

## The Unique Power of Direct Instruction

Children who have statements and IEPs for ADHD, Aspergers, ASD, DYS, EBD and MLD find learning very much easier with Direct Instruction programmes. The reasons are simple:

- These programmes impact on both cognitive and affective dimensions of the individual.
- They have a consistent teaching language; the format of each lesson is almost the same and the learning increments are small. This predictable, familiar scenario for each lesson means the students approach lessons positively because they know what will be required of them ...
- ... and they will be successful in their answers first time almost all the time because tasks are organised for a 'first time right' response (via teacher modelling). This is hugely encouraging, success is continually replicated and confidence soars. Praise occurs frequently and every student in the group knows that they are doing well.
- Direct Instruction provides continuous assessment to ensure that the lesson content is taught, that what is taught is practised, and what is practised is applied until it is mastered.
- Since lessons are briskly paced and the class group answers every question in unison, the students have almost limitless opportunities to answer correctly. For some students this is a very novel experience! However, if they make a mistake a simple correction procedure is brought into place for the group to respond to, without individual students being identified.
- Progress is visible in each lesson and the improvement in learning is often well beyond expectations.

Children with phonic, psychological or emotional impediments to learning find in Direct Instruction a methodology that enables them to succeed at every stage. As one teacher says "It works! It's the only programme that does!"