

## Results of Move4words trials in the UK classroom. Paper 9 – Writing Speed.

Dr Elizabeth McClelland  
Move4words Community Interest Company

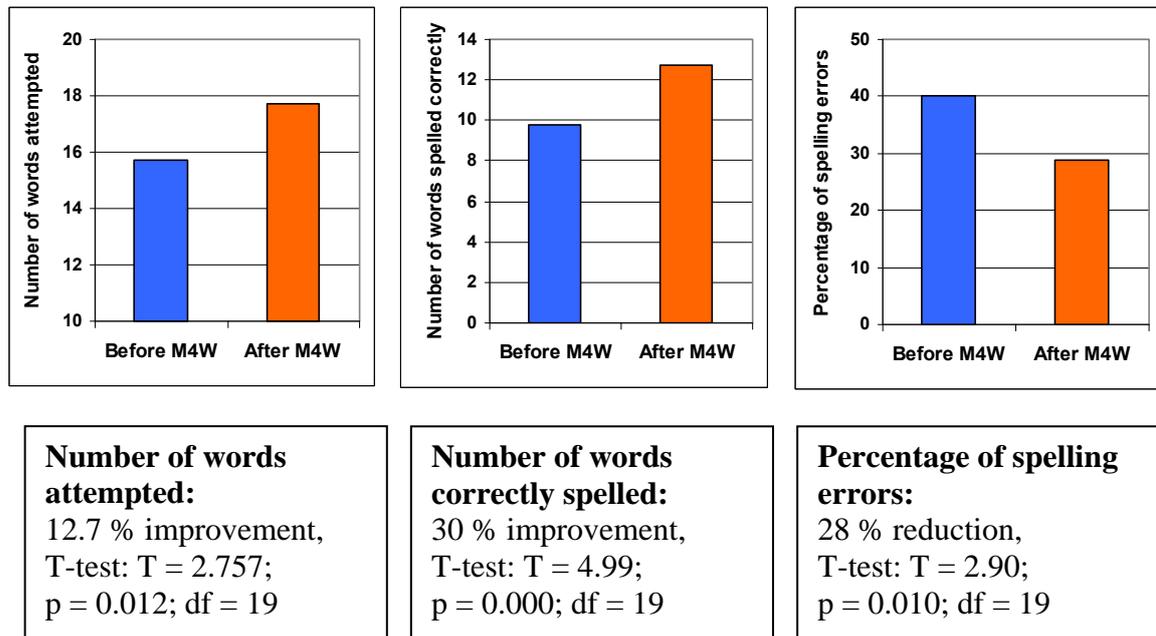
### Abstract:

Data from 19 Year 7 students aged 11 ½ to 12 ½ show that statistically significant improvements in writing speed and spelling accuracy, and reductions in spelling errors are the outcome of using the 12 week Move4words programme in the classroom. The number of correctly spelled words increased by 30 % and spelling errors reduced by almost 30%, too.

### The project:

The writing speed test was devised by Elizabeth McClelland. The test has two versions (form A and form B). Each test contains 29 simple images of familiar objects (e.g. cat, dog, table, chair, elephant etc) organised in order of difficulty, starting with the simplest words first. The aim of the test is for the student to identify the pictures and write as many words as possible in the empty spaces next to each picture. The timeframe was 90 seconds for secondary school students.

19 Year 7 students from one large Secondary school in the North East Midlands of England did Move4words in normal lesson time for 20 to 30 minutes per day, from May to July. Normal literacy support continued throughout the programme. This school started with form B before the Move4words programme began, and then used form A after Move4words had finished.



**Figure 7.1:** Whole class group average values for students from Year 7 of Number of words attempted, Number of words spelled correctly, and percentage of spelling errors before the Move4word programme started (blue bars) and after the Move4words programme had been completed (orange bars).

The graphs and statistics show that 30% more words were written correctly in the 90 second time period, while the number of spelling errors reduced by 28%. Both of these figures are statistically significant.