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Mark Lancaster and Iain Stewart observed pupil Saizar McConnell and teacher Helen Stickland's Reading Recovery lesson at Wood End School in Stantonbury.

The MPs for Milton Keynes North and South learnt how the daily thirty-minute sessions, which usually last for 20 weeks, can radically improve the reading of five and six year olds.

A recent report said that nationally, one in 11 boys leaves primary school unable to read.

However, the system being used across Milton Keynes " which was devised 30 years ago in New Zealand " ensures one-to-one tutoring fast-tracks pupils into competency with words and language.

After the lesson Mr Lancaster said: "I was highly impressed by Saizar, Mrs Stickland and Reading Recovery itself. The ability to read is the most fundamental, important thing a child can learn at school, underpinning all their future learning. This system gives an excellent boost to those who need it."

Mr Stewart added: " It was a delight seeing Saizar being helped with the Reading Recovery technique. I know from experience the importance that reading and writing play in one's life. I am pleased that pupils have the opportunity of an early intervention to get the foundation right."