

Kanwal Public School
- A dynamic, caring, learning community



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John

Re: Lexia Learning Systems

At present we have 27 students in a formal in school trial of the Lexia Learning Systems program plus a number of students using the program in classes in not such a formal trial but never the less fully engaged in the program.

Recently a Year 1 teacher (ex Reading Recovery) started using the program in the early childhood years and is very impressed with the phonemic awareness component. We will be including another group of 9 Year 2 students (why nine- computer availability is the limiting factor) next term in the formal trial.

To-date we are impressed. While the trial has only been implemented for 8 week some of the reading gains made by students that present us with our greatest challenges are exceptional. The engagement of students in productive learning is outstanding. Actual assessment of on-task behaviour is in excess of 90% for all students. This is very significant considering the challenges many of these students present previously. Of particular significance is the engagement of our Aboriginal students in the program. While it is early days we think the Lexia program could be a vital strategy in achieving our targets for Aboriginal literacy.

While our formal assessment of the program is still some way off all indications to date are that we will be able to lift the standard of literacy in our school considerably using Lexia as part of our reading program.

The Cross Trainer aspect of the program is developing increased interest with staff and as yet we are only scratching at the surface of its potential. It is very exciting.

Parents who have seen the program in action have the highest regard for its implementation at our school. Today we had a parent contact us to thank us for what we had done for her son. He actually can now read and has gained a huge amount of self confidence. The Lexia program was a significant aspect of his success.

I have heard that DEST may be conducting a trial of the program. I mentioned the possibility to staff and the reaction was very positive. If this eventuates please put Kanwal Public School's name forward. Our community would embrace the opportunity to be further involved with the Lexia program.

John we are looking forward to working with you in the future to ensure we get the Lexia program implemented in our school.

Tom Wilson

Principal
29/6/06