

# Improving Writing Attainment in P5

## East Wemyss Primary School

Yvette O'Neil, Head Teacher  
Kirstie Wakefield, P5 Class Teacher  
Tracey McDougall, QI Coach

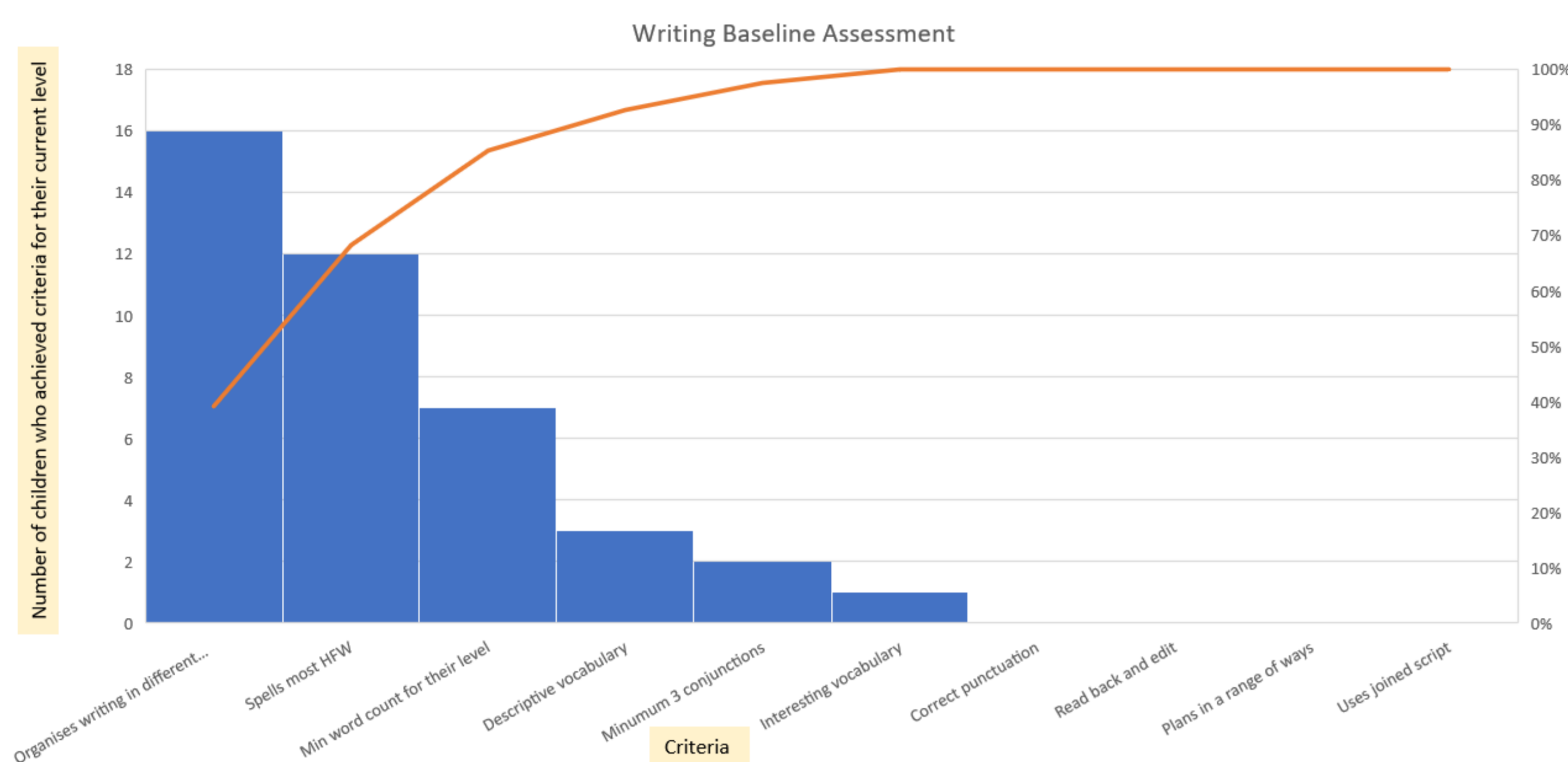


**Stretch Aim: By May 2021, 80% of pupils in P5 will be working within their expected CfE level (baseline = 32%).**

**Aim 1: By May 2021, 100% of pupils in P5 will be able to use three different conjunctions correctly in their writing (baseline = 0%).**

### Method

- Attended Fife QI Improving Writing Wave 4 Programme
- CfE First Level Writing Criteria was used to carry out a baseline assessment of P5 writing, and improvement points were identified.



