

Intent.

Growth Mindset Trial at Queensbury School

At Queensbury we have concluded an initial trial period of delivering a programme for growth mindset. The aim of the programme is to develop a shift in students' mindset from a fixed mindset to a growth mindset. The ultimate aim being to improve academic attainment and develop student's resilience to mistakes/ errors they make during their learning journeys as a challenge instead of perceiving them as failures; the belief that intelligence is not a fixed characteristic and can be increased through effort. Previous research (Good *et al.*, 2003; Blackwell *et al.*, 2007) has suggested that holding this belief enables pupils to work harder and achieve better results. This has been further supported by Dr Carol Dweck from Stanford University. Dr Dweck and her colleagues became interested in students' attitudes about failure. They noticed that some students rebounded while other students seemed devastated by even the smallest setbacks, which is very similar to many of the students here at Queensbury School. After studying the behaviour of thousands of children, Dr Dweck coined the terms fixed mindset and growth mindset to describe the underlying beliefs people have about learning and intelligence. When students believe they can get smarter, they understand that effort makes them stronger. Therefore they put in extra time and effort, and that leads to higher achievement.

Implementation.

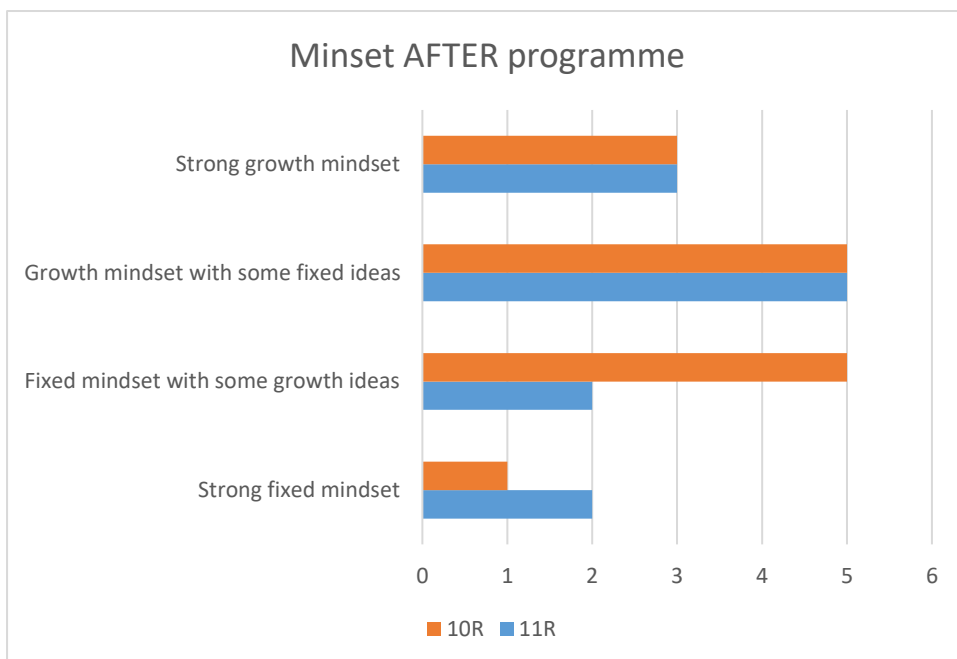
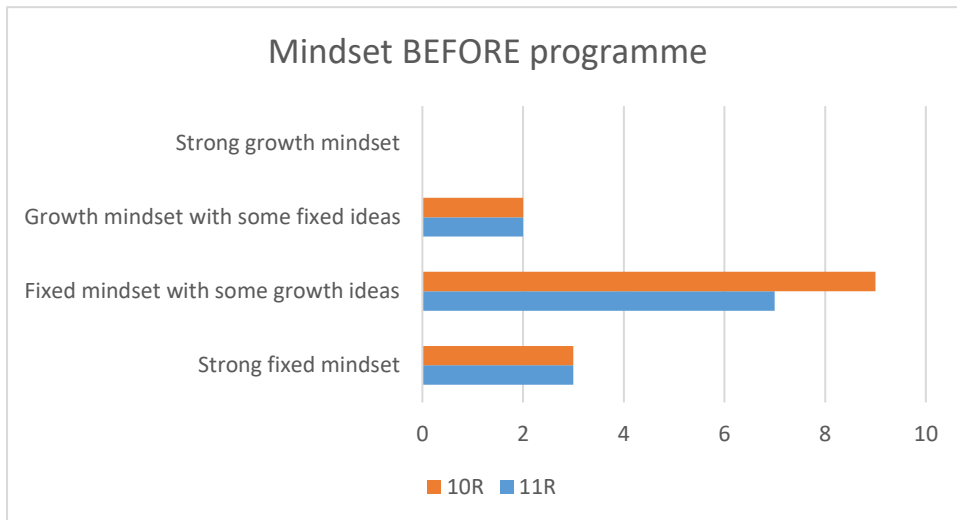
Results from the trial

Pupils completed assessments before and after completion of the programme to identify their mindset. Based on a scoring system they were then identified as having 1 of 4 mindsets: strong fixed mindset, fixed mindset with some growth ideas, growth mindset with some fixed ideas and strong growth mindset.

