Stenhouse Primary School

School Profile

Head Teacher: Mrs Marlene Galashan
City: Edinburgh
LA: City of Edinburgh Council
Pupils on roll: 276
Catchment: Inner city
Free School Meals: 40%
English as an Additional Language: N/A

How long have Stenhouse Primary School been using Read Write Inc. Fresh Start?

Read Write Inc. Fresh Start was introduced as part of the City of Edinburgh Education Department initiative for Positive Action Schools in the city. Stenhouse Primary School have been using Read Write Inc. Fresh Start since January 2012. They had training before implementation which they found gave staff the ‘confidence to run the programme’.

How easy did they find the programme to implement?

The school found the programme ‘straightforward’ to implement. The Support for Learning (SFL) Teacher commented: ‘The resources are comprehensive – they are timesaving for teachers and are definitely supportive. Everything needed to teach the programme has been included.’

What has been the trend of improvement since using Read Write Inc. Fresh Start?

The SFL Teacher said: ‘There has been definite improvement in reading levels. We assess after 6 months, but progress in reading was evident after 1-2 months. The children are more willing to read and enjoy the variety and interest level of the texts. Comprehension levels have been really good, with the children using appropriate parts of the text to answer correctly. The children are more confident because they are able to work out more by themselves – they sense themselves as ‘better’ readers. They have been more confident to write, with the support of the writing activity, writing frames and lots of preparation including choices of vocabulary. They see a difference in their final texts.’

What do pupils think of Read Write Inc. Fresh Start?

The SFL Teacher said: ‘The pupils like the programme, they enjoy the different activities, like the texts and are motivated by the success they experience.’

What do they think are the strengths of Read Write Inc. Fresh Start?

The SFL Teacher felt that the strengths of Read Write Inc. Fresh Start is ‘the fact that everything is linked – phonics, the texts to read and texts to write. The children can note these links and learn more effectively.’

What would Stenhouse Primary School say to other schools?

The SFL Teacher said that Read Write Inc. Fresh Start has been ‘very positive and motivating for staff and children as benefits and progress are evident.’ She also felt that ‘it’s a good resources for Scottish ‘Positive Action Schools’.”

Find out more at: www.oxfordprimary.co.uk