Improving Reading Outcomes for P7 Learners

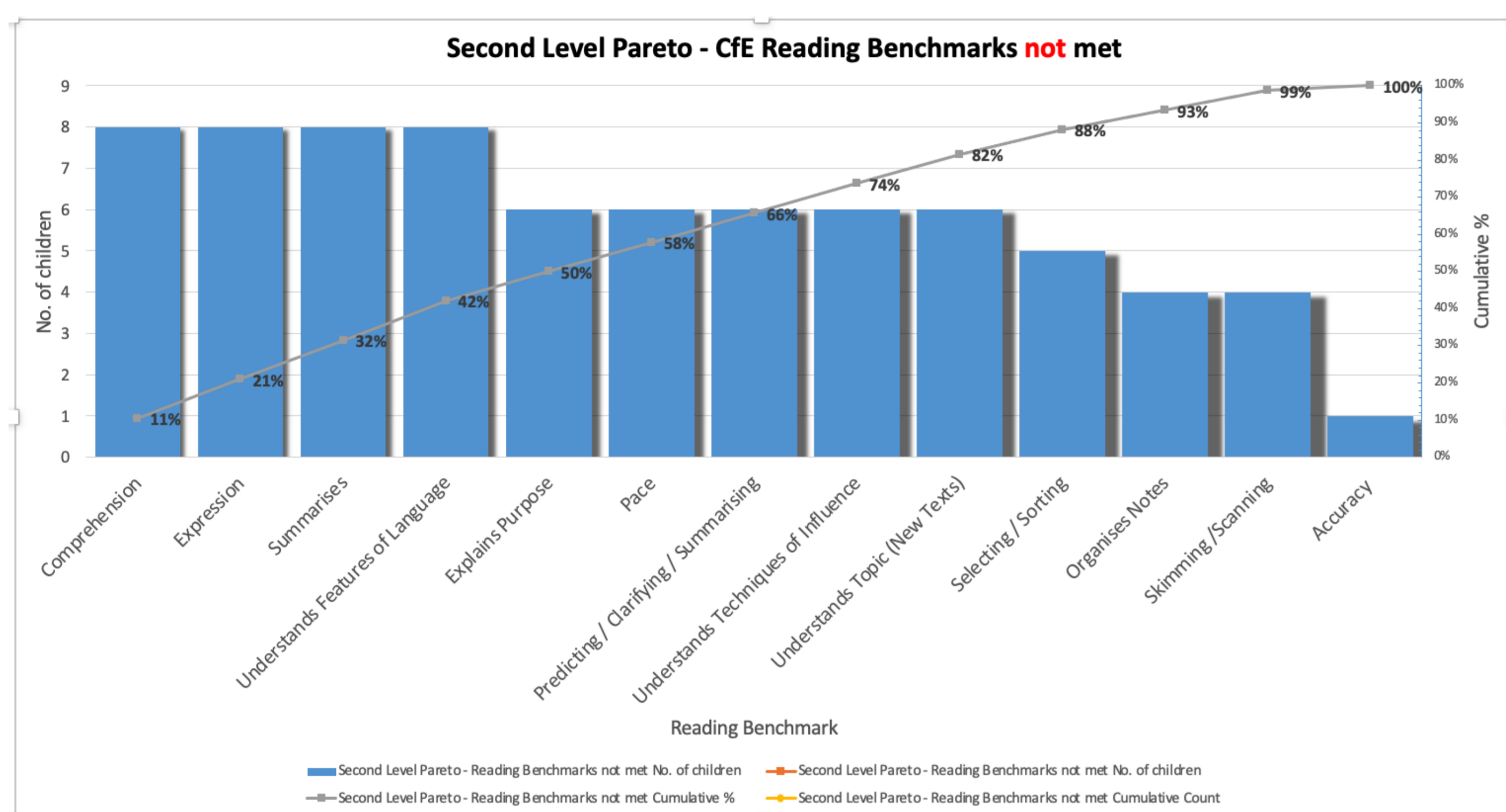Nick Tomlinson and Vicky Buchanan – P7 and P6/7

Stretch Aim: To achieve 92% attainment in Primary 7 reading for academic session 24/25 (Baseline 81%)

Teaching Aims: 100% of pupils within the focus group will be able to summarise a text using a who, where, what, why and when method (Baseline: 0%).

Method

- Established an Improvement Team.
- Attended Fife QI Improving Reading Programme.
- Identified a focus group.
- Carried out a baseline assessment against CfE benchmarks.
- The baseline assessment was used to create a pareto chart.
- The biggest challenge for the majority of the children was summarising..
- The pareto chart informed our teaching aims..

