

Secondary pupils make accelerated progress in reading with Read Write Inc. Fresh Start

The Oxford Academy Oxford, UK

The Oxford Academy began teaching the Read Write Inc. Fresh Start programme in September 2014 after staff attended training. Since then the pupil progress has been dramatic.

“We chose Fresh Start because our previous intervention programme wasn’t working. We also needed a programme that could cater for our large numbers.”

Summary of Year 7 enrolled pupils (September 2014):

- 66% reading below chronological age
- 43% reading below 9 years 6 months.

	After 8 weeks	After 9 months
Average reading age increase	14 months	29 months

“Not only has Fresh Start raised their reading age and ability to access lessons, but it has opened up so many opportunities that will change their lives.

“The attendance to these sessions is significantly higher than the previous literacy booster sessions and that’s because we are now running the correct programme. The children can see the benefits of the lessons. It has been set up with the support of the whole school.



LA: Oxford

Age Group: 11 - 19

Free school meals: 54.2% (2014)

SEN pupils on programme: 22%

“We follow the Fresh Start programme with fidelity and are supported by a consultant trainer along the way, ensuring every student receives the teaching they deserve.”

Following their most recent visit in December 2014, Ofsted noted that the school’s weakest readers were making rapid progress. They reported that this was due to the teachers and teaching assistants having a better knowledge of how to teach letters and sounds.