

“Our staff have weekly training, coaching and support to enable every child to reach their full potential.”

Danni Cooke, trust-wide Early Reading and Phonics Lead

In 2021, LAPSW schools, located in Devon, Torbay and Cornwall, signed up to a coordinated trust approach using Read Write Inc. (RWI) as its core literacy programme to teach children to read.

Consistency across the trust

The teaching of reading is a high priority in our schools. Regardless of background or need, every child experiences success. Working with the Ruth Miskin Training (RMT) trainers, we develop confident teams of expert reading teachers. We share key information, storybooks and links to virtual classroom films to ensure parents are on board.

High-quality teaching, expert tutoring

We use half-termly assessments and tracking to monitor children’s progress. Any child at risk of falling behind age-related expectations, receives daily tutoring by a trained member of staff. Our persistent focus on the lowest 20% and most disadvantaged children has significantly reduced the number who require intervention. Some 94% of Reception children across the trust met or exceeded age-related expectations in 2022.

In schools that joined the trust two years ago or more, 88% of Year 1 children passed the phonic screening check (PSC) in 2022. Based on our current Reception data, we expect next year’s result to be even higher.

Fluent, confident readers

As flagged in the Reading Framework (DfE, 2021), success in the PSC is only the first step. We want to ensure all children are confident, enthusiastic and fluent readers who can access our ambitious curriculum. This trust-wide expectation drives our school improvement. Learning to read is at the forefront of all strategic decisions within our schools.



Grouping according to progress, success for every child

After the half-term assessments, reading leaders analyse the data and regroup children according to progress. Teaching is rigorously focused on the needs of each group and no time is wasted. Children are taught at the right challenge level and read well-matched storybooks. Progress is speedy; reading teachers flag to the reading leader any child needing help to keep up with the rest of the group.

The RMT trust lead and I additionally scrutinise data of all trust schools every half-term in preparation for reading leader meetings. These meetings help guarantee consistent, high-quality teaching in every RWI lesson.