Second Level Pareto - CfE Reading Benchmarks **not** met

Results

Percentage of Pupils Meeting the Summarising Target

Implement

- Children summarising 3 times per week.
- Teacher input aligned to aim (model summary – identifying key information/co-creation of successful summaries)
- Once independent - 20 minutes to read the text and summarise the info, (Who? What? Where? Why? When?)
- Self/peer assess and feedback against Success Criteria.
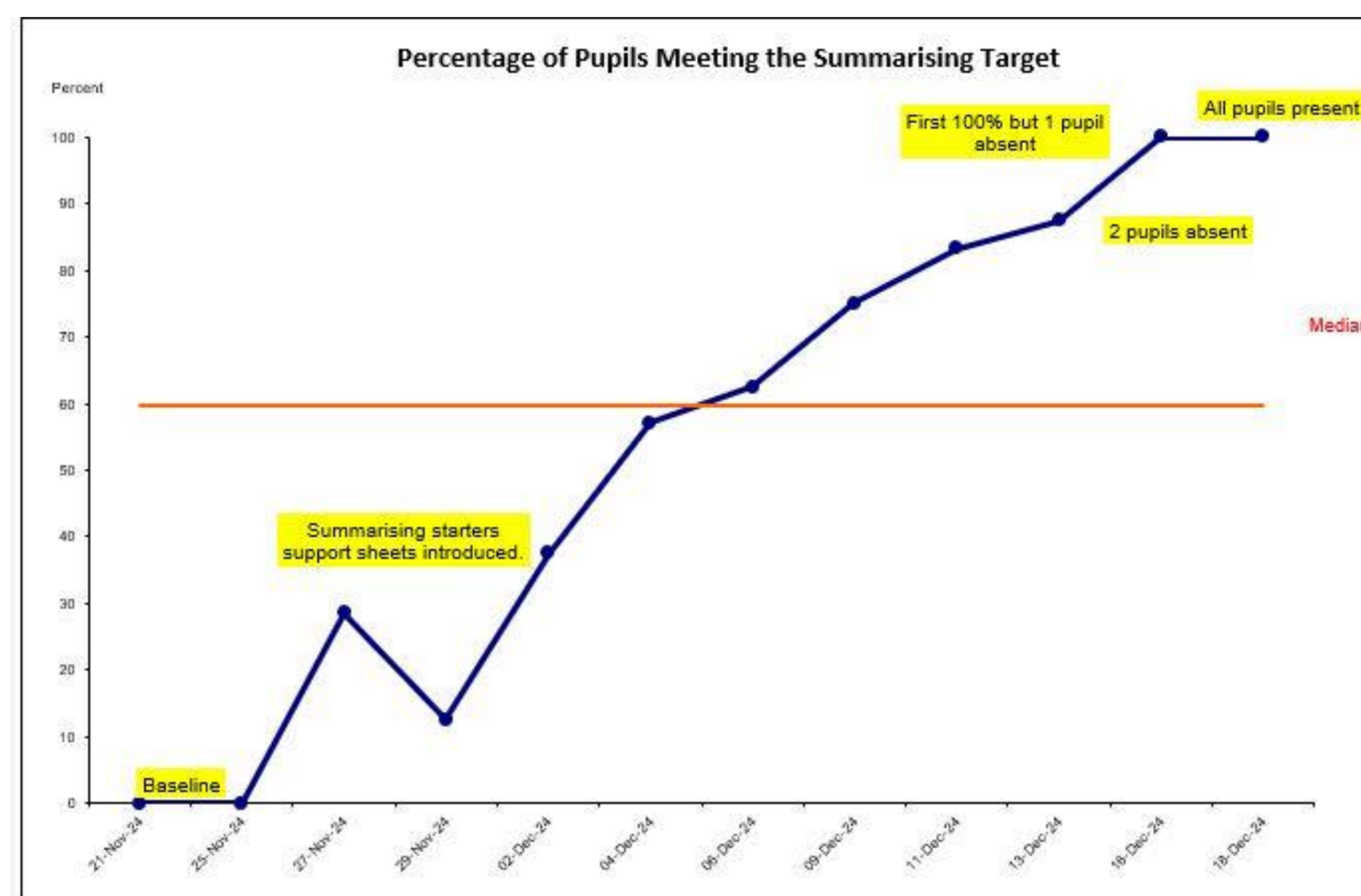- Pupils track progress.