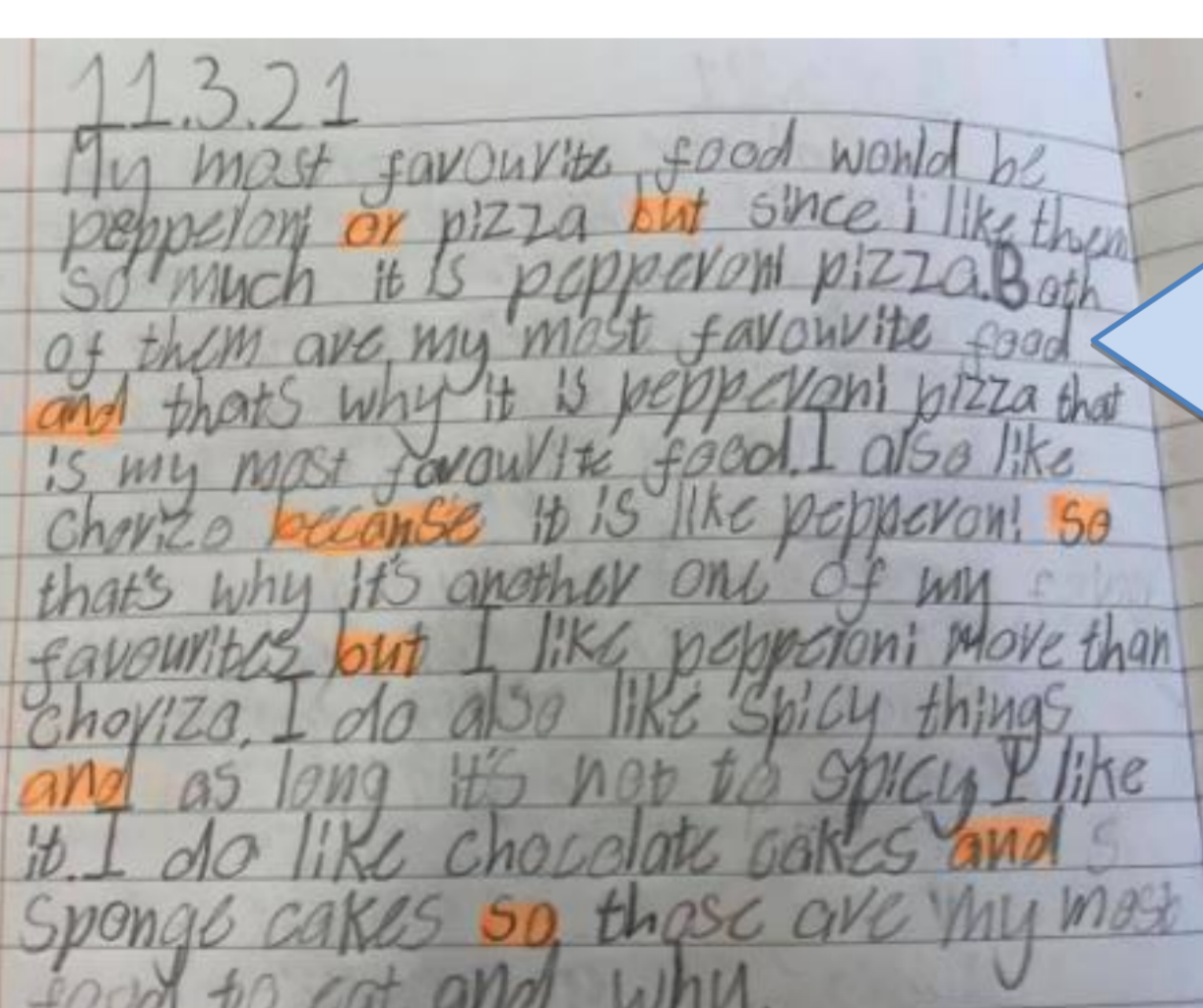
### Process Change

#### Remote learning

- A jotter and letter was sent home to each child, and the class teacher shared a video via Seesaw explaining the project
- x3 writing sessions per week via Seesaw
- Seesaw activities, including videos from the class teacher
- Live Teams lessons and writing session

#### Face to face learning

- 15 minute daily write, with up to 5 minutes editing
- Inputs and activities on conjunctions
- Clear LI and SC displayed and discussed
- Range of writing stimuli
- Brainstorm before each writing session, with verbal examples of correct conjunction use



