Essex Educational Psychology Service

Improving lives: using psychology to create positive change



Precision Teaching



Purpose of intervention:

To develop fluency/automaticity of key skills, improve memory

retention, and increase motivation and confidence.

Can be used for e.g. letter sound/word reading or spelling, maths

facts, learning foreign language vocabulary.

Training suitable for: SENCO plus LSAs and teachers.

Age of pupils: Foundation Stage/KS1/KS2/KS3/KS4.

Frequency and duration:

Need daily timetabled sessions for pupils and LSAs to meet to

carry out PT for 10 minutes per pupil. Minimum of 12 weeks recommended.

Examples of research-based outcomes:

Used internationally as an effective intervention, for decades.

- Roberts & Hampton (2008): mean word reading score increased by 28 for PT group over 6 weeks, compared to 1.3 for control group.
- Intervention group learnt key maths skills over 3 times quicker than peer control group receiving usual classroom teaching over a 12 week period. Pupil confidence and enjoyment of maths also increased (Chiesa & Robertson, 2000).

Other information: Training consists of 2 parts:

Part A – training on the intervention and how to deliver it

Part B – training on embedding and monitoring the intervention

"I know words quicker and don't have to break them down so much."

"I could tell by looking at the chart that I'd got better."

~ Essex pupils

"Incredible progress"

"Her reading age went up from 6 to 14 years over the term"

~ Essex SENCOs