

Funded by



Department  
for Education

**English Hubs**  
Kernow English Hub



# Our Support Offer

## 2025-26



Find out what  
Kernow English Hub  
can do for your school!

IF YOU ARE GOING TO  
get anywhere in life  
YOU HAVE TO  
read a lot of books.

ROALD DAHL







# Introduction

Kernow English Hub (funded by the DfE) is one of 34 designated English Hubs across the country.

Our Lead School, Trenance Learning Academy in Newquay, was appointed by the Department for Education to share their expertise in teaching reading.

Our aim is to support schools to develop:

- Early Language Development
- Early Reading (Phonics)
- Reading for Pleasure





# Meet the Team



## **Pamela Waters MBE - Kernow English Hub Strategic Lead**

Pamela is an experienced teacher and leader; she has been working in Cornish primary schools since 1999. She was Head at our hub school, Trenance Learning Academy, and has led the Kernow English Hub since 2018. Pamela worked closely with the DfE as South West representative on the English Hub National Council.

Pamela has been Strategic Lead of OneCornwall Teaching School Hub West and has worked with secondary colleagues to develop professional development programmes bringing national speakers to Cornwall. Pamela has a passion for school improvement and is currently School Improvement Lead for Kernow Learning Trust. She is determined to ensure all pupils get the best start in life - it is for this work that she has recently been awarded her MBE.

## **Vanessa Morley - Co-Hub Lead (Engagement and Growth)**

Following a successful career in business working as a director of a corporate services agency, Vanessa's love of learning led her to retrain to become a primary practitioner. In this setting, she worked across key stages. Vanessa was rapidly promoted to be on the SLT and lead English and RE in a Trust school in Hertfordshire which was rated by Ofsted as 'Outstanding' across all areas in July 2022.

Despite coming from a background in English, Vanessa had found writing the most challenging area to work with. Understanding the cognitive complexities involved in this process led her to undertake a Masters' degree at the University of Oxford. She was been awarded a distinction for her research project which focused on the teaching and learning of writing.

Vanessa is passionate about all aspects of teaching and learning. She is excited to be working at the Kernow English Hub to promote best practice and enthusiasm in the delivery of outstanding reading and writing pedagogy to enable both teachers and children to feel confident and to flourish.







### **Holly Lewis - Co-Hub Lead (Partner Schools and Literacy Specialist Team Lead), Early Reading Auditor**

As a Co-Lead and a Literacy Specialist for the Kernow English Hub, Holly lives and breathes reading. From her earliest memories, books have been her place to lose herself, and they are a source which feeds her soul.

As a seasoned early years' teacher, Holly has had the privilege of nurturing young minds and sharing this love of books with hundreds, if not thousands, of children. Learning to read is hard work and Holly relishes the opportunity to introduce children to the world of words and stories - supporting them to expand their imagination.

Holly's work with the Hub allows her to partner with fellow educators, aspiring teachers and children. This collaborative approach improves the teaching of reading across our county in a supportive manner - giving everyone the best opportunity to be successful.

### **Alison Downing - Co-Hub Lead (Audits), Oracy Specialist, Early Reading Auditor**

With over 30 years of experience, Alison has taught in a range of schools, including inner city and rural schools. She has taught across the primary phases, more recently in Reception and Year 1. Before becoming one of the Co-Hub Leads for Kernow English Hub, she was Assistant Head and English Lead at Trenance Learning Academy. As Head of Year 1, she led the teaching of phonics ensuring consistent above national levels in the Phonics Screening Check.

One aspect of her role is leading the audit team. Alison is responsible for auditing a school's early language provision, identifying action points, signposting training for staff, identifying resources and funding. She also delivers Literacy Specialist days in schools who are using Read Write Inc. as their SSP.

Alison is passionate about teaching oracy and believes oracy can transform children's learning and life chances. She led oracy at Trenance, which became a Voice 21 Centre of Excellence in 2024 and is Kernow Learning's Trust Oracy Specialist. She has led oracy training, spoken at conferences and webinars. This year she is facilitator for the Reading Fluency course aimed at KS2. During the course she will support schools choosing texts, assessing fluency and share strategies for teaching automaticity, prosody and vocabulary.

Alison believes that every child deserves the best teaching and wants to train and support teachers to improve their skills so that every child can become a reader. She realises that every school is unique, and she tailors the support the school needs.



