

Analysing Intervention Programs - Questions to consider

There is no silver bullet or ‘intervention-in-a-box’ that can beat a highly effective teacher working with a targeted group of students¹.

When considering a program, sites should first ask:

Element	Questions to consider
Assess	What are the specific learning needs of the child? What learning and perception data do I have that informs my decision? Is this program best fit to meet those needs? Does this program fit within our core curriculum? ² Is there assessment to monitor and track learner progress within this program? How will I know it is making a difference? Where does this program fit within our Literacy and Numeracy Improvement Cycle? Where will the program be based in the school? When will the program occur so that learners do not miss out on ‘core instruction’?
Plan - Analysing effectiveness	Does this program have a balance of skill development and application ³ ? What research underpins this program? Who conducted the research? Are the findings credible? Is the product valid? Will it deliver what it says? (Don’t trust the brochure!) Is the program targeted, timely, purposeful and time-limited? How does the program reflect essential learning objectives of the core classroom curriculum? Is the program timely? Targeted? Purposeful? Time-limited?
Plan - Analysing resources & costs	Is the program being administered by a trained professional? What training is required? How much is the program? How many learners will be involved?
Track - Describing results	What multiple measures will be collected as baseline prior to, and at the end program? How will you monitor effectiveness and progress throughout the program? What will you use? How often will you monitor progress? How will it be recorded? How will you adjust if the program is not meeting the child’s needs? What other data can I use to correlate this learners’ achievement?
Adapt - Future planning	What difference has this program made to children’s learning? How long have we been using this program? Have the needs of our learners changed since the inception of this program? Have we updated our system of interventions in the past three years ⁴ ?

¹ Buffam et al 2012 Simplifying Response to Intervention

² Hanover Research 2014 Best Practices in Math Interventions p4

³ Anne Bayetto – meeting August 25 2016

⁴ ACER Literacy & Numeracy Interventions in the Early years of Schooling: A Literature review pxiv

REFERENCES:

- DECD Results Plus Expectation D
- MUSEC Briefings Issue 17 March 2009
- Leanne Prior 2016

