Why Closing the Word Gap Matters

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**Word Gap:** limited vocabulary to the extent that it affects a child’s learning

**PRIMARY**

- 49% of Year 1 pupils affected by word gap.
- 69% of primary teachers reported an increase in pupils affected by word gap compared to previous years.
- 95% of teachers say comprehension, reading, and writing will be affected.

**SECONDARY**

- 43% of Year 7 pupils affected by word gap.
- 60% of secondary teachers reported an increase in pupils affected by word gap compared to previous years.

Word gap holds back progress across the curriculum:
- 91% English
- 86% Geography
- 90% History
- 78% Religious Studies

**LIFE CHANCES**

- 4 out of 5 teachers say pupils affected by word gap will struggle to understand national test papers and get worse results.
- 80% of teachers report lower self-esteem.
- 82% of secondary school teachers report pupils are less likely to stay in education.

Join the conversation, read the full report.