

Programme Objectives

- Using high-quality staff and high ratios the Let Me Play programme aims to provide an intensive intervention for students and provide individual reports on each pupil.
- To deliver a vibrant engaging programme which motivates and enthuses students.
- To engage beyond the student and with families by inviting parents to sample the school and the array of activities.
- The programme provides a very structured approach to confidence and self-esteem building to instill belief in what each young person can achieve.
- Through lessons specifically designed by education specialists to assess numeracy and literacy at Key Stage 3 and to identify gaps.

Judging by the results from the questionnaire and watching and talking to students, it seems clear to me that there was a definite impact on self-esteem during the sessions. The nature of the small group work meant that students were able to excel in certain tasks and be recognised for that within their groups. Students such as Eleanor and Anwar were able to feel good about themselves when they achieved things that others didn't. Really fostering this 'can-do' attitude and building students' confidence by setting them up for success along with positive feedback and praise, was essential for these students. The better they felt about accomplishing tasks, the more motivated they became

A key element to the programme is assessing the students self-esteem and working towards building their confidence both academically and personally. All of the students grew in confidence as the sessions progressed.

Students overall attainment is judged on all elements of the programme: including improvement in English, behaviour, attendance, punctuality and overall attitude to the programme, their school and their peers.

All of the students willingly engaged in lessons and despite the range of abilities, all of them were able to show some progress in certain areas. Many benefitted from small group and 1:1 work. Jade and Anwar are both amazing readers and were always really keen to lead the class reading. Many of the students preferred reading to each other in small groups and pairs rather than out loud, and as their confidence grew they were reading louder and with more expression. In Maths, the low adult to child ratio enabled us to tailor the learning to the range of gaps in the students' knowledge. Several students and their parents informed us of recent successes in school tests while they had been taking part in the programme.

All of the students seemed to enjoy their time here and many said they were sad the sessions were coming to an end; that they had enjoyed themselves and made good friends. As Jade left, she turned to me and said 'Can we do this every week? I don't want it to end.' Which was incredibly touching and lovely to hear that she had enjoyed the time so much. There appeared to be this level of satisfaction across the board with no students being obstructive on arrival to sessions but arriving with an open mind and positive attitude. They all seemed genuinely really happy to be there! The group certainly gelled well together with everyone getting involved in activities to varying degrees and even some of the members who appeared shy were showing a massive increase in confidence by week 6. It was a thoroughly enjoyable time and a pleasure getting to know the students as individuals and lovely to watch them grow in confidence as well as starting to grasp literacy and numeracy concepts that they had struggled with before. The small group environment suited them all very well with 1:1 help available for deeper explanation. Many of them enjoyed the class reader *The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole* and many were reading ahead in between sessions or looking forward to taking the book home with them to read.

The tasks that they particularly enjoyed were discussing vocabulary and writing stories. Many had a really vivid imagination such as Anwar, Eleanor and Pawel. They seemed really keen to have their work read aloud to the class and seemed very proud when other class members praised their ideas and used them as inspiration for their own work. This sharing of ideas was invaluable for these students as they were visibly growing in confidence in each session. They were able to overcome their shyness and freely share ideas and peer mentor and it was fantastic to see.

100% of students attended every week and 100% has made significant progress in their recent assessments.

In Literacy 100% have made a whole grade improvement with 42 % making 2 grade improvements.

In Numeracy 100% have made a whole grade improvement with 25% making 2 grade improvements.

Kelly Sharp
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