

Success Story

Sacred Heart RC Primary School

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Following Ofsted recommendations to focus on the teaching of mathematics to the more able students, **Sacred Heart RC Primary School** started using Renaissance Learning's™ **Accelerated Maths Live™ (AM Live)**¹ program to initiate an after school project with the help of parent volunteers. With the aim of raising standards of achievement at the school, the group meets four times a week and has been christened the “Whizz Kids Club” by students.

Mr Aelred Whelan, Head Teacher at the school, comments: *“This is one of a range of initiatives here at Sacred Heart, which are making a real impact on standards. With the Whizz Kids Clubs and AM Live, we have taken a very good idea and turned it into a real focus of teamwork between staff, parents and students to raise standards. One of the most important features for the students is the immediate feedback they receive on how well they have done on a particular worksheet, and the fact that AM Live ensures that the worksheets produced are tailored to meet each student's individual learning needs in a particular area. Above all, the students love it! They are seeing success and improvement on a daily basis that has really enhanced their self-esteem. This, for me, has been the greatest success story of the project.”*

An analysis of the Year 6 performance in the Maths SATs, as well as Year 5 pupils' performance in the QCA optional tests suggests that those attending the Whizz Kids Club achieved an overall average increase of 42% compared with those classmates that didn't attend, who achieved an overall average increase of 27%.

School Background

Sacred Heart RC Primary School, Baguley, is situated approximately eight miles south of Manchester city centre, close to Wythenshawe hospital. With 240 pupils, including the Nursery - of which 44% receive Free School Meals - Sacred Heart RC Primary is a mixed, single-entry Primary school.

Renaissance Learning Success Stories

To qualify as a Success Story, a school must be able to demonstrate measurable ‘success’ with Renaissance Learning products, particularly in terms of the implementation of **Best Classroom Practices**² to motivate students of all ages and abilities, improved academic achievement and other key criteria.

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success stories
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¹ Accelerated Maths Live (AM Live) creates individualised practice assignments at each student's level, keeping them motivated and challenged. AM Live supports existing instructional materials and textbooks and makes the practice component of your curriculum more effective.

² Best Classroom Practices are research-based guiding principles for using Accelerated Maths Live to ensure fidelity of implementation.