

SCODE Spelling Testimonial



Name of School: ___Bollin Primary School

Name of person completing the testimonial & role:
Steven Hampton Deputy Head and English Lead

Please comment on the innovative nature of the resource.

I think the resource is innovative in the sense that it does not use gimmicks to teach children how to spell. Scode recognises that for the vast majority of children, a systematic synthetic phonics programme works and so builds upon the same principles that have worked for children since Reception. I also think that children love learning about etymology and are far more likely to retain spellings when they learn about the meanings of certain prefixes and their language origins.

What is the impact on learning, to what extent and in which areas?

There has been a dramatic improvement in spelling scores since adopting Scode with KS2 SPAG results set to be the highest in 5 years. Teachers attribute this to Scode and say the programme has made spelling meaningful and children can connect with what they are learning. Children are no longer learning lists of words for the sake of it. Children themselves say they enjoy it which I have never experienced in my primary career. Enough said.

What is the impact on the work of the teacher in the classroom, to what extent and in which areas?

Baseline data and then the end of unit spelling tests provide staff with tangible data so they can track children's progress. The fact Scode is fully resourced means that teachers do not have to spend time planning or preparing resources – it is all there and teachers value this. The availability of all the different coloured schemes means that teaching staff including additional adults have access to all resources meaning differentiation is targeted and effective.

How does Scode support or enhance the everyday life or work of teachers, pupils or school?

For us, in a busy primary school, being able to rely on a high quality resource that is fully resourced and ready, is key. The programme contributes significantly to building background knowledge and cultural capital and the development of Tier 2 and Tier 3 vocabulary we have seen in school as a result of Scode has been fantastic. This in turn impacts on Reading and enables children to access texts; the development of Reading as the master skill is thus enhanced and in doing so creates better life chances especially for our educationally disadvantaged children.

What do you think of the cost-effectiveness in terms of educational aims and results – not just price?

Superb. The true cost of a resource is how much time you have to add to it as a teacher to make it work – preparing worksheets, flipcharts etc. Scode does not require that and this means that teaching staff can devote time to other things and this is very hard to place a value on. Giving teachers time back is priceless: it means they see things that they sometimes miss or have the time to listen when a child needs support. It is very easy to

make the assumption that teachers do this anyway but increasingly, with demands on their time to create, things can get missed no matter how good the teacher is.

Please comment on the engagement of the children during Scode lessons.

Fully engaged, enthusiastic willing contributors to their lessons. It is very powerful when you see evidence of their Scode learning in their writing or when you talk to children about their topic learning and they can talk about words they have encountered in Scode which became contextualised in History for example. Learning connects, it isn't standalone and it therefore sticks.

Please comment on the value of the children's workbooks.

Really good. High quality resource with the right amount of humour thrown in to keep the children smiling before they get down to work. Even then, the activities are well-chosen and fun and not overwhelming for the children.

Please circle:

Did you receive training from Scode? **YES**

If yes, was it: **Pre-recorded**/in person/virtual

Please comment on how supportive this was and whether this helped you understand and implement the scheme.

Yes, it was great and the staff engaged. I was sceptical at first but I think the philosophy behind Scode came across loud and clear – as did the enthusiasm. It has been helpful having the training pre-recorded because we have had new staff start or staff move year groups and having the videos on hand has been really easy.

If you have emailed or contacted customer service regarding any matter, please comment on the service received including speed of reply and customer satisfaction.

Excellent. We contacted Scode about a couple of minor issues which were resolved in a very timely manner. Also, when we have needed extra resources, we have very quickly had a response and the resources with us equally quickly.

Any other comments.

Just that I think Scode is a superb resource, great value for money and it actually works.

Signature: *S. Hampton*

Thank you for your time completing this testimonial.
We really do appreciate it!!!



SCODE Spelling Testimonial



Name of School: Prestbury C of E Primary School

Name of person completing the testimonial & role: Samantha Townes Deputy Head, English Lead, LKS2 leader, Year 3 teacher

Please comment on the innovative nature of the resource.

This is the first spelling scheme that we have encountered that teaches in this way – it makes much more sense to learn how to spell words in groups rather than random lists that they do not encounter again. The recount bear is our favourite part as it really does allow the children the time to retrieve their knowledge and really ‘make it stick’. We love working in a spelling pre printed book as do the children. It gives the lesson a sense of importance. The range of activities are superb. The children love them. The superscoder sheets are great for sending home to help the children consolidate their learning and it keeps the parents involved in their child’s spelling journey.

