



Intervention programmes

Brannel School run a series of literacy intervention programmes which are tailored to the individual needs of our students and are designed to ensure that all students are able to access the curriculum and achieve everything they wish to. Intervention includes but is not limited to:

Fresh Start Phonics

Fresh Start is a systematic synthetic phonics programme for struggling readers. Pupils are taught at their challenge point, so they learn to read accurately and fluently in just 25 minutes a day.

Fresh Start is for students who:

- are not yet reading age appropriately
- have missed schooling or are late arrivals into school
- Need additional support with phonics learning

Every day, pupils learn new letter-sounds and review previous sounds and words. They apply what they've been taught by reading words containing the sounds they know in lively, age-appropriate stories and non-fiction texts closely matched to their phonic knowledge. By the end of the programme, they are able to read these accurately and fluently.

Our students are taught in small progress groups of four for 25 minutes each day. This means they learn at their 'challenge' level for over two hours a week. The duration depends on each pupil's starting place. Some pupils might need only a few weeks' tutoring; others may need two or three terms.

Paired Reading

With our paired reading strategy, students read to members of staff in order to improve their reading fluency and build confidence. This method involves the student reading aloud while the member of staff listens and provides support as needed. Paired reading can be used with any book, with students reading by sentence, paragraph, page or chapter.

The purpose of paired reading is to build confidence and encourage cooperation and builds relationships between staff and students. The paired nature of the intervention can reduce anxiety and build confidence.

Reading with a partner makes the reading experience more engaging and interactive. Students are actively involved in the reading process.

Sparx Reader

Sparx Reader is a reading, comprehension and vocabulary programme that gets all young people reading regularly to help improve their literacy and motivates them to read for pleasure.

Identified students take a test and then they choose a book according to their level. Sparx Reader will regularly check their understanding of the story throughout the book by asking question based on comprehension of the text they are reading. Students are rewarded Sparx Reader Points by reading carefully and over time, their literacy and reading abilities will improve.

Students always have a choice in what they read. The e-book library has modern fiction books from many publishers as well as classic stories. Once pupils reach the gold level, they have autonomy over the text they choose; they can add their own books from home too.

Tasks are personalised based on each student's reading ability so that every student can be successful with their reading. The books that a student can choose from are carefully chosen so that the text is accessible yet suitably challenging.

Teachers monitor progress closely and focus on those that need intervention and support.