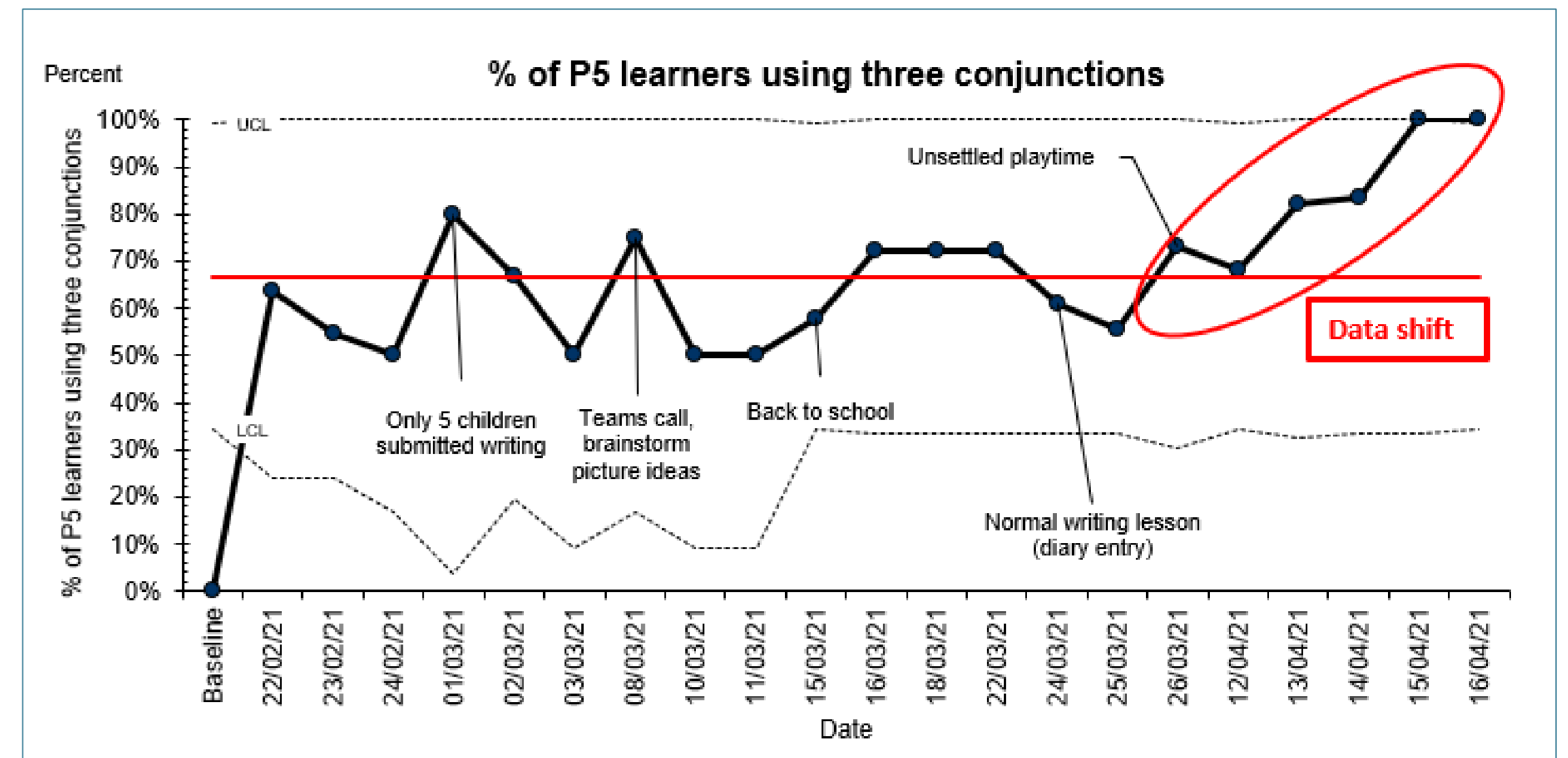
During editing time, children highlighted the conjunctions they used. This helped the class teacher see:

- ✓ Do they understand what a conjunction is?
- ✓ Are they using them correctly?
- ✓ Do they understand the LI and SC?
- ✓ Have they used at least three different ones?