What is the impact on learning, to what extent and in which areas?

The baseline tests and end of unit tests are super measures of the impact this scheme is having on our children’s spellings. The improvement in marks is huge. In all of our KSs there is not a single child who has not made progress. The children are also referring to Scode in other lessons, for example calling out when they spot /er/ sounds coded in different ways. It is also helping the children improve their vocabulary. The children are constantly encountering high level vocabulary that they are then using in all areas of the curriculum.

What is the impact on the work of the teacher in the classroom, to what extent and in which areas?

We now have a full spelling scheme to teach. This was most certainly not the case before. We can show clear progression throughout our school. It builds on to Little Wandle phonics scheme so well so we are now using the same terminology from EYFS to Year 6. Our teachers love teaching Scode. Each lesson has a clear beginning, middle and end. It is easy to plan for and there are very little resources needed. For the first time we feel that spelling is being taught and being taught properly with a focus.

How does Scode support or enhance the everyday life or work of teachers, pupils or school?

It makes the teachers’ lives easier as there is a clear lesson plan and links to the pages in the work books. We are teaching spelling and etymology rather than telling the children to take spelling lists home and learn them. The pupils are enjoying the lessons and the range of activities.

What do you think of the cost-effectiveness in terms of educational aims and results – not just price?

We thought the cost was incredible and very good value for money. The improvement for our children is worth every penny. Our spelling results are the best they have been and the children are transferring their learning of spellings to their writing. It has also helped with a lot of the adults spellings too!!!

Please comment on the engagement of the children during Scode lessons.
The children love these lessons. The range of activities are great and the children find them engaging and appropriate. The children love having a work book and they take great pride in completing the work. The children love learning the etymology of words and they love the illustrations.

Please comment on the value of the children's workbooks.
Incredible value and such a change from using twinkl sheets. The workbooks engage the children as they are proud of their work and the pages are clear and set out easily. The children love spotting the different bears and are always calling out 'there is the code log bear!'

Please circle:

Did you receive training from Scode? **YES**/NO

If yes, was it: **Pre-recorded**/in person/**virtual**

Please comment on how supportive this was and whether this helped you understand and implement the scheme.

It was incredibly helpful. Scode have been on hand whenever we have a question and their response time is so fast. Having the pre-recorded information meant we could share this with all staff and refer back to it as and when needed.

If you have emailed or contacted customer service regarding any matter, please comment on the service received including speed of reply and customer satisfaction.

Superb customer service. 100% the best I have dealt with. Super-fast response time and nothing is ever too much trouble.

Any other comments.

We love Scode and would recommend it to everyone. It has completely changed the way we teach spelling for the better and it is having big impact on our children's spelling knowledge and their writing.

Signature: _____Samantha Townes_____

Thank you for your time completing this testimonial.
We really do appreciate it!!!



SCODE Spelling Testimonial



Name of School: Bradley Green

Name of person completing the testimonial & role: Jessica Booth-Anderson, Y6 teacher and English lead

Please comment on the innovative nature of the resource.

Love the resource! So many teachers and schools have struggled with what to do for spelling and this has helped us so much with resourcing, allowing consistency across classrooms and schools but it has also created the bridge from KS1 to KS2 with the phonics approach. I personally appreciate how the sound codes are taught incorporating the statutory and common exception words – it is now half of the battle and supports our knowing more and remembering more ethos at school.

What is the impact on learning, to what extent and in which areas?

Children are definitely more engaged in their spelling lessons and having an engaging workbook, which belongs to the children gives them a sense of ownership and responsibility of their own learning.
Staff and children can also see the progress in children's spelling knowledge with the learnt words but also thanks to strategies such as 'smash it out', children are becoming more confident with decoding and spelling new and unfamiliar words.
SCODE has also supported us with our huge push on vocabulary and the etymology behind the words they are learning about; they understand the history and therefore can make links with their reading, spelling and writing across the whole curriculum.

What is the impact on the work of the teacher in the classroom, to what extent and in which areas?

The impact for teacher and workload has been great – the powerpoints and workbooks take away time having to plan, prep and resource and staff can spend more time working with and supporting children.
Having the lesson plans in the teacher handbook and online with the words to be used in the base line and progress test means that teachers and support staff can pick up before the lesson and feel confident in what they are doing. It also means that because it is so straightforward, new staff can start to teach without intense training beforehand.

