

PIVATS

Performance Indicators for Valued Assessment & Targeted Learning



Welcome

Welcome to our termly PIVATS newsletter where we update you on what is happening in the world of PIVATS, with some extra items which we hope will be helpful for you.

You may be aware that, although PIVATS is a resource written by Lancashire Local Authority School Improvement Team, it is used both nationally and internationally. We also have an 'extended PIVATS family' of Accredited Training Providers (ATPs) who have been trained as trainers and who are there to support colleagues in their use of PIVATS within local authorities and families of schools.

The PIVATS team is very grateful for all the support and feedback from users everywhere and highly value the relationships which have been built over the years with the ATPs.

Meet the Team



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Many of you are aware that we do not work full-time with PIVATS as we have other responsibilities within the local authority. However, everything we do informs our work with PIVATS and, underlying everything, is our commitment and motivation to improve outcomes for all our children.

What's New

Insight

We are delighted to announce that we have been working alongside Insight to enable schools to use PIVATS on their tracking system. The team at Insight have worked in partnership with the PIVATS team to ensure that the electronic version works in the same way as the paper or PDF version you have in school. You will be able to highlight criteria that children have achieved which will then auto generate a summative judgement for the child. Users of Insight will be able to request access to PIVATS once they have shown proof of purchase.

We are very excited about this partnership and hope that it supports schools to keep their tracking needs in one place.

Thoughts from the Team/Recommended Reads

Further articles around the theme of creating a sense of belonging in schools

The Belonging Collective – This collection of blog articles explore what belonging is in schools and why it is so important. [About – The Belonging Collective](#)

Alex Quigley – The Challenge of Belonging. [The challenge of belonging](#)

Alex Quigley explores different aspects of belonging and includes practical strategies to support these.

Focus Item – Culture for Learning - Developing Belonging

As children walk through the school gates this September, each of them arrives with a fundamental question: *Do I belong here?* The answer to that question can have a profound impact on their wellbeing, engagement and success. Here we look at developing a sense of belonging and how you could embed this in your setting.

What is belonging? What does it look like in school? The National Children's Bureau's research states that students who perceived their teachers as creating a caring environment where mutual respect is displayed felt a greater sense of belonging in school. But what are the elements that go towards creating this feeling? Knowing each child's uniqueness, promoting inclusivity and diversity, empowering pupil agency, developing family partnerships are all elements that may be on your list.

Getting to know the uniqueness of each child is a key aspect, and a helpful analogy is to consider the 'backpack' that each child brings with them. For some, this is full of opportunities, strong early childhood experiences, love and a secure home life. For others this may include trauma, a lack of parental expertise, unmet needs. Some backpacks are rich with opportunities and positive experiences, while others contain challenges, adversity and unmet needs. Knowing these 'backpacks' helps us tailor our support effectively to help the child develop further. We can then help fill the 'backpack' with experiences, learning opportunities and strategies to support all children.

The Belonging Collective discuss 'intentionally' designing a culture of belonging. Their most recent blog post considers belonging through the eyes of the child and some key questions.

Will I be accepted here?

Will people notice me here?

Will I succeed here?

Do I belong here?

As we settle into the new school year, consider key areas. Can children see themselves in the displays around school, the books in the library, the member of staff who knows their favourite football team/band/hobby?

Are they greeted warmly by every member of staff? Do they have the opportunity to take part in activities that appeal to them rather than ones that have been predetermined? Does the curriculum reflect who they are and where they came from? Can all children contribute and feel like they made a difference?

So much work is already done in schools to support culture and engagement, but as we settle into the new school year, perhaps the most important question is not whether we have strategies for belonging, but whether every child in our school would answer "yes" to the question: *Do I truly belong here?*

Updated PIVATS Website

The last couple of years have seen many developments regarding the PIVATS products, including a brand-new website. [PIVATS - Lancashire Professional Development Service](#) Not only will you find out more about the PIVATS products here, but you will also be able to discover the wide range of resources and courses offered by Lancashire's Education Improvement Service which will support provision for SEND. [Wider Lancashire Resources and Courses - Lancashire Professional Development Service](#)

New Ordering System

With the change in the website platform, it has been necessary to reconfigure the ordering processes which are detailed in this link [how-to-order-pivats-resources.pdf](#)

Language and Communication Extension Pack

In addition to the website, we have recently published our brand-new extension pack to support provision for pupils being assessed on the Language and Communication Milestones. This is FULL of practical strategies and has a number of useful appendices.



