

Report on Trio Work Spring Term 2 April 2013

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### **The Aim**

The aim of our Trio work was to explore the *elements* of expertise; to ascertain what these were by looking at common threads through the 3 key stages.

### **What went well**

It was really good to manage the sessions within one term. Even though there were difficulties with fixing dates, we easily managed to achieve the challenges we set ourselves within the term.

In order to include all the parts of each session into a morning, we found we needed to work over lunchtime, but we all felt this was worthwhile in order to introduce and review a good quality lesson.

### **Impact on my teaching**

- 1) Reinforcing the underlying priority of teaching and learning; that there has to be an element of 'excitement', whether this is direct, such as the use of computers with Garage Band or 'playing' with water in science, or whether it is the involvement of pupils in their own challenges and successes which give them meaningful rewards.
- 2) Having a better understanding the progression of skills from KS1 -3 has impacted on my subject knowledge for music, ICT and science.
- 3) Preparing and delivering an adventurous, hands-off lesson for my colleagues to see 'independence at its best' has given me more confidence in trialling different styles of learning session. Also it gave me the opportunity to step back and watch my pupils learn!
- 4) Reinforcing the belief that children need to see how their learning can progress, with step-by-step progression such as success criteria, learning walls, learning journey outlines. These were a focal point in all our lessons.

### **Sharing with colleagues**

Three out of four of the teachers in our school were involved in the project (including the headteacher who was co-running the trio work) so the other teacher on our staff has been kept informed! Our enthusiasm for the benefits of Trio work and the impact of what we have learned have formed part of several staff meetings at our school.

## **Teaching School Alliance**

This project has given me a much better insight into the benefits of working with teachers from other schools. One of the most rewarding aspects of Trio work for me has been the opportunity to talk to other teachers from different schools as a valued member of our profession. It is very easy to become comfortable in our own schools; we develop our own shared language, based on our different routines and experiences. This 'coming together' from different schools opens up those systems and discussions so that it is possible to identify the underlying principles that guide what we all do, giving us a more productive opportunity to review the common goal; to teach children to learn.

## **Trio work in the future**

Whereas training courses are often useful and specific to 'need', Trio work is much more far-reaching in terms of what every member of each team can gain. Although the 'threatening' element of sharing your teaching is minimised by the friendliness of the situation, Trio work is undoubtedly challenging. However, through challenging ourselves as teachers and taking ourselves out of our comfort, much greater benefits can be achieved. I would definitely recommend this process and look forward to the next round!