How does Scode support or enhance the everyday life or work of teachers, pupils or school?

It has massively helped our school. We now know, as a staff and school, how spelling is taught across the key stages and year groups, we understand the importance of phonics and vocabulary and can teach consistent spelling lessons, provide fun, engaging, purposeful activities and feel confident- which only impacts the children in a positive way.

What do you think of the cost-effectiveness in terms of educational aims and results – not just price?

I think it is brilliant! The value for money is fantastic and when you think that you are investing in something that has revolutionised spelling for so many schools, why not !

Please comment on the engagement of the children during Scode lessons.

Children love the activities and the puzzles, even when they comment on how challenging they are. The programme also allows for inclusivity, which is huge and allows all our children to feel a sense of accomplishment in their learning.

Please comment on the value of the children's workbooks.

Again, we cannot complain at all! They're inviting, great quality, purposeful and they belong to the children. They use them not just in spelling sessions but throughout the day also.

Please circle:

Did you receive training from Scode? **YES**/NO

If yes, was it: Pre-recorded/**in person**/virtual

Please comment on how supportive this was and whether this helped you understand and implement the scheme.

The ladies are fantastic! They responded and put up with my many emails during the trial and even now when I have any questions. They are so supportive, knowledgeable and you can tell that SCODE is something they truly believe in and are passionate about, which is amazing and right because it is great. I am so grateful for all their support and I know whatever I ask, they come back to me quickly and respond in a friendly, supportive manner.

If you have emailed or contacted customer service regarding any matter, please comment on the service received including speed of reply and customer satisfaction.

I have emailed about more books, more year groups, training, questions, feedback and always been replied to quickly and with very helpful information!

Any other comments.

Thanks so much ladies, I know that SCODE will just go from strength to strength and improve even more every year. Thanks for all your help and support.

Signature: J.Booth-Anderson.

Thank you for your time completing this testimonial.
We really do appreciate it!!!



SCODE Spelling Testimonial



Name of School: St Stephen's RC Primary

Name of person completing the testimonial & role: Helen Bilic English Lead

Please comment on the innovative nature of the resource.

This is the first spelling scheme I have come across which answers the needs of the primary school child and includes use of the Advanced Phonics Code, use of etymology, daily recap and activities based on scientific research on memory. It includes a wide range of tasks and activities which keeps the children engaged. The activities linked to the spelling objectives are often creative and 'out of the box,' making links to other curriculum areas or areas of daily life so they appeal to children's love of the curious and unusual.

What is the impact on learning, to what extent and in which areas?

We began using the scheme in September from Year 2 – Year 6. Certainly, the children's engagement in learning about spelling has increased as they enjoy the lessons. Children have become more aware of how words are spelt and are eager to make connections, pointing out spelling patterns when they meet relevant words in all curriculum areas.

What is the impact on the work of the teacher in the classroom, to what extent and in which areas?

As the lessons are planned out and the workbooks contain the activities for the children, teacher workload has decreased substantially. Spelling lessons are happening regularly in a consistent and focused way.

How does Scode support or enhance the everyday life or work of teachers, pupils or school?

It enhances the engagement of pupils in word and language curiosity. It makes links to other curriculum areas like History and Geography which often lead to interesting discussions and areas of interest to the children which are perhaps not covered by our curriculum. I remember in one of our first Scode lessons where we looked at the varied origins of the English language. The children were very eager to talk about their own backgrounds and their parents/grandparents origins and first languages. I don't remember a class being so excited to talk and hear about foreign languages before.

What do you think of the cost-effectiveness in terms of educational aims and results – not just price?

As yet I have not monitored the effectiveness of the Scode scheme on spelling as a whole school although feedback from teachers is positive. I think it is effective in the way it tackles the learning objectives for spelling in the National Curriculum. I feel it is ideal for primary school children in the way new learning is presented and, very importantly, in its recall of what has already been learnt.

Please comment on the engagement of the children during Scode lessons.

As I have mentioned above, the children are very engaged in the lessons. They now see spelling as being 'fun.'

Please comment on the value of the children's workbooks.

Children love having their own book to work from. It is well-presented and organised with a wealth of activities to complete. It would be impossible for teachers to produce such high quality and varied activities for their children to complete every day for spelling lessons. Spelling lessons are happening more regularly and consistently because of the workbooks.

Please circle:

Did you receive training from Scode? **YES**/NO

If yes, was it: Pre-recorded/**in person**/virtual

Please comment on how supportive this was and whether this helped you understand and implement the scheme.

