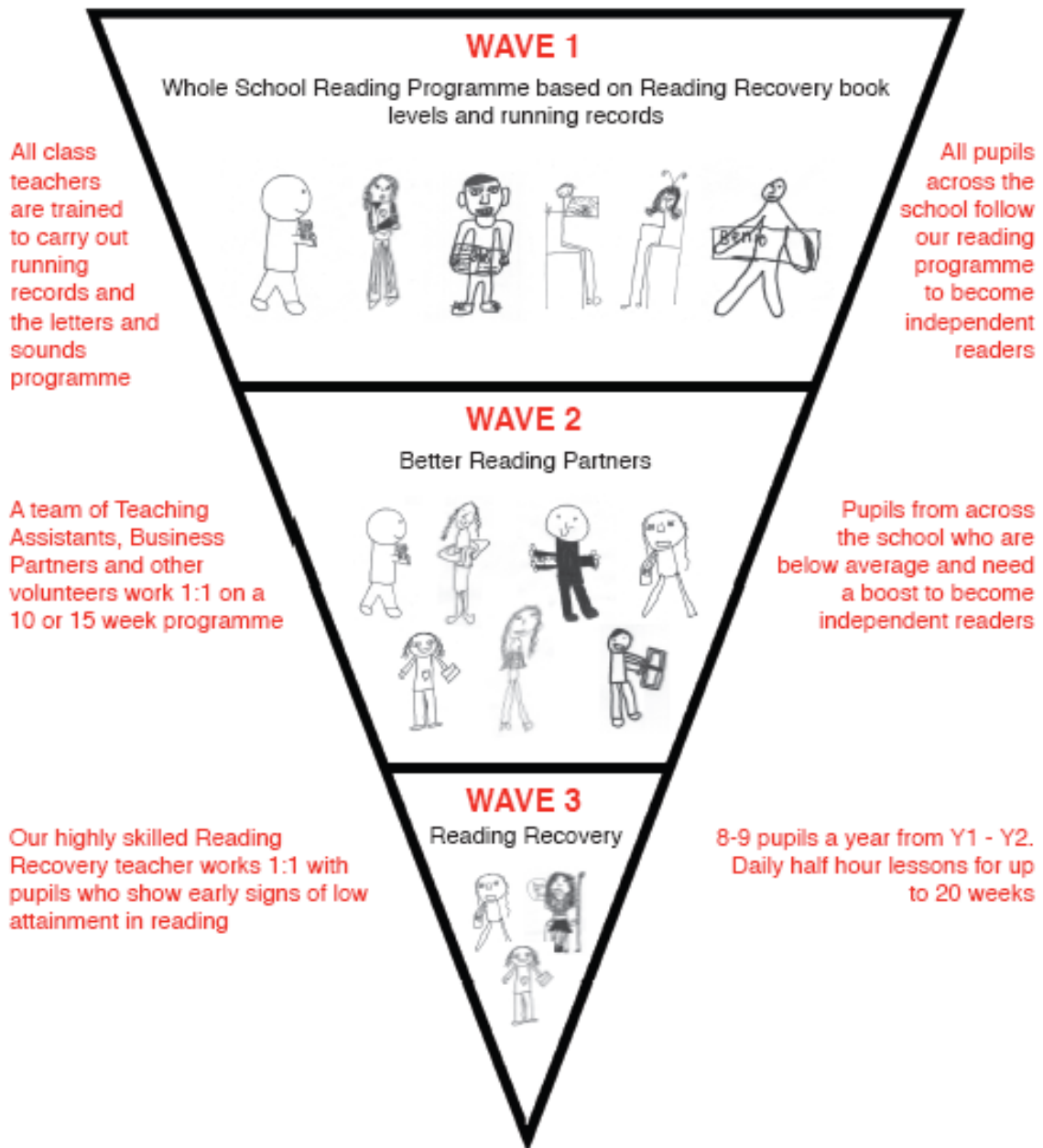


# Every Child a Reader at St Barnabas Church of England Primary School

TEACHERS

PUPILS



St Barnabas CEVC Primary School is a multi-ethnic, inner city Primary School in the St. Pauls area of Bristol. 54% of pupils are eligible for free school meals, 88% are BME and 53% are learning EAL.

The diagram above shows our whole school approach to ECaR. This model has transformed attainment in reading across the school. In this case study we are going to concentrate on Wave 2 and our relationship with our business partners at Geopost. Headteacher, Claire Waters, [www.st-barnabasprimary.co.uk](http://www.st-barnabasprimary.co.uk)  
ECaR Leader, Emma Kelly.



**Some of our current Better Reading Partners with their children.**

Our business partnership with Geopost started in January 2007, with the Reading Buddies programme. In September 2007, our ECaR Leader Emma, approached the Geopost managers about the possibility of volunteers being trained in the 'Better Reading Partners' intervention programme. This was agreed by the Geopost managers and they took part in the training alongside our teaching assistants, and other school volunteers. Emma accompanied the volunteers on the training and then supported them with further training, focusing specifically on running records and their analysis. We currently have thirteen Geopost Volunteers and a Geopost manager as our ECAR school governor.

**Keys to a successful 'Better Reading Partners' business link:**

- Strong leadership from both the headteacher and ECaR leader
- Commitment from business and school
- Further training available from the ECaR leader when needed
- Information sharing with parents
- Positive relationship between child and Better Reading Partner
- Area dedicated to resources to enable Better Reading Partners to work independently
- ECaR leader available for ongoing advice
- Maintaining a high profile business link through displays at school
- Promoting the business link through the media
- Involving business managers as school governors
- Celebrating the success of Better Reading Partners in whole school assemblies
- Regular meetings with business managers and Better Reading Partners at their place of work

Our relationship with our business volunteers has been celebrated through local newspaper articles (Bristol Evening Post) and local radio (Radio Bristol). Below are some quotes from a radio interview:

### **Laura and Darnell**

**Laura:**

*'Working with Darnell has been brilliant, he is a lovely little chap and his reading has progressed. He started on level 19 and he's now on level 25. Being part of the reading scheme has given me a lot of confidence in myself.'*

**Darnell:**

*'Reading with Laura is fun and she's nice and kind. When I get older, I want to read more books.'*



### **Rosie and Ugbaad**

**Rosie:**

*'I decided to join the scheme because I thought it would be an enjoyable thing to do – I really look forward to coming every Wednesday and I definitely want to carry on with the school.'*

**Ugbaad:**

*'I am reading with Rosie – she helps me read when I don't know how to read. She helps me with letters, words and how to pronounce my words properly.'*



In the year 2007-2008, fifty three children benefited from an ECaR intervention. We have started to see a strong impact on national assessment results. At KS1, results have risen from 66% L2+ in 2007 to 71% in 2008, 52% L2B+ in 2007 to 67% in 2008, 11% L3 in 2007 to 25% in 2008. At KS2 90% of children achieved L4 in 2008.

Better Reading Partners has had a positive impact throughout the school. Data collated shows that the children have made between six months and two years progress at the end of the programme. But perhaps more importantly, the children have built up a range of strategies to support their reading and now 'see' themselves as confident readers who read for pleasure.