### Achievements

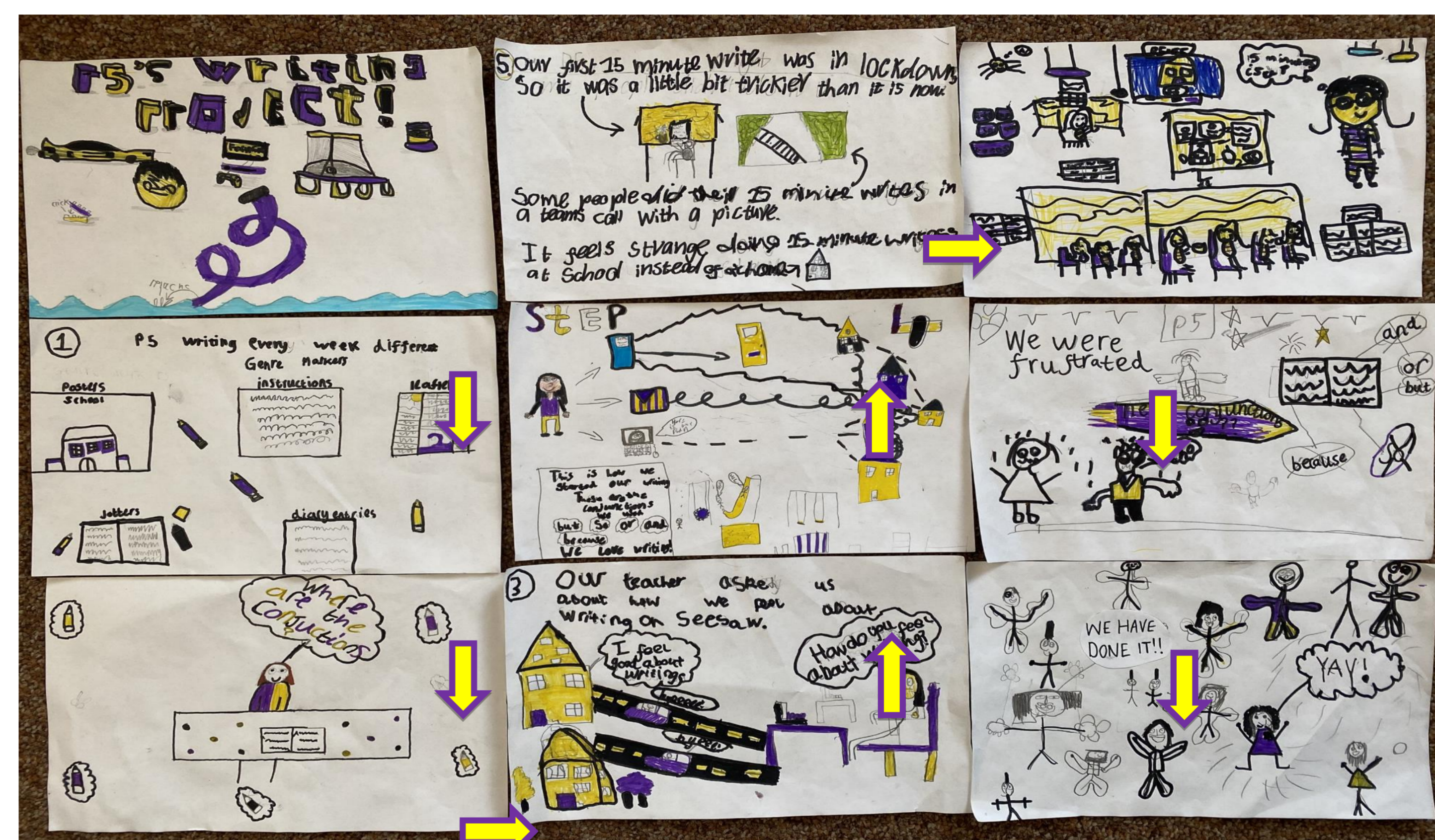
- **Writing attainment in P5, as of May 2021, is 63%.**
- Prior to this project, a number of children in the class struggled to put pencil to paper during any task that involved writing. Their confidence, motivation and willingness to write has grown significantly which allows them to access learning across the curriculum more successfully.

### Results



After three weeks of remote learning and three weeks of face-to-face learning, 100% of children in P5 used three different conjunctions in their writing correctly.

### Conclusions



The children documented their writing improvement journey.

"I used to only be able to write one sentence, and now look – I can write four!" P5 pupil

"I'm better at writing and I my writing is much neater." P5 pupils

"We get to write every day!" P5 pupil

"I really enjoy writing now." P5 pupil

### Key Learning Points

- Lockdown made it challenging for the Class Teacher to know how much independence the children had during writing at home
- Sharing good examples and reinforcing LI and SC was vital – children's retention of good practice was weaker than anticipated
- **The children's own mindset and self-confidence on a day-to-day basis impacted on their ability / motivation to meet SC.**
- **For us, the biggest positive impact to come from the writing project is the children's increased confidence in their own abilities, and their newly found high expectations of themselves.**