Staff understood why, when and how the scheme was developed. The producers of the scheme know what challenges teachers face in the classroom and also know what appeals to young children. It became obvious that the scheme was written with the knowledge of how children learn best.

If you have emailed or contacted customer service regarding any matter, please comment on the service received including speed of reply and customer satisfaction.

Any other comments.

Signature: H Bilic

Thank you for your time completing this testimonial.
We really do appreciate it!!!



SCODE Spelling Testimonial



Name of School: Dowson Primary Academy

Name of person completing the testimonial & role: Kathryn Thornburn –
Principal

Please comment on the innovative nature of the resource.

The content of this package is unique as far as anything we have found on the market previously when trying to 'crack' spelling in our school. The effective mixture of etymology and word play with the continuation of teaching the 'code' learned for reading into spelling gives pupils deep understanding of word origins and knowledge to use when attempting to spell unknown words. This resource also ensures coverage of the national curriculum word lists and the complexities of the English Language are acknowledged – it does not attempt to teach rules and then ALL the exceptions.

What is the impact on learning, to what extent and in which areas?

Children are not only becoming more competent spellers but more confident in attempting unknown words because of their understanding of route words and the etymology / origins. Children are describing spelling lessons as fun for the first time ever!

What is the impact on the work of the teacher in the classroom, to what extent and in which areas?

Teachers love Scode as it is a complete resource and not another lesson to plan and resource for – someone has done all the thinking for us. We especially love the coverage of the NC words and the range of different types of activities that retain pupil engagement in lessons. They also appreciated the training that came with the scheme. Finally, a scheme that rehearses the codes already known fits really well with our teaching approach to ensure there are retrieval opportunities which support children to know and remember more.

How does Scode support or enhance the everyday life or work of teachers, pupils or school?

Reduces workload for teachers and takes away the need to plan and resource more lessons. It also includes vocabulary that enhances children's oracy, ability to comprehend more complex texts and include in their writing. It feels more than 'just' a spelling package.

Pupils are engaged and enjoying spelling for the first time ever. Their competence and confidence with spelling has improved greatly.

What do you think of the cost-effectiveness in terms of educational aims and results – not just price?

Well worth the money – especially in terms of teacher time and workload but also that once you have it, the books are the only ongoing cost.

Please comment on the engagement of the children during Scode lessons.

High engagement as mentioned in other sections

Please comment on the value of the children's workbooks.

High quality and worth the cost

Please circle:

Did you receive training from Scode? **YES**/NO

If yes, was it: Pre-recorded/**in person**/virtual

Please comment on how supportive this was and whether this helped you understand and implement the scheme.

Very clear on how to teach all elements of the scheme and a good balance between theory for teachers to understand why, and practical teaching strategies for how.

If you have emailed or contacted customer service regarding any matter, please comment on the service received including speed of reply and customer satisfaction.

Always receive a prompt response and a very friendly service – would highly recommend.

Any other comments.

We have searched for a spelling scheme that works for a long time and tried many things that didn't seem to engage the children enough or give the teachers enough teaching points and strategies so it felt like it needed a lot more input from teachers to 'flesh' out how to teach it to make it effective. This is the whole package. Teachers and pupils love it and it is already having an impact on our pupils spelling and other areas of English language.

Signature: _____



Thank you for your time completing this testimonial.
We really do appreciate it!!!



SCODE Spelling Testimonial



Name of School: Discovery Academy

Name of person completing the testimonial & role: Emma Collins, Assistant Principal, English Lead, EYFS/KS1 Lead

Please comment on the innovative nature of the resource.

SCODE uses a creative approach that is child friendly yet takes an approach that is consistent with the teaching of Phonics. The fidelity and systematic synthetic approach makes the transition from Phonics to Spelling much easier for the children and teachers.

What is the impact on learning, to what extent and in which areas?

Children are using the 'Smash it out' in other lessons. They are applying their spelling codes learnt and recognising them in their work creating a 'buzz' about spelling in English. Teachers are also beginning to use the morphology and etymology approach within the foundation subjects to see if the children can find a link between the word and historical context.

What is the impact on the work of the teacher in the classroom, to what extent and in which areas?

Teachers love the ppts and how easy they are to follow in relation to the lesson and children's work book. They say they can now focus on the knowledge of the teaching of spelling rather than the planning and resourcing as well.

How does Scode support or enhance the everyday life or work of teachers, pupils or school?

