs: **42%**

Pupils at specialist hearing impairment unit: **12**

Estyn rating: **Double Excellent**

and techniques. Our Consultant Trainer's coaching and guidance improves teaching, which gives our children better opportunities.

The Reading Leader

Our Reading Leader has had specific Reading Leader training so she can provide daily observation and coaching to our staff. Rhianwen analyses data to see where we need to provide one-to-one tuition to help students keep up.

Adopting *Read Write Inc.* for a Welsh stream

Parcyrhun County Primary School is a dual stream school – Welsh and English. We teach *Read Write Inc.* Phonics to our Welsh stream of students from Year 3.

What would you say to a school unsure about how to improve their children's reading and writing?

Teach the programme with fidelity and give it high priority in your school. Take advantage of the continuing professional learning opportunities offered. Development Days are crucial and the Schools Portal provides bite-sized coaching videos.

Do this and your pupils will learn to read, their confidence will grow and their results will improve.

Parcyrhun County Primary School is a *Read Write Inc.* Model School – come and see them teach. Call 01269 593 398 to book a visit.