

THRASS TWO-DAY CERTIFICATE, MILTON KEYNES, SEPT 25-26, 2008

Fantastic! A variety of activities – listening, doing, speaking. Kept us motivated and active!

I have really enjoyed this course and my subject knowledge on phonics has benefited profoundly. Fantastic multi-sensory approach to the teaching of handwriting, reading and spelling.

Clearly presented, thoroughly enjoyable and makes total sense!

Absolutely fantastic! This has fully explained the chart to me. I now feel confident in my subject knowledge and can't wait to take what I've learnt back to my class.

The course gave me loads of information about THRASS and was taught in an upbeat way. I thoroughly enjoyed the past two days and am looking forward to teaching THRASS.

A really good opportunity to develop my own subject knowledge and discover new teaching ideas/strategies. I loved the Sing-A-Long resources and can't wait to try them out with my class.

A very busy two days! Great use of resources and a fun and active approach. Great to see how all resources can be used in a real classroom situation as well as being demonstrated and used by us! Would be great to have a revisit in about two weeks to troubleshoot any problems or to ask questions.

Excellent! Fantastic! Very interesting. Never learnt so much in two days. Very helpful in terms of teaching. Would have been even more helpful to see a demonstration in Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 1, or just more application of Key Stage 2 THRASS.

Very good delivery (a little fast at times). Very funny. I love THRASS!

The course has improved my subject knowledge. I now feel confident to teach THRASS with my class using the excellent resources provided.

Very informative and great ideas. Would have liked another example lesson. Would advise to other teachers but it would be nice if it was split into key stages giving examples of starting points for different year groups.

Thanks for opening my eyes! Not only will I be able to assist learners in my class, but now I'll be able to help my own two kids even more!

A very informative course. It has empowered me to become enthusiastic about THRASS. I can also encourage my children in their learning also.

Fantastic course. Excellent mix of activities. I know where to go to develop THRASS now because of the examples of activities given.

Great – lots of clarification on parts/sections of THRASS I didn't understand. Love the 'vowel phoneme clap' idea! Nice and clear. Would be great to have a book reading scheme that focuses on THRASS sounds (the 44 sounds)!

A fabulous scheme and course. First day – very, very, very intensive. I understood it but didn't know where I'd begin teaching it. Second day made it much clearer, but still need to give it some forethought. Alan and Oxley Park staff extremely helpful – answered all our questions!

Excellent. I have learnt a lot and feel confident I'll be able to start "thrassing". Enjoyed the group work and presentations, especially the lesson. It was a privilege to see THRASS and Alan in action.

Busy two days with lots of information. Felt quite 'bamboozled' after Day 1. However, Day 2 pulled all that information together. Lots of opportunity to ask questions to clarify. Lots of useful information and resources which I look forward to using back at school.

Very good delivery and Alan shows passion in what he does. Clear and concise information with good visuals and auditory recall.

Very enjoyable. Excellent presentation and resources. Wish I'd had THRASS training years ago!

Thoroughly enjoyable and it made a lot of sense. I wish that it had been available to me as a child. I am looking forward to implementing this within my small group at school and with my own children. I have been on many courses during my working life and I think this is the first time that I have not wanted to go to sleep!

Really enjoyable and it helped me to understand much more clearly about the way we teach the children. I'm hoping that my knowledge and understanding will benefit the children straight away.

Fantastic resources- bright and colourful and very child friendly. Love the rap! Clear presentation and delivery.

I enjoyed the course a lot and found it very inspirational. The visual demonstrations were better for me personally as I learn quicker visually. I found some parts were slightly rushed, meaning I found it difficult to understand. Overall, great!

I learnt an awful lot! Really looking forward to getting started on Monday! The whole programme makes a lot of sense. I can't believe this isn't a compulsory way of teaching phonics. Really enjoying seeing it put into practise in school and on the DVDs.

Well done Alan. Very good insight of THRASS. You have made me realise that there is so much that I need to learn. I am looking forward to introducing my own children to THRASS.

Very clear delivery. I loved the use of raps, songs etc. and can see how these would engage the children. Subject knowledge improved, especially in identifying graphemes!

This course has given me the confidence to use the resources which have already been bought for the school. I'm excited about teaching THRASS!

Good delivery. Lots of information and techniques. Venue excellent and school staff helpful.

Learned loads and helped me understand the basics. Would like to know more about how I can use the '15 Minutes a Day' teaching book on a day-to-day level and where I can get further ideas for a narrative approach to teaching.

Great. Very useful! Great venue and staff really pleasant and helpful to all visitors.

Well organised and run. Very enthusiastic leader. Learnt a massive amount about the sounds of English Language. More confident in teaching spelling. Very useful and helpful.

Fantastic! Am so glad my SEN teacher recommended the programme to me. My Deputy Head had courage in my conviction!. The course lived up to my expectations. Can't wait to start implementing it at school (though a little nervous in my ability to convince all my colleagues!).

Excellent training. I feel more confident about teaching THRASS! Thank you Alan! Inspirational!

Fantastic two days! Thank you very much. It all makes perfect sense now!

I have really enjoyed these two days. Alan keeps you inspired and motivated. I have learnt so much. I feel more confident and can't wait to try some out with the children in my class.

Inspired by training – looking forward to putting all I have learnt into action!

My two days with Alan were fun, fun, fun. I went in thinking I didn't know a lot about THRASS. I came out thinking I could actually teach it.

Great two days – good, clear understanding. Some great ideas for activities with school children and own children. Lots of thinking and lots of doing.

Alan was infectiously enthusiastic and displayed a real passion in what he was teaching. I am hoping to implement THRASS into the (Sure Start) Children's Centre, so chart and CDs will be invaluable. Additional resources for the ages 0-3 would be fantastic! Thank you very much Alan (and Oxley Park!).

Informative course with lots of ideas. I would have liked more time looking at each stage and ideas of lessons for each stage. I loved the Sing-A-Long resources and feel that these will have a huge impact in my school. Thank you for answering my endless questions!

Your enthusiasm is very catching – the resources and the THRASS system sell themselves. I got a bit irritated with the continual dissing of 'old' phonics schemes though (just do it less!) However, I have enjoyed the course and my subject knowledge has improved. The resources are great and the Sing-A-Long is going to be fantastic. ["I think this is unfair. The 'dissing', as you call it, was ALWAYS reasoned sensible explanation of how THRASS differs to other programmes. If I did not explain how THRASS differs from other programmes, especially at key points in the training, delegates would not know how to best explain the differences to forceful colleagues, especially those that have invested significant emotion, energy and finances in other (less sensible) programmes! Alan]

Fantastic! Having used other phonics approaches, I was unsure how this one would be any different. It was! I learnt an awful lot. Thank you! I will be making sure my niece and nephew are using this as well as the children at school. It is so much less confusing teaching like this rather than trying to give one letter one sound, and then having to go back on yourself!

Well presented. The fact that most points were re-visited helped the information to sink in. I also enjoyed the activities and look forward to trying them with the children.

Very clear explanation of ethos and methodology behind resources and scheme as a whole. Clearly presented and very charismatic.

I have really found the course enjoyable and informative. I will take away with me a wealth of enthusiasm and knowledge to start THRASS.