

## **Castlehead Paired Reading Club**

### **Student Evaluations (S6)**

Paired Reading for me was very rewarding. Having a partner with dyslexia made it slightly more challenging because I had to try and make my first year buddy understand just where he had gone wrong. Building a relationship with my partner was good because it provides them with a link to a member of the senior school and hopefully he could come to me, if he needed to, without embarrassment. It gives me a great sense of achievement to know that I have improved a person's reading ability just by listening to them twice a week.

Jennifer

The Paired Reading Club was an important part of my fifth year. I was able to help my partner improve his reading and progress both socially and academically by offering encouragement and guidance. I felt as though I had managed to accomplish something worthwhile and I was proud that I had helped him build confidence and self-belief and even formed a relationship with my partner. I realised that a lot can be achieved with just a little effort and was proud of both my partner's and my own achievements.

Jayne

My partner required help with reading even the most basic of sentences. We built up a good relationship by me praising her when she showed improvement after my previous advice. I felt a sense of achievement as my partner really benefited from my help. I became more aware of people less fortunate than myself through my paired reading experience.

Craig

The Paired Reading partnership is something which I thoroughly enjoyed. I felt a great sense of achievement when a visible change was observed in my partner's reading skills over time. The vulnerable nature of my partner and lack of confidence, not only in reading but in social skills, made initial progress slow. I learned that constant support and praise was the best way to keep my partner interested and enthusiastic. I saw a difference in myself as a person as I grew to be more patient and supportive of my partner. This helped us to build a friendship and, consequently, a more comfortable atmosphere to read and learn in.

Richard

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### **Student Evaluations continued**

I feel that I have achieved the trust from younger people whom I built a bond with. I was able to become more patient with the children which helped my partner to feel more confident and at ease.

I benefited greatly from my experience because I gained an awareness of how many people who have genuine difficulty with reading can be so determined to improve their skills. I also feel that I spent my time doing something useful and something I enjoyed.

Donna

Being part of The Paired Reading Club has been a very valuable and memorable experience for me and hopefully my partner. I found it very satisfying to be able to help and encourage my partner to improve their reading skills. Not only that but also to build up a friendship and understanding with my partner. I believe this was important before being able to address my partner's reading difficulties. At first it was difficult to gain her trust, but when I did it was very rewarding. Paired Reading gave me a great sense of achievement; I learned and evolved more as a person. Working with children with academic difficulties enabled me to improve my sensitivity, patience and diplomacy.

Emma