Achievements

By 16/12/24, 100% of children within the focus group reached Teaching aim 1.
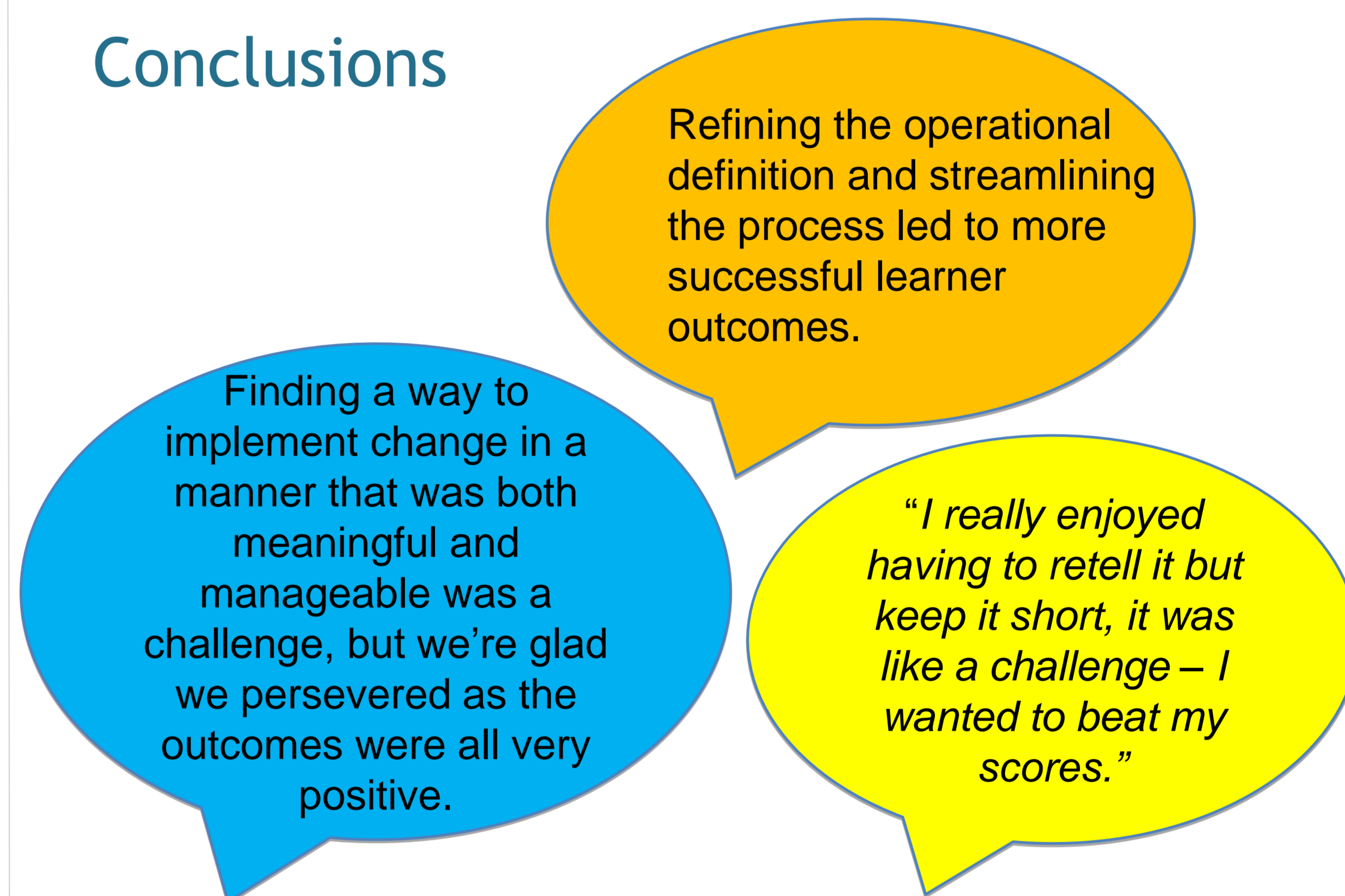
Next steps

- Use process to target those readers who are further off track as a means to try and help further their learning.
- Using this framework, adapt for other areas of the curriculum to try and make further improvements as well as track and monitor the impact of teaching strategies.

Conclusions

Refining the operational definition and streamlining the process led to more successful learner outcomes.

Finding a way to implement change in a manner that was both meaningful and manageable was a challenge, but we're glad we persevered as the outcomes were all very positive.

"*I really enjoyed having to retell it but keep it short, it was like a challenge – I wanted to beat my scores.*"

Key Learning Points

- Key shift in results tied in with the introduction of our Summarising Starters support sheet.
- More explicit teaching and structure led to more success.
- Keeping things small and measurable allowed for genuine progress.

SUMMARISING STARTERS

Who? Where? What? Why? When?

- The main characters in this story are...
- This story is set in...
- It took place on/in
- In the story...
- This happened because...

Children and Young People Improvement Collaborative