

**READING RECOVERY  
IN  
TOWER HAMLETS**

# Background

- ▣ In 2005, approximately 35,000 children in England – six per cent of all 11-year-olds - were leaving primary school with the reading age of a seven-year-old.

# Why Reading Recovery?

- ▣ As a result of that data, the government, through collaboration with KPMG and Institute of Education, rolled out a programme of literacy support across the country.
- ▣ Reading Recovery is one of the most successful programmes to support the educational attainment of disadvantaged children.

- ▣ Reading Recovery focuses on improving the literacy skills of the poorest performing five and six year-olds.
- ▣ It provides skilled, specialist one-to-one teaching for the lowest achieving children, who receive a **daily, 30-minute lesson from a specialist 'Reading Recovery' teacher for a period of up to 20 weeks.**

- ▣ The Reading Recovery teacher also contributes to the whole school by sharing good practice with teaching and support staff, their specialist expertise in literacy development, common barriers to literacy learning and effective pedagogy.
- ▣ The three-year pilot demonstrated teaching to 23,126 children and showed remarkable results for the children.

# Impact of Reading Recovery in Tower Hamlets

A **21-month** average gain in reading age after 40 hours of individual teaching. (Children start the programme with a reading age of 4years and 10month and leave with a reading age of 6years and 7months on average).

**In 2013-14, 88 per cent** of children returned to age-related expectations.

- ▣ In 2013-14 academic year, 2,724 children achieved L4+ in reading(89%).
- ▣ 36 of these pupils received Reading Recovery (1.3%)
- ▣ In writing, 2,601 children achieved L4+(85%), of which 31 received Reading Recovery (1.2%)

# Implications of not having Early Interventions

- ▣ The KPMG foundation also commissioned further research to evaluate the long-term costs of literacy. The research showed that literacy difficulties are linked to costly **special educational needs provision, truancy, exclusion from school, reduced employment opportunities, increased health risk and involvement with the criminal justice system.**
- ▣ Long term benefits of Reading Recovery per child would amount to **£18,400.**

# Challenges of delivering effective interventions

## ▣ Funding

- Teachers salaries: (0.6) working with 8 children. A teacher with six years experience will cost around £35,000.
- Estimated cost per pupil is £2,500
- Initial and ongoing CPD for staff
- Resources e.g assessment materials, reading books
- Costs of Multi-agency working e.g EP, SLT

## ▣ Early Identification esp from Early Years

Assessments-standardised agreed assessment e.g can a school use an external EP service which is acceptable by the SEND panel?

- ▣ Parental engagement

- Difficulties for parents and carers who struggle with their literacy

- ▣ Capacity to deliver lesson after children have been identified as needing additional support
- ▣ Space for delivery of lessons
- ▣ Consistency of delivery (Ring fenced)
- ▣ Transference of skills into other areas of learning
- ▣ Primary to secondary transition (Communication)

# Final Thoughts

- ▣ Schools want to ensure that all children succeed but schools need adequate resources to do this.

## References

- ▣ **Reviewing the Impact of Reading Recovery/Every Child a Reader in Tower Hamlets: Tracking Cohort 1 from Year 1 to Year 6 (2006-2012)**

Questions????