

November 2021

To the Principal,

Re: Levelled Readers used in this school do not meet Standards

We need to bring to your attention an **important update about the Fountas & Pinnell Levelled Readers that are being used in our school.**

This damning report, [published on Tuesday 9th November](#) 2021 by *EdReports* - an independent non-profit organisation that reviews K-12 instructional materials in English/Language Arts, Maths, and Science - found that the program **does not meet expectations for text quality and complexity and alignment to the standards.**

Balanced Literacy (also known as Guided Reading, Whole Language, and Phonics in Context) **is not effective for the majority of students and has even greater consequences for students with dyslexia** because these approaches do not focus on the decoding skills all beginning readers need to succeed.

Learning to read can be a significant challenge for children with dyslexia, with harsh lifelong consequences if not overcome. This challenge usually **can be overcome with effective reading instruction.**

Research indicates that all students learn best when teachers adopt an integrated approach to reading that explicitly teaches phonemic awareness, phonics fluency, vocabulary knowledge, and comprehension." *Rowe, Ken and National Inquiry into the Teaching of Literacy (Australia), "Teaching Reading" (2005).*

Structured Literacy explicitly teaches systematic word/identification and decoding strategies. This benefits **all** students but is **vital** for those with Dyslexia. Dyslexia affects about 10-20% of the population and has impacted our family greatly.

After the publication from EdReport, Fountas & Pinnell have publicly admitted that 20% of children will be left behind if their levelled readers are used for literacy instruction. **This equates to 801,394 Australian children unnecessarily struggling in the classroom each day and failing to learn to read.**

This is just not good enough.

As a concerned parent, I am asking you to please reconsider the use of these books in our school. Please explore the following options and be one of the proactive schools to implement the Science of Reading.

It is a human right for a child to learn to read, and by using readers which are not aligned to standards, you are contributing to this very real crisis in the Australian education system.

Attached for your review is the ELA K-5 Summary of Alignment & Usability from EdReports.

Yours sincerely,

Concerned parent

According to ABS,

4,006,974 children were

enrolled in school in 2020.

It is **NOT**
okay for...

801,394
AUSSIE
CHILDREN
TO BE
LEFT BEHIND.

Fountas & Pinnell Literacy
no one is telling kids to guess. Please stop spreading this myth. This is your 2nd reminder. It's also very sad that we've turned the entire education system upside down for 20% of the kids. SOR didn't "invent" and doesn't own science. I don't think the goals of this page are aligned with your thinking. A 3rd comment pushing SOR and you will be removed. Thank you.

CODE
READ
Dyslexia
Network

Kindergarten



First Grade



Second Grade



Third Grade



Fourth Grade



Fifth Grade