If you are someone who usually skips over introductions to get to the practical strategies (yes, we've all done it...), we recommend that, on this occasion, you rein yourself in and have a read of the introduction as this also contains a great deal of practical guidance on making sure the ordinarily available provision/universal offer is secure for all pupils. It is also very informative regarding development of language and communication.

The **Language and Communication** milestones have been updated to reflect development in this area. If you have PIVATS 5 in school, but have not received the free milestones update, please contact the team. The extension pack is an additional cost, but at £55 it is a real bargain.

To place an order please visit [PIVATS Extension Packs Order Form](#)

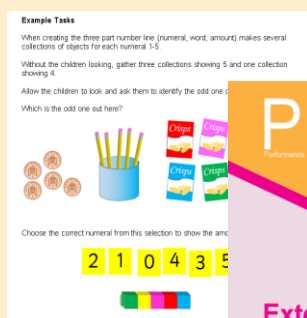
PIVATS Resources

These are the current PIVATS products available to support your assessment of children with SEND:

PIVATS 5 (Electronic and/or Hard Folder)

- Reading
- Writing
- Language and Communication,
- Number
- Shape, Space and Measure
- Scientific Enquiry and Skills

Sections are also sold individually.



PIVATS 5 Extension Packs

- Individualised Reading – currently being updated
- Number (up to milestone 2)
- Language and Communication

This has been recorded as if the training was being delivered online. It has been recorded to be led from the front by the SENDco/SLT (not to be watched by colleagues on an individual basis).

PIVATS PSED (Electronic and/or Hard Folder)

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- Performance Indicators for Value Added, School Effectiveness & Personal Learning
PIVATS PSED 5th Edition
 Performance Indicators for Value Added, School Effectiveness & Personal Learning
 5th Edition
 Published by Lancashire County Council
 2014
 www.lancashirecc.gov.uk
 01524 555555
- Lancashire**
 County Council



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One of the essential aspects of PIVATS training, is the discussion around PIVATS and the practical ideas. The webinar provides opportunities for these discussions to take place.

There are various packages available for the above, please check out the website for more information.

[PIVATS - Lancashire Professional Development Service](#)

BRAND NEW PIVATS

The majority of our PIVATS courses are delivered as online training to facilitate attendance for colleagues who are not based in Lancashire.

We have extended our course programme for 2025-2026 in response to feedback. Please check out our PIVATS courses below:

In addition to our usual courses:

[An Introduction to PIVATS 5](#) (highly recommended if you are new to PIVATS)

[How to Use PIVATS 5 PSED and Toolkit](#)

[PIVATS for SENDCos: Effectively Implementing PIVATS to Assess and Monitor Progress for Children with SEND](#)

we are excited to introduce our brand-new courses:

[PIVATS: Language and Communication Development](#) – Led by Louise Laycock of Bridge Speech Therapy (Main author of the Language and Communication Toolkit)

[PIVATS: Supporting Pupils Struggling with Reading](#) – Led by Caroline Yabantu from Lancashire English Team

[PIVATS: Supporting Pupils Struggling with Writing](#) – Also led by Caroline

[PIVATS Extension Pack – Number](#) – Led by Andrew Taylor from the Lancashire Maths Team, who also wrote the extension pack which so many of you are finding very helpful. This course will focus on how to get the most from this resource.

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. We hope you have found it interesting and helpful. If you have any suggestions on what you would like us to include in future newsletters, please do not hesitate to get in touch and let us know.

In the meantime, we send you every best wish for the autumn term as you continue to make a positive impact on every child.

*"Every child deserves a champion—an adult
who will never give up on them, who understands
the power of connection and insists that they become
the best that they can possibly be."*

Rita Pierson