

MORE THAN A THIRD OF SUFFOLK'S SCHOOLS TO BENEFIT FROM NEW FUNDING PARTNERSHIP

More than a third of Suffolk's publicly funded schools have been awarded funding through a new £600,000 partnership between Suffolk County Council's Raising the Bar programme and the nationally renowned Education Endowment Foundation (EEF). The partnership aims to boost the attainment of pupils by bringing the best education research to the county.

Suffolk schools were invited to bid for money from the Challenge Fund to use for projects that have been evaluated by the EEF and have shown promise in raising educational attainment elsewhere in the country.

The additional cash will enable the successful schools to implement different programmes covering mathematics, reading and writing, and science. Some focus on developing effective teaching strategies, while others are aimed at students who are at risk of not reaching their potential by providing focused additional support.

Suffolk schools responded positively to the opportunity and a total of more than 120 schools have been offered funding, to train a total of more than 600 school staff.

Tracy McKenzie, Headteacher at Britannia Primary School in Ipswich, said; "I am delighted to receive £2,137.50 funding from the Challenge Fund towards implementing the Philosophy for Children Programme.

"I have been passionate about Philosophy for Children for a number of years. More recently, I have read the EEF research that evidences the impact it has on children's educational, personal and social development, particularly for disadvantaged pupils, so I was thrilled to hear that Suffolk County Council, through the Raising the Bar Programme were working with the EEF to jointly fund this programme for interested schools.

"This funding provides 50% of the costs of the first year of the programme, helping us to launch it across the school through 2 days of training for our 25 teachers and ongoing support throughout the year from our P4C trainer, benefitting all 675 pupils at Britannia Primary School, from Nursery through to Year 6."

Lorna Rourke and April Grimes, Joint Headteachers of Forest and Elveden Academy, said; "We are delighted to have been given the opportunity to participate in IPEEL and Accelerated Reader as part of the Challenge fund and to receive £1,085 and £998 respectively. Elveden Academy will be participating in the IPEEL project whilst Forest Academy will embark on Accelerated Reader. We will be using the funding to really drive improvement in Literacy across both schools. 126 students and our whole teaching team will benefit as a result. We are really excited to see the results."

Cllr Gordon Jones, County Council Cabinet Member for Education & Skills said; "The goal of our Raising the Bar programme is to ensure every child in Suffolk can reach their full potential. Real progress is being made to achieve this and by working with the Education Endowment Foundation we have capitalised on its experience of effective approaches to provide an easy route of access to some of the best educational programmes available."

Sir Kevan Collins, Chief Executive of the EEF said; "We know that using evidence to inform teaching can help schools spend their money more effectively and make a real difference to attainment. I'm delighted that our new partnership with Suffolk County Council is allowing local schools to adopt programmes that have already been shown to get results. We hope

that the new fund will help to create a lasting legacy of evidence-based practice in schools across Suffolk.”

Over the last two years, almost £600,000 has already been invested in helping schools improve education in Suffolk by funding interventions and approaches put forward and developed by schools. The new fund will support more disciplined innovation, where schools are financially incentivised to implement evidence-based programmes and interventions.

Ends

Notes for Editors

To talk to some of the headteachers who are benefitting from this funding, you may wish to contact:

- Tracey McKenzie, Britannia Primary and Nursery School, Ipswich, Tel. 01473 728566
- Trish Toal, Sandlings Primary School, Woodbridge, Tel. 01394 420444
- April Grimes / Lorna Rourke, Elveden Church of England Primary Academy, Tel. 01842 890258
- Annie Hookway, Holbrook Primary School, Tel. 01473 328225
- Andy Samways, Suffolk Borders Teaching Alliance, Tel. 01787 314315

A full list of schools offered funding can be found below.

Education Endowment Foundation contact:

Hilary Cornwell, Media and Communications Officer, Tel 020 7802 1676

The Education Endowment Foundation

The Education Endowment Foundation is a charity set up in 2011 by The Sutton Trust, as lead charity in partnership with Impetus Trust (now part of Impetus - The Private Equity Foundation), with a £125m founding grant from the Department for Education. It is dedicated to breaking the link between family income and educational achievement. Since its launch the EEF has awarded £75.4 million to 127 projects working with over 750,000 pupils in over 7,500 schools across England.

The Challenge Fund initiative contributes to the achievement of Raising the Bar programme priorities regarding:

- Effective and timely school improvement
- Strong school to school support
- Developing aspirations with families, communities and businesses
- Leadership and Governance

The programmes available to schools under the fund are:

- Catch Up Numeracy: One-to-one intervention that breaks numeracy down into 10 components, tests children’s ability on each, and targets the exact area of need.
- Catch Up Literacy: One-to-one reading intervention developing word recognition processes and language comprehension processes.
- IPEELL – The Writing Project: Improving writing using a structured approach and memorable experiences.
- Philosophy for Children: Weekly teacher-facilitated, pupil-led, dialogues enquiring into jointly developed philosophical questions.

- Accelerated Reader: A web-based programme that measures and accelerates reading growth, motivates children to read more, and identifies skills gaps
- Fresh Start: A phonics-based literacy programme for older children who are not yet reading at the age-appropriate level.
- Mathematical Reasoning: Developing logical principles underlying mathematics, through teacher training, teaching materials and computer games
- Switch On: 10 week reading and writing intervention, delivered by trained TAs, targeting underachieving, vulnerable pupils.
- Thinking, Doing and Talking Science: Training teachers to make science lessons more practical, creative and challenging.

