



Case Study

Accelerating Progress and Closing the Gap

Westfields Junior School

Westfields Junior School, an outstanding school, renowned for inclusion, have won the NAACE Impact Inclusion Award for using IRIS Connect to inform their use of the Sutton Trust Toolkit strategies.

A one-year intervention programme informed by IRIS Connect, resulted in **disadvantaged pupils making unprecedented progress** and **narrowing the gap** between pupils eligible for Pupil Premium and those not eligible, in one year-group.

The Westfield Approach

The use of IRIS Connect at Westfields Junior School, Hampshire, can be seen as three distinct layers of support and intervention.

Together these have provided a sophisticated and powerful strategy for identifying learning behaviours and improving outcomes for all children.

Whole Class

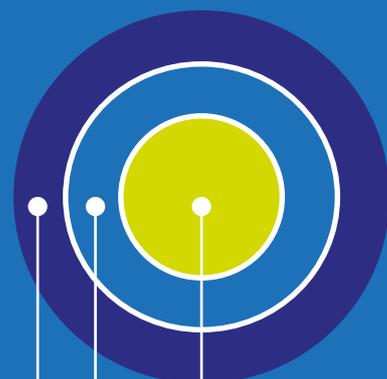
Teachers at Westfields use IRIS Connect to enhance their Quality First Teaching approach by reflecting more deliberately on specific elements of their lessons, both privately and with peers; contextualising coaching conversations; and identifying learning behaviours of particular pupils.

As a result staff are more confident and are working more collaboratively to improve student learning. Teachers are so keen to use IRIS Connect that it's regularly booked out for 80% of the school timetable.



IRIS Connect has enabled us to accelerate the impact of already powerful learning interventions and has resulted in **unprecedented progress** for our previously 'stuck and stalled' learners.

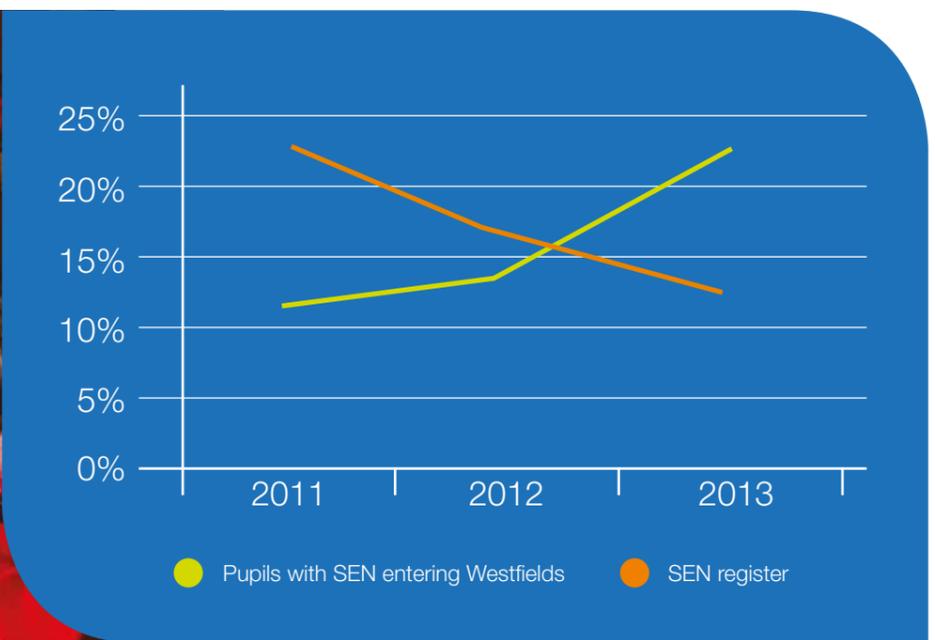
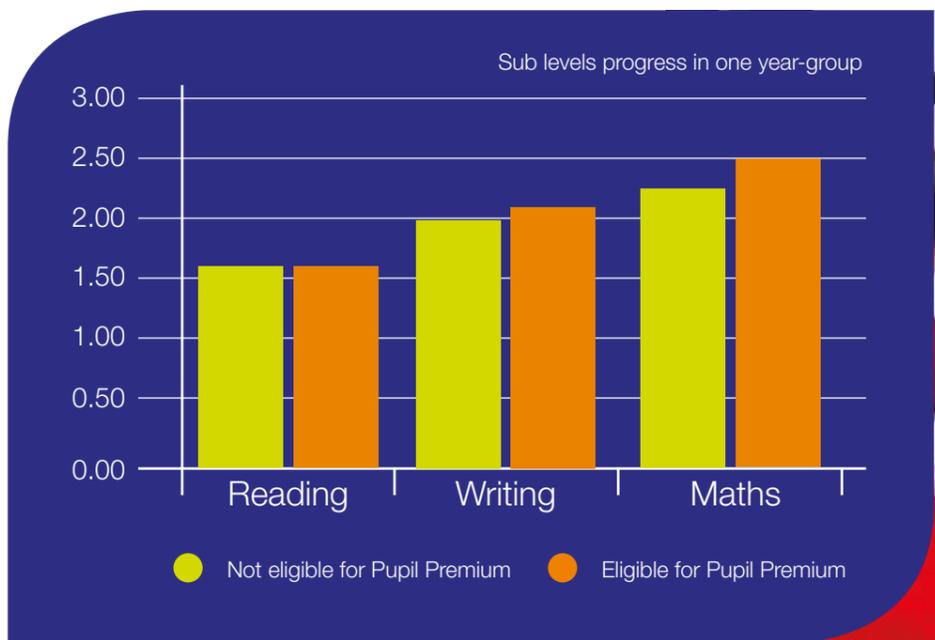
Debbie Jones,
Inclusion Manager



