

Motivating maths lessons help pupils catch up



Number of schools: 6

Number of pupils: 60+

Region/ geography: Richmond, Caerphilly and Worcestershire

Study length: 4-6 months

Research premise: Rapid Maths can help your pupils to progress by more than double the expected rate. Three trials were carried out in different parts of the country, asking schools to select groups of pupils who were struggling with maths. In all cases, the pupils were tested at the beginning and end of the trial to measure their progress. The trials included schools with a wide range of intakes.

Key points to take away

- Rapid Maths **helps children struggling with maths to make progress.**
- Varied math activities plus software and games help **engage reluctant learners.**
- Online access **helps parents support their children** at home.
- Gives children **personalised support in the fundamentals of numeracy.**

The twelve pupils from School A made an **average gain of 17.25 months** in their numerical age over a five-month period (using the programme in two 30-40 minute sessions per week) and four of the pupils made more than 20 months progress.

The eight pupils from School B made an **average of 5.6 months progress** over the five months, with one child gaining 21 months in numerical age.

Overall the average across both schools (20 pupils) was **12.7 months gain** in numerical age.

Richmond trial

Pupils at Meadlands Primary in Richmond used Rapid Maths three times per week over a period of four months. The sessions were led by the SENCO and each session lasted 45-60 minutes. They used the Rapid Maths printed materials and software. The pupils were all struggling in maths and were a mixed-aged group from Years 4, 5 and 6.

Over the four-month period, pupils made an **average gain of 34 months** in their numerical age, with **one pupil making 47 months progress.** Pupils were tested at the beginning and end of the trial using Hodder's *Numeracy Progress Tests*.

Caerphilly trial

Rapid Maths was trialled in two Caerphilly primary schools with very different settings. School A is a medium-sized primary school with an intake from an economically advantaged area, with no pupils eligible for free school meals at the time of the trial. School B was from an area of high socio-economic deprivation, with 56.6% of pupils eligible for free school meals. A group of pupils from Years 5 and 6 were selected to take part in the trial.



Worcestershire trial

25 pupils from three different primary schools in Worcestershire used Rapid Maths over a five-month period. They were tested at the beginning and end of the five months. Overall, they made an **average gain of 18.1 months** in their numerical age in this period. **One pupil gained an amazing 63 months** in numerical age!



The outcome – great progress for struggling learners

Location of trial	Length of trial/expected gain	Average gain in numerical age	Actual gain vs. expected gain
Richmond	4 months	34 months	8.5 times
Caerphilly	6 months	12.7 months	2.1 times
Worcestershire	5 months	18.1 months	3.6 times



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