The following schools have been offered funding (ordered by Suffolk County Council's Education & Learning localities):

Central & South Suffolk

- Acton C of E VCP School, Sudbury
- Barnham C of E VCP School, Thetford
- Bildeston Primary School
- Boxford C of E VCP School
- Brooklands Primary School, Brantham
- Chapel St Mary C of E VCP School
- Chelmondiston C of E VCP School
- Chilton Primary School, Stowmarket
- Combs Ford Primary School, Stowmarket
- Copdock Primary School
- Elmswell Community Primary School
- Freeman Community Primary School, Stowupland
- Fressingfield C of E VCP School
- Hadleigh Community Primary School
- Hampden House PRU, Great Cornard
- Helmingham Community Primary School
- Hintlesham and Chattisham C of E VCP School
- Holbrook Primary School, Holbrook
- Hopton C of E VCP School
- Hoxne Primary School - Waveney Valley Partnership Federation
- Ixworth C of E VCP School
- Kersey C of E VCP School
- Lavenham Community Primary School
- Long Melford C of E VCP School
- Mendham Primary School - Waveney Valley Partnership Federation
- Norton C of E VCP School, Bury St Edmunds
- Occold Primary School
- Ormiston Sudbury Academy, Sudbury
- Pot Kiln Primary School, Sudbury
- Rougham C of E VCP School, Bury St Edmunds
- St Mary's C of E P School, Hadleigh
- Stonham Aspal C of E VAP School
- Stowupland High School
- Tattingstone C of E VCP School
- Tudor C of E Primary School, Sudbury
- Walsham-le-Willows C of E VCP School, Bury St Edmunds
- Wetheringsett C of E VCP School, Wetheringsett

- Whatfield C of E VCP School
- Woodhall Community Primary School, Sudbury

Suffolk Coastal and North Ipswich

- Britannia Primary and Nursery School, Ipswich
- Charsfield C of E VCP School
- Clifford Road Primary School, Ipswich
- Colneis Junior School, Felixstowe
- Farlingaye High School, Woodbridge
- Hollesley Primary School
- Ipswich Academy, Ipswich
- Kesgrave High School
- Martlesham Primary Academy
- Middleton Community Primary School
- Morland C of E VAP School, Ipswich
- Peasehall Primary School
- Ravenswood Community Primary School, Ipswich
- Rose Hill Primary School, Ipswich
- Rushmere Hall Primary School, Ipswich
- Sandlings Primary School, Woodbridge
- Saxmundham Free School
- Sir Robert Hitcham's C of E VAP School, Framlingham
- St Margaret's C of E VAP School, Ipswich
- St Mary's C of E P School, Woodbridge
- St Mary's C of E VCP School, Benhall
- Trimley St Mary Primary School
- Yoxford Primary School

South & West Ipswich

- Castle Hill Primary School, Ipswich
- Claydon Primary School
- Halifax Primary School, Ipswich
- Handford Hall Primary School, Ipswich
- Henley Primary School
- Springfield Junior School, Ipswich
- Sproughton C of E Primary School
- St Matthew's C of E VAP School, Ipswich
- The Oaks Primary School, Ipswich
- The Willows Primary School, Ipswich
- Whitehouse Community Primary School, Ipswich

Waveney including Lowestoft

- Beccles Free School
- Blundeston C of E VCP School
- Bramfield C of E VCP School, Halesworth
- Brampton C of E VCP School, Beccles
- Bungay Primary School
- Carlton Colville Primary School, Lowestoft
- East Point Academy, Lowestoft
- Edgar Sewter Community Primary School, Halesworth
- Gunton Primary Academy, Lowestoft

- Harbour PRU, Lowestoft
- Holton St Peter Community Primary School
- Ilketshall St Lawrence School, Beccles
- Kessingland Church of England Primary Academy
- Meadow Community Primary School, Lowestoft
- Northfield St Nicholas Primary Academy, Lowestoft
- Pakefield School, Lowestoft
- Ringsfield C of E VCP School, Beccles
- Roman Hill Primary School, Lowestoft
- Sir John Leman High School, Beccles
- St Margaret's Primary Academy, Lowestoft
- Wenhaston Primary School

West Suffolk

- All Saints C of E VAP School, Newmarket
- All Saints C of E VCP School, Lawshall
- Burton End Primary Academy, Haverhill
- Castle Manor Academy, Haverhill
- Churchill Special Free School, Haverhill
- Clare Community Primary School
- Cockfield C of E VCP School, Bury St Edmunds
- Coupals Primary Academy, Haverhill
- Elveden Church of England Primary Academy, Elveden
- Forest Academy, Brandon
- Glemsford Primary Academy
- Great Heath Primary School, Mildenhall
- Great Whelnetham C of E VCP School
- Hardwick Primary School, Bury St Edmunds
- Hundon Community Primary School, Sudbury
- Kedington Primary Academy
- King Edward VI School, Bury St Edmunds
- Laureate Community Primary School, Newmarket
- Newmarket Academy
- Paddocks Primary School, Newmarket
- Stanton Community Primary School
- Sybil Ward Academy, Bury St Edmunds
- The Glade Community Primary School, Brandon
- Thurlow C of E VCP School, Haverhill
- Wells Hall Community Primary School, Sudbury
- West Row Community Primary School, Mildenhall
- Westfield Primary Academy, Haverhill
- Westgate Community Primary School, Bury St Edmunds
- Wickhambrook Community Primary School