

Welcome to your February 2017 Newsletter. We've had a jam-packed month helping both our exiting users and schools new to Lexia explore how they can make the most of the software and see great results. On the 8th, we held a fantastic Lexia Local Event at Durham County Cricket Club which was a roaring success. As anticipated, schools local to the area found it incredibly helpful to hear first-hand how Lexia has impacted literacy attainment in primary and secondary schools nearby. LexiaUK Local Events will be taking place throughout 2017 so please contact us today if you would like to nominate your area to receive a visit from us or find out if we have one already planned!

We're sure you're ready for the February half term break and we'd like to remind you of how you can keep on track with usage and progress before you leave the classroom. Check our 'Ask Customer Care' feature overleaf to make sure you're all set for returning after a well-earned week away.

This Newsletter:

- Shares examples of good practice ✓
- Celebrates success with Lexia ✓
- Ensures you are making the most of your Lexia investment ✓

Lexia's 3 best practice goals:

1. Pupils use Lexia typically 3 times a week, with each session lasting at least 20 minutes
2. Teachers monitor pupil progress each week by visiting mylexia.com
3. Pupils receive additional teacher-led Lexia Lessons

Lexia's Star User



Our Star User this month is Oasis Academy and Blakenhale Infants in Birmingham. The school have channelled their focus for an effective reading intervention into Lexia and their commitment to the Core5 Reading Skills programme has really paid off. The school have 50 licenses and are using them brilliantly having overcome any strategical challenges faced along the way. We spoke to Hayley Volz, SEND Leader and Nursey teacher, about how the school managed their successful implementation.

"As SENCo I oversee Lexia, however it is the responsibility of each class TA to ensure that the children in their class are reaching their usage target, are being given the catch-up lessons and being sent homework. We have 50 pupils on Lexia which can be a logistical challenge at times however it does work with children having the opportunity to access Lexia on iPads and laptops. Children also have the opportunity to access Lexia at home."

Hayley explains what led to the school's decision to implement the software as well as how it provides staff with a vital insight into pupil progress.

"We are affiliated with our Junior school who already had a subscription to Lexia - as one of our focuses as a school was reading, we needed an intervention that I knew worked. We bought 50 licenses with the intention of using these with SEND pupils."

"Clear progress tracking and the fact that Lexia is individual to each pupil and will work to their need, not their national curriculum year, makes Lexia stand apart and led to our decision to buy."

The feedback from pupils at the school has also been fantastic - we asked Hayley if she had noticed a big difference in their motivation levels and need to succeed...

"Definitely - children responded really well to Lexia from the start and we have seen the evidence that children's reading levels are progressing. Parents have also come to us and said how much their children enjoy Lexia. Children enjoy progressing through the levels and receiving certificates in assemblies when they go up a level."

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'It's fun; I pick lots of words.' - Ellis

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'For my reading it's good!' - Abdirahman

'It has been really good, the children love it and they really like it when it rewards them. We definitely think it has been a worthwhile intervention.' - Miss Bampton.

Hayley acknowledges that staff faced the odd challenge during implementation but with help from the expert LexiaUK team and their own impressive resourcefulness, these obstacles were quickly resolved.

"The reports came in very useful for showing progress to Ofsted, who were very impressed with the data. It has taken a couple of training sessions to get our head around using the reports, but once you understand how to use them they are very informative."

"Our main challenge has been having enough equipment to go around the 50 children who have Lexia licenses. The TAs reach their own agreements about how the resources are distributed and when. I know that children complete Lexia during assembly times and guided reading sessions."

Hayley is a fantastic advocate of the Core5 programme and accepts that the software has been an incredible intervention for the SEND pupils at Blackenhale Infants. It's great to hear that Lexia is playing such a key part of the school's literacy drive!

