

Case Study

Evaluation of School 21's Oracy Improvement Pilot



AlphaPlus provides full service design and development for learning and accreditation programmes, from professional standards and competency frameworks, to learning resources, delivery support and professional assessment and certification.

We pride ourselves on a simple and straightforward approach to consulting projects. Part of this is a strong on-site presence, working side-by-side with our clients to understand their requirements and deliver outstanding outcomes.

Background

AlphaPlus were commissioned by the Education Endowment Fund (EEF) to undertake an evaluation of School 21's oracy improvement programme pilot.

The Voice 21 Oracy Improvement Programme supports schools to develop pupils' use of speech to express their thoughts and communicate effectively. The aim of the programme was to improve student's oracy skills with the expectation that this will improve wider academic outcomes.

About the Evaluation

The pilot and the evaluation aimed to establish evidence to support:

- the theory of change
- the feasibility
- the readiness for trial

of the School 21 oracy model and 'package' in a range of different schools.

These three aims were measured in a number of ways:

- Oracy assessment pre- and post-

- intervention attainment outcomes
- Interview data
- Pilot school teacher perceptions of change in pupils' overall attainment – progress in different subjects (interview data)
- Pilot school oracy lead perception questionnaire
- Demographic and attainment data
- Oracy lead questionnaire
- Analysis of oracy assessment 'reliability' and conditions required for widespread use
- Analysis of 'reliability' of oracy assessment tool
- Analysis of most appropriate area(s) of the curriculum to detect a gain in attainment

The findings were presented in the final report on the pilot and were used to help to inform EEF's decision about whether or not to go to trial, i.e. to undertake a full impact study.

The Project final report is available here:

https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Projects/Evaluation_Reports/Voice_21.pdf



Name: AlphaPlus Consultancy Ltd

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Manchester, UK with major operations in GCC.

Industry:
Specialist Education Consulting

Products & Services:
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PROJECT OVERVIEW

Challenge: To evaluate School 21's oracy improvement programme pilot on behalf of the EEF

Aim: To establish evidence to support:

- the theory of change
- the feasibility
- the readiness for trial of the School 21 oracy model and 'package' in a range of different schools.

Result: AlphaPlus delivered a successful high-stakes evaluation of an important innovative project

Turning Education & Skills Policy into Practice