LiteracyActionNet Awards 2014 for innovation by schools

The LiteracyActionNet Awards celebrate excellence and innovation by schools. A total of £2,000 prize money is being offered to the winning projects and initiatives. Entries are invited from all schools in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Entries should demonstrate successful approaches in any one of or combination of the following categories:

1. Supporting children with dyslexia and other specific learning difficulties
2. Working with parents and families
3. Supporting children and young people through school transitions
4. Motivation, creativity and love of reading and writing
5. Teacher development and training to enhance literacy outcomes.

Entries will be judged based on criteria including:

1. **Originality** – the distinctiveness and memorability of the project idea
2. **Replicability** – how others could be inspired by and run similar projects themselves
3. **Reach** - the number of pupils involved in the project
4. **Diversity** - of pupils engaged, particularly those who have challenging needs
5. **Impact** – of the project (demonstrated qualitatively or quantitatively)

**Timetable**

- Deadline for entries – **Friday, 1st August 2014**
- Shortlist announced – **Friday, 12th September 2014**
- Winners announced – **October 2014**.

**Rules and procedures**

1. Entries must be completed using the LiteracyActionNet entry form and sent electronically via the ‘Submit entry form’ link on the [Awards page](#).
2. Receipt of all entries submitted online will be automatically acknowledged.
3. Entrants may be asked to provide further information.
4. The judges’ decision is final. Awards will be made at the judges’ discretion and no correspondence will be entered into concerning any decision. Not all the awards advertised may
be awarded if the judges consider the criteria have not been met. Additional commendations may be made at the judges’ discretion.

5. The content of any entry may be used for informing other practitioners and also for publicity purposes unless the entrant withholds their consent to this in writing.

6. Entrants are deemed to have accepted these rules and procedures and to have agreed to be bound by them when entering this competition.

Your Entry

Please do not exceed 1500 words in total.

1. Name of the project you are entering for LiteracyActionNet Awards 2014 for innovation by schools

   Accelerated Reader @ Eastlands Primary School – the use of online technology to support the progress and attainment of reading.

2. Award category or categories you are entering

   2. Working with parents and families
   4. Motivation, creativity and love of reading and writing.
   5. Teacher development and training to enhance literacy outcomes.

3. Describe your project in one sentence

   Accelerated Reader is a powerful tool for monitoring and managing independent reading practice that motivates students of all ages and abilities to read for pleasure, and enables teachers to work in partnership with parents to support and diagnose reading problems accurately and rapidly to ensure a successful, enjoyable reading experience at home and school.

4. Tell us about your school community

   Eastlands Primary School is smaller than the average-sized primary school. There are approximately 210 pupils on role. There is one class in each of the six year groups and there is a Reception class. The proportion of disabled pupils and those who have special educational needs supported through school action is well below the national average. The proportion supported at school action plus or with a statement of special educational needs is below average. The proportion of pupils eligible for the pupil premium (which provides funding for children in local authority care, those pupils known to be eligible for free school meals and children from forces families) is lower than the national
average. The school meets the government’s current floor standards, which set the minimum expectations for attainment and progress.

5. **What are the project’s objectives?**

The project objectives:
- To ensure procedures are in place to develop the role of teachers so that they play a more effective role in monitoring pupils’ progress in reading outside of the classroom.

6. **What are the project’s activities?**

The Accelerated Reader Programme project implemented used an online toolkit for reading. The toolkit required teachers to work in partnership with children and parents to promote independent reading at home and at school to support attainment and progress of pupils in reading.

Project activities included:
- Web based training for the admin staff and the school implementation specialist.
- Book audit and collation of all books in school onto Junior Librarian system.
- Reorganise school library to accommodate all books that can be used with the online toolkit.
- External and internal professional development for class teachers.
- Baseline assessment of children using the online toolkit.
- Children reading books in line with their zone of proximal development.
- Teachers developing provision – leading learning in their classroom - to support the new reading methodology.
- Reading @ EPS an information evening for parents.
- Phased monitoring and evaluation programme to ensure that engagement in programme is meeting the needs of all pupils and parents.
- Termly assessments of pupil progress and attainment.
- Liaison with parents at class level and implementation specialist level.
- Weekly whole school competition to celebrate AR achievement.

7. **What has been the impact / achievement of the project?**

In December 2013 43% of children were achieving 85% on their reading practice quizzes.
In April 2014 74% of children are achieving 85% on their reading practice quizzes.
In July 2014 86.5% of children are achieving 85% on their reading practice quizzes.

(An average of 85 percent indicates the student is reading within a good learning zone.)
8. How is your project evaluated?

The Accelerated Reader Project action plan was teamed with an ‘Ofsted’ style monitoring and evaluation schedule. Monitoring included:

- Daily Accelerated Reading sessions planning
- Accelerated Reading reading log
- Pupils achieving 85% or more on reading practice quizzes.
- Appraisal of pupil performance data
- Learning walks
- Pupil questionnaires
- Parent liaison and feedback to class teachers and implementation specialist.
- Self evaluation

A review in summer 2014 based on a triangulation of all monitoring data, shows that teaching is consistently good and around a third is outstanding. Monitoring also indicates that pupil progress and attainment is ‘good’ as all classes are working at 85% or more on reading practice quizzes.

9. How would you spend the prize money to develop the project?

The prize money would be used to purchase reading books to continue to build on the variety of texts that we can expose children to to read. These books would address the gaps in different ranges and to increase the number of books we have in our library for higher ability readers.

Instructions for entry submission

1. Save the entry form to to a location of your choice.

2. Once you have completed the form, click on the 'Submit entry form' link at the top of the Awards page. You will then be taken to the 'How to Return your entry form' page. You will be asked to provide the name of your school and a one sentence summary of your project. To upload your entry form, press the 'Choose file' link in the third field.

3. After the three fields have been filled out, click ‘Submit this entry now’. You will then receive an email confirming that we have received your entry.

4. You can send over any supporting materials separately. Please email them to: awards@lemosandcrane.co.uk. Please put the name of your school in the email subject line.
5. Please submit your entry no later than Friday, 1st August 2014.

6. If you have problems uploading your entry or would like to add documents, photos, videos or other media that are relevant to your entry, please email them to awards@lemosandcrane.co.uk quoting 'LiteracyActionNet Awards' and your school name in the subject heading.