"As a school, we are very pleased with the impact that Lexia has had on our children's progress with their reading. I wish we could have it for every child! It has particularly helped certain children who have additional needs, who in the past have really struggled with certain computer programmes because it makes it really obvious to them that they've got the answer wrong. Lexia doesn't do that, it rephrases things that children have got wrong in order to support them, rather than giving them a negative experience."



Thank you to all staff and pupils at Oasis Academy and Blakenhale Infants for making Lexia a huge success!

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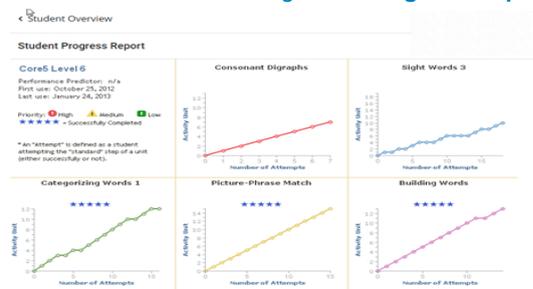
Ask Customer Care!

We've got two additions to our Customer Care team at LexiaUK meaning you now have three experts to answer your queries about anything related to the implementation of your software! Eileen and Katie have joined Rebecca to ensure you get solutions as quickly as possible and are really looking forward to greeting some of you soon. With the February break either ongoing or upcoming for our schools, we decided to concentrate on what you can track and target around the week away from school.

Q. How can I check if my students have used Lexia over half term?

A. Log on to MyLexia and select the relevant class before going into **Student Overview** and selecting **View Progress Report**. Click on any of the dots on one of the five graphs displayed which will look like this 

This will then take you to the detailed **Skills Report** which displays the date and time when each student has used the program. You can therefore use this report to analyse the usage of each pupil in detail.



Q. After half term, I plan to evaluate how far my pupils have to go before they reach their end of year target. How can I do this?

A. Go to MyLexia and select **Class Overview**. To the right, there is a **Progress** pin. Click this and it will show you the progress that your students have made so far, as well as the end of year target that they are trying to reach. You will also be able to view the number of levels they have completed and the number of levels that are still left to be completed.

Get in touch!



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The Rich/Poor Divide - Working together to close the gap



The gap in progression between affluent and less wealthy pupils has recently been highlighted in the news once again. This recurring story does not seem to be going away and it's something that needs to change.

At the root of this longstanding issue is the harsh reality that brighter pupils lacking privilege are not reaching their full potential and as a result are slipping behind their more fortunate peers. An article published in TES magazine makes comment on the issue with the headline **'Poor, bright pupils lag behind richer classmates by almost three years.'** The article notes the 'huge waste of young talent' quoted in the recently released Sutton trust Analysis, as poorer pupils have been shown to lag academically in the three pillar subjects. It has also been highlighted that the gap between rich and poor achievement is even more apparent with girls. An excerpt reads:

"The research, carried out by John Jerrim at UCL's Institute of Education, focused on attainment gaps among the 10% most able pupils, using 2015 test scores from the Programme for International Student Assessment (Pisa) run by the Organisation for International Cooperation and Development (OECD). This showed that socioeconomic gaps between high-achieving pupils aged 15 are significant throughout much of the developed world. The performance of the highest achievers in the U.K. has been 'stagnant at best' since 2006."

"Dr Jerrim said: 'While England's brightest pupils score around average in international tests – and better in science – this analysis shows that there are some very big socio-economic gaps in attainment between the brightest pupils from poor and better-off homes. There are also some very big challenges in Scotland and Wales, highlighted by the research.'"

At Lexia, we're dedicated to helping as many pupils as possible reach their potential in literacy and although these recent headlines are disheartening, we know that with the right solutions and willpower, we can eventually begin to reverse these statistics and provide every pupil with the skills they need to achieve whatever their background. Funding Lexia through the Pupil Premium grant is an option always open to schools and Lexia's intuitive technology ensures every skill set is being catered to once a pupil sets foot on their learning journey.

To read the article in full, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/h766qoy>