There is something  
delicious about writing the  
first words of a story  
You never quite know  
where they'll take you

BEATRIX POTTER







# Our Support

## Professional Development

Kernow English Hub offers a variety of professional development opportunities, through a range of training courses, webinars and workshops. All training opportunities are FREE of charge to all schools, funded by the DfE.

## Our Offer

We offer:

- Conference and webinars
- CPD Programmes
- Early Reading Audits
- Intensive School Support.

For our full list of FREE courses, please visit  
[www.kernowenglishhub.co.uk](http://www.kernowenglishhub.co.uk)



Scan the QR code to visit  
our events page





# Support Map





Books  
are a  
uniquely  
portable  
magic

STEPHEN KING





# Early Reading Audits

Kernow English Hub continue to offer FREE DfE funded early reading audits.

An audit will look at your school's strengths and provide your next steps in development. The audit will also determine further support for your school:

- Up to £6,000 funding (or match funding) to invest in phonics resources and training.
- Dedicated in-person support days with an experienced literacy specialist.

We also pay £100 towards the cost of time spent with us during your audit.

Please scan the QR code below to self refer and book an audit.



Scan the QR code to book  
an audit!







# Reading for Pleasure

## Transforming your School's Reading Culture (TSRC)

The TSRC programme is a sustained, research-based CPD programme aimed at Primary English Leads. During the course of the programme, participants will engage deeply with Reading for Pleasure pedagogy and leadership theory to transform their school's reading culture. Participants are expected to attend five sessions and complete gap tasks in between sessions.

Those who attend all sessions will benefit from additional funding for books.

Evidence-based Leadership CPD for Primary English Leads  
English Hub Reading for Pleasure: Transforming your School's Reading Culture (TSRC).

Intended aims of the programme:

- Understand the research underpinning Reading for Pleasure practice and pedagogy.
- Widen knowledge of children's literature and transform your whole school reading culture.
- Develop the leadership skills to initiate and sustain change.
- Become advocates for Reading for Pleasure and share experiences and best practice.

### Delegates

20 places maximum and up to 2 delegates from each school.

Delegates should include Primary English Leads.

### All five 2 hour sessions must be attended

#### Session 1: Reading for Pleasure: A Whole School Culture

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2025

1.30pm Venue: Newquay Junior Academy

#### Session 2: Creating Whole School Change

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2026

1.30pm Venue: Newquay Junior Academy

#### Session 3: Creating a Reading School: Structural Changes

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026

1.30pm Venue: Newquay Junior Academy

#### Session 4: Creating a Reading School: Behavioural Changes

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026

1.30pm Venue: Newquay Junior Academy

#### Session 5: Celebrating Impact and Sustaining Change

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2026

1.30pm Venue: Newquay Junior Academy



Scan the QR code to book  
your place!



# Early Language

## Supporting Early Language Development Programme

"Young children typically gain several new words a day, acquiring vocabulary at an 'astonishing rate'. Yet by the time they start school, some children will have heard millions more words than others. The number of words a child has heard and can speak by the age of three is a predictor of later language development, so these early vocabulary gains are critically important".

The Reading Framework, 2023



### Session 1 includes Special Guest Speaker Julie Sherrington, Author of EYFS: Language for Learning

Our five session Early Language training course is a research-based CPD programme aimed at leaders or teachers working in primary settings. Participants will have the opportunity to consider their current early language pedagogy and how this could be strengthened and sustained. Content will include typical language development, how to support pupils who are struggling with language and what schools can do to improve outcomes for all.



Scan the QR code to book your place!

### Delegates

20 places maximum and up to 2 delegates from each school.

Delegates should include Early Reading practitioners.

### All five sessions must be attended

**Session 1: What is language and how is it developed?** Special Guest Speaker Julie Sherrington

Tuesday 7th October 2025 - FULL DAY  
9am-4.30pm, St Columb Minor Academy, Newquay

**Session 2: Supporting Talk in Schools**

Tuesday 25th November 2025  
1.15-4.30pm, St Columb Minor Academy, Newquay

**Session 3: Teaching words and making them stick**

Tuesday 20th January 2026  
1.15-4.30pm, St Columb Minor Academy, Newquay

**Session 4: Identifying and supporting SLCN**

Tuesday 10th March 2026  
1.15pm-4.30pm, St Columb Minor Academy, Newquay

**Session 5: Making change: Sustaining change**

Tuesday 19th May 2026  
1.15pm-4.30pm, St Columb Minor Academy, Newquay

**Session 6: Sharing the School Improvement Journey**

Tuesday 30th June 2026  
1.15pm-4.30pm, St Columb Minor Academy, Newquay



# Reading Ambition for All

## Teaching children who need the most support including those with SEND

**School places are very limited for this programme. Please register your interest for this free programme below:**

This evidence-based approach to teaching early reading and phonics effectively to pupils not making expected progress, including those with SEND.