'Stuck and Stalled' Pupils

Pupil Premium & Other Vulnerable Groups

Whole Class



Pupil Premium and **Vulnerable Groups**

Having identified students who require additional support to achieve good progress, teachers use IRIS Connect to enhance already powerful Wave Three interventions from the Sutton Trust Toolkit.

These interventions include Effective Feedback, One-to-One Tuition, Nurture Groups and use of digital technology. Using IRIS Connect to pinpoint and better understand student needs more accurately allows teachers to place them into the most appropriate programme.

Impact on **Pupil Premium**

Interventions informed by IRIS Connect for children eligible for Pupil Premium in one year-group led to:

- Greater average progress in Writing and Maths for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium than those not eligible
- No gap in average progress in reading

Impact on **SEN provision**

Whilst the number of pupils with SEN entering Westfields is growing, the overall number of students on the SEN register is falling. This is as a result of targeted analysis using IRIS Connect leading to powerful and personalised interventions, closing the gap in progress and attainment.



It is crucial that schools are clear about which technology they purchase to support the specific educational purpose they wish to achieve. It is only in this way that it will be used productively and have a real impact on learning.

Karine George,
Headteacher



At Westfields, we try to do whatever it takes to close the gap in children's progress. IRIS Connect is invaluable in helping us determine why the gap is there in the first place and how to personalise interventions to close it in the most effective way.

Debbie Jones,
Inclusion Manager



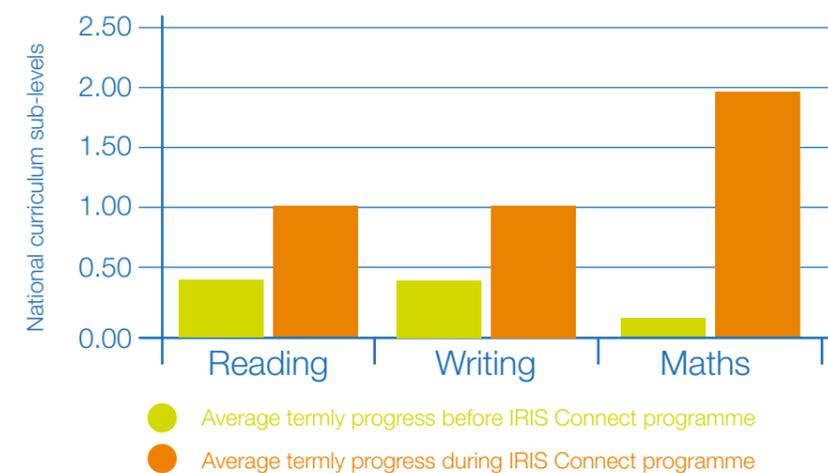
Stuck and Stalled **Pupils**

For those pupils who, despite interventions, are still not making good progress, teachers use IRIS Connect to carry out in-depth analysis of learning behaviour and barriers to learning, through a staged programme of collaborative IRIS Connect observations. This leads to highly personalised, powerful interventions for specific pupils and has resulted in rapid improvements to progress.

Impact on **Stuck and Stalled Pupils**

Interventions driven by IRIS Connect led to significant improvements in progress of pupils who had persistently failed to make progress, despite provision of Wave 3 interventions.

A typical example of progress seen as a result of IRIS Connect informed interventions led to a marked improvement in the child's confidence, self-esteem and engagement in class, and a significant increase in progress. One example:



“

It's not possible to concentrate fully on one child whilst teaching a whole class, so using IRIS Connect to look back over my lessons, focusing on just one pupil, meant that I could **personalise his learning** to a much greater degree and in much finer detail.

”

Teacher

“

I enjoy lessons much more, because my teacher gives me extra help and explains things to me so I understand what the lesson is all about and what I need to do. I love Maths now.

”

Pupil



Next Steps

Debbie Jones explained that “The evidence contained within this report is based on small groups at Westfields Junior School. As a school, we are now trying to expand our evidence base”.

IRIS Connect and Westfields Junior School are working together to continue research into the impact of IRIS Connect on accelerating progress of disadvantaged and vulnerable pupils.

Other Research

Research by Professor Christina Preston, University of Bedfordshire looked at the impact of using IRIS Connect for developing communities of practice, efficacy and collaborative CPD. The research found that:

- 99% of teachers using IRIS Connect are taking more responsibility for their own CPD;
- 94% feel that there has been a positive impact on their teaching;
- 96% are more willing to try new practices;
- 63% feel their Ofsted grade has improved.

Read the summary report: www.irisconnect.co.uk/research

“This innovative video tool should be included in school based professional development programmes wherever and whenever possible.” Professor Christina Preston

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