

Initiatives

- The school implements a number of programmes designed to reduce difficulties in literacy and numeracy by intervening early.
- Two of our literacy programmes are:



Reading Recovery



- Reading Recovery is a learning support programme designed by Dr. Marie Clay in New Zealand in the 1970s to reduce literacy difficulties in schools.
- It is an early intervention for children who are experiencing literacy difficulties at around six years of age.
- It helps children develop effective literacy strategies to be able to work at the average level of their classmates.

How does it work?



- Children work individually with a specially trained teacher for 30-minute lessons daily for a period of between 12 and 20 weeks.
- As soon as one child leaves the programme, another one enters and takes the place of the first child.
- Between the two Reading Recovery teachers in the school, we can cater for up to 12 children per year.

A Reading Recovery Lesson

1. Reading familiar books.



3. Learning how to compose and write messages.



2. Learning about how letters and words work.



4. Reading a new book.



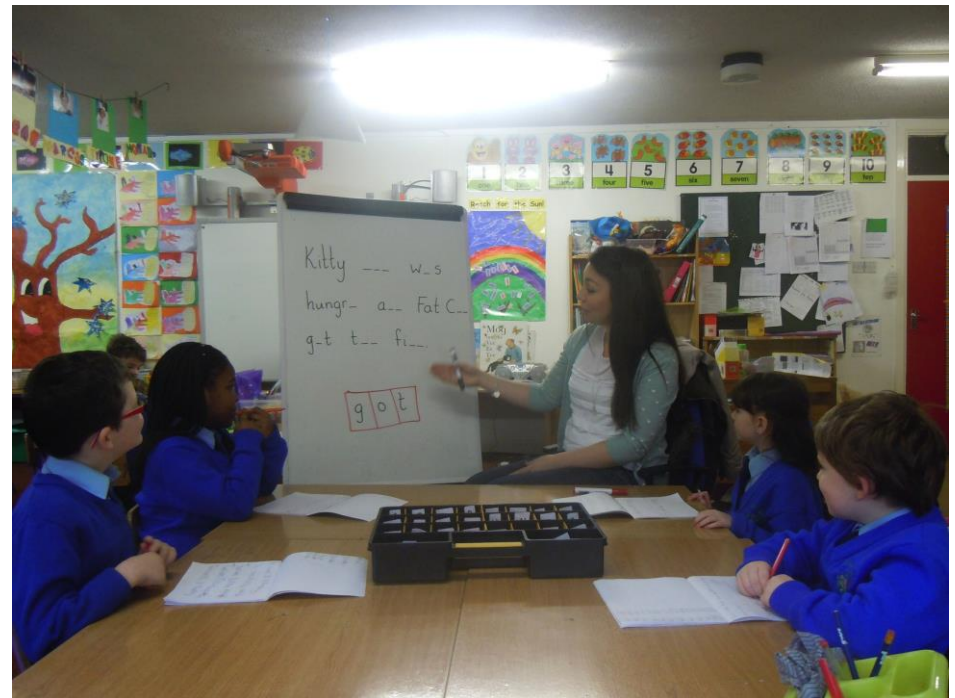
A Successful Intervention

- 93% of children finish the programme at or above the average level for their class and require no further learning support.
- We wanted to build on this success in order for more children and their teachers to benefit from Reading Recovery methodologies.
- We looked at how the programme could be adapted for use in the classroom.



Power Hour

- 3 learning support teachers team-teach in Senior Infants with the class teacher.
- Each teacher operates a station based on the Reading Recovery model.
- Children work in small ability groups and spend ten minutes at each station.
- Monday-Thursday.



Power Hour

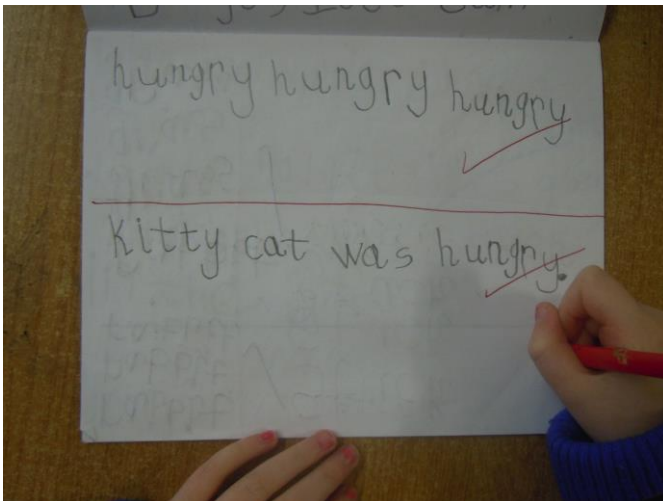
Familiar Reading



Letter & Word Work



Writing



New Reading



[Video](#)

Outcome

- Power Hour has been a very successful intervention in our school and pupil progress in literacy has improved significantly.
- In the course of the year, your child will read over 100 books and will bring one home each evening to read for homework.



Helping at home

- Important to listen to your child reading every day. Read the book for Mammy, Daddy, Granny, The Dog, The Cat, etc.
- Also important to read to your child and let them see you enjoying reading. Bedtime stories, trips to the library in Tallaght/Ballyroan, etc.