Core principles:

- Start with quality first teaching and the understanding that this has the biggest impact for all children.
- Promote inclusion of children with SEND in class because we know that the children with the greatest need, deserve the best teaching.
- Support schools to use effective assessment to analyse the specific needs of children not making expected progress.
- Empower schools to improve outcomes for those who need more support, whilst also maintaining fidelity to their chosen SSP.
- Develop staff confidence so everyone understands exactly how to teach every child to read.
- Signpost schools to expert organisations for further support on how to make appropriate adaptations to the classroom, teaching and resources so that all children have access to learning.



Scan the QR code to book your place!

### Delegates

20 places maximum and up to 2 delegates from each school.

Delegates should include Reading Leaders, SENDCO and SLT.

### Programme coverage

**Module 1: Guiding principles of teaching SEND in mainstream schools**

Tuesday 14th October 2025: 1.15pm-4.30pm  
St Columb Minor Academy, Newquay

**Module 2: Understanding children's needs; ensuring access to learning**

Tuesday 9th December 2025: 11.15pm-4.30pm  
St Columb Minor Academy, Newquay

**Module 3: Neurodiversity: increasing understanding and supportive strategies for teachers and pupils**

Tuesday 3rd February 2026: 1.15pm-4.30pm  
St Columb Minor Academy, Newquay

**Module 4: Adaptive teaching and appropriate adaptations to use in class**

Tuesday 31st March 2026: 1.15pm-4.30pm  
St Columb Minor Academy, Newquay

**Module 5: Leading reading: High expectations for every child; using assessment to create specific and effective support using your SSP programme**

Tuesday 28th April 2026: 1.15pm-4.30pm  
St Columb Minor Academy, Newquay

**Module 6: Supporting children with more complex disabilities**

Tuesday 23rd June 2026: 1.15pm-4.30pm  
St Columb Minor Academy, Newquay





# Reading Fluency Delivery

## Reading Fluency: The Bridge to Comprehension

"Fluent decoding allows us to understand what we read. Because the reader has gained accuracy and automaticity in word reading, the brain's resources are available to focus on lifting the meaning from the page: connecting the words and sentences, and making connections across the text."

As people gain fluency, their motivation increases: they start to enjoy reading more and are willing to do more of it."

The Reading Framework, p60

Join us and develop explicit, evidence based strategies which will improve all children's motivation to read and improve all pupils' comprehension across the curriculum.

### Delegates

20 places maximum and up to 2 delegates from each school.

Delegates should include KS2 teachers and Reading Leads.



Scan the QR code to book your place!

Venue: Sky Primary, St Austell

### Module 1: What is reading fluency?

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September: 1.30-4.30pm

- Exploration of the research
- The role of fluency in learning to read
- Myth and misconception busting
- Strategic school gap-analysis and action planning

### Module 2: Getting the text right

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October: 1.30-4.30pm

- The relationship between reading fluency and the pitch of the text
- Support with text selection for reading fluency at KS2
- Reading fluency assessment in school
- Strategic school action planning

### Module 3: Zoom in on automaticity building

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November: 1.30-4.30pm

- Defining automaticity and exploring its role in learning to read
- Key strategies for teaching automaticity at KS2
- Strategic school action planning

### Module 4: Zoom in on prosody

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2026: 1.30-4.30pm

- Defining automaticity and exploring its role in learning to read
- Key strategies for teaching prosody at KS2
- Strategic school action planning

### Module 5: Zoom in on vocabulary

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026: 1.30-4.30pm

- Using reading fluency strategies to effectively teach vocabulary
- Key strategies for teaching vocabulary at KS2
- Strategic school action planning

### Module 6: Zoom in on comprehension

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026: 1.30-4.30pm

- Exploration of the relationship between reading fluency and comprehension
- Key strategies to develop comprehension
- Strategic school action planning



The support we have received from Kernow English Hub has been fantastic. We would not be in the position we are in with our phonics without this help and support.

We have seen the impact of these strategies in the children's reading abilities, and particularly their confidence.



SCHOOL RECEIVING SUPPORT FROM  
KERNOW ENGLISH HUB