Teacher and Pupil Voice

Teacher - *"Now I have had the phonics training, I understand the teaching of SCODE and how it progresses on from the teaching oh phonics. This is what the children need."*

Teacher - *"I love that Spelling is now protected. It has the same importance as Phonics and both myself and the children love SCODE!"*

Year 5 Pupil – *“SCODE teaches me the right way to spell the words. I can now identify the sound and match it to the code. I get spelling right now rather than just spelling it wrong.”*

Year 3 Pupil – *“In Spelling, I learn new words by segmenting into the sounds then use that strategy in my other lessons to spell”*

What do you think of the cost-effectiveness in terms of educational aims and results – not just price?

I think SCODE is immensely cost-effective in terms of it is progressive, meets the NC aims, has fluidity between the year groups however is colour coded rather than year group based which allows us to ‘stream the children from Year 2-6. It is cost effective in terms of the teacher’s time and children’s engagement is high. The children and teachers look forward to Spelling now rather than a groan of dread. All children are on track from the original assessment in September.

Please comment on the engagement of the children during Scode lessons.

See above 2 boxes.

Year 2 started SCODE in January and love the different activities, they also recognise the different bears and are happy to point them out to the teacher, knowing exactly what they need to do, e.g. log bear.

Please comment on the value of the children’s workbooks.

The workbooks have a high value put on them. The children are proud of them and can easily find where they are up to each lesson. The teachers love the work books as everything is already there. It also saves on printing, paper and so forth helping the environment and carbon footprint.

Please circle:

Did you receive training from Scode? YES

If yes, was it: in person

Please comment on how supportive this was and whether this helped you understand and implement the scheme.

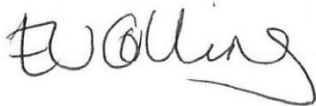
We had been using the scheme for a term before accessing the training. However I think with the training, it then gave the teachers reassurance of what they were doing and also the opportunity to ask questions. Emma was really supportive and had a lovely manner when delivering the training.

If you have emailed or contacted customer service regarding any matter, please comment on the service received including speed of reply and customer satisfaction.

Emma and/or Jill always respond within 24 hours. It is the best customer service from any company and response time I have ever experienced as a teacher.

Any other comments.

I would recommend SCODE to any school that is looking to innovate the way they deliver and teach spelling particularly as a scheme that follows on well from Phonics.



Signature:

Thank you for your time completing this testimonial.
We really do appreciate it!!!



SCODE Spelling Testimonial



Name of School: Millbrook Primary School

Name of person completing the testimonial & role: Leanne Ashton Deputy Head

Please comment on the innovative nature of the resource.

This resource is like none other on the market in my opinion. Other schools are quick to jump over to SCODE as it has such strong links to KS1 curriculum of phonics and builds on their prior learning. The resources are engaging and the etymology of words knowledge also gives the children those links that are vital to widening their knowledge of vocabulary.

What is the impact on learning, to what extent and in which areas?

Spelling has improved vastly we are hoping to have data to back this up from the SPAG tests in Y6 this year, however the term on term data clearly shows a progression from week to week. Some children improving by doubling their spelling scores from the start!
As spelling is improving so is the children's writing in all subjects.

What is the impact on the work of the teacher in the classroom, to what extent and in which areas?

Limited impact as all the resources are ready made and the workbooks are amazing!

How does Scode support or enhance the everyday life or work of teachers, pupils or school?

By having a consistent scheme that links to phonic teaching and that is easy to follow and self-explanatory.

What do you think of the cost-effectiveness in terms of educational aims and results – not just price?

Priceless! The proof is in the spelling results and also the amount of children who know say they enjoy spelling lessons has increased significantly.

Please comment on the engagement of the children during Scode lessons.

Engaging and fun the children enjoy the imagery and especially the investigation into words.

Please comment on the value of the children's workbooks.

Good value for money and all resources in one place.

Please circle:

Did you receive training from Scode? YES/NO

If yes, was it: Pre-recorded/in person/virtual

Please comment on how supportive this was and whether this helped you understand and implement the scheme.

Great interactive and dynamic trainers who fully understand the time pressures and set up of the curriculum in primary schools.

If you have emailed or contacted customer service regarding any matter, please comment on the service received including speed of reply and customer satisfaction.

N/A

Any other comments.

Signature: _____ L Ashton _____

Thank you for your time completing this testimonial.
We really do appreciate it!!!

