



Switch-on Reading

20 mins
5 x week over 2 terms

Switch-On reading is an intensive 10 or 12 week intervention delivered by staff, most commonly teaching assistants, who have been trained in the approach.

Its purpose is to improve pupils' reading accuracy, comprehension and fluency, and so close the reading achievement gap for vulnerable children working below age-expected levels. It has also been shown to benefit spelling. Pupils attend daily 20-minute reading sessions over the course of two terms, on a withdrawal basis.

What happens during a Switch-on session?

During the session the child reads two familiar books – stories that they have read before which they can read independently. The adult praises the good things they do and teaches them new skills and strategies. Next, they will read a book they have seen once before – the adult observes the reading and records how the story is read so they know what to teach next. Finally, the child will be introduced to a new book and will read it with support.



Why use Switch-on reading?

Switch on has been evaluated by the Education Endowment Foundation and key points noted were: "Pupils with low attainment prior to the intervention showed particularly positive results, making five additional months progress on average. Pupils eligible for free school meals and pupils identified as having special educational needs made four additional months progress on average. As such, this evaluation suggests that Switch-on can be an effective intervention for weak and disadvantaged readers."