Impact at KS4.

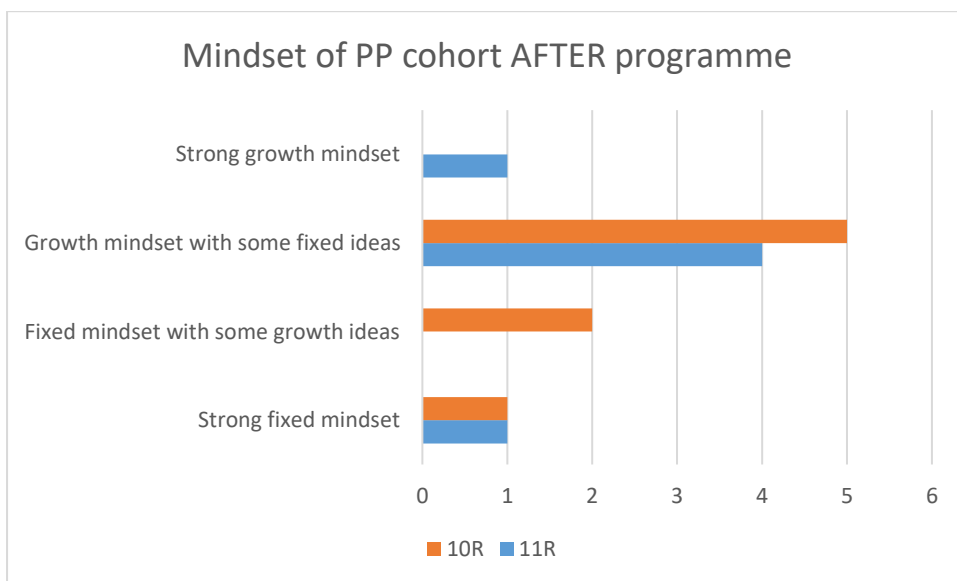
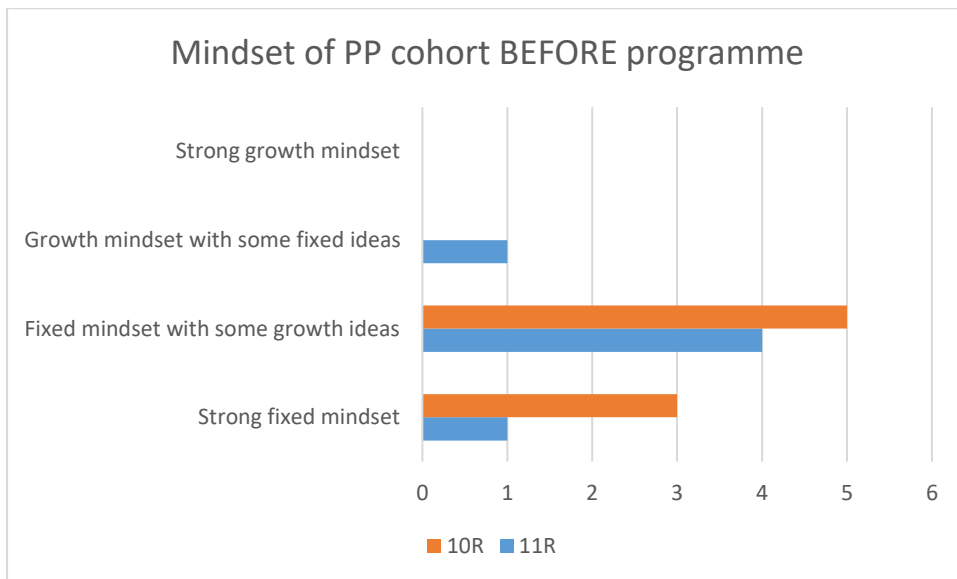
Whole group

The results for the whole group showed that in group 11R which consists of 12 students, 75% of the cohort had a positive shift in mindset after the programme. 10R consists of 14 students of which 71% made a positive shift in mindset from fixed to growth. This shows that on average the programme enabled an overall positive shift in mindset of 73%.



Pupil Premium cohort

Within 11R and 10R groups 83% and 88% of pupil premium students made a positive shift in mindset from fixed towards growth with 17% and 12% staying the same respectively.



On average 85.5% of pupil premium students made a positive shift in mindset after the programme compared to 73% for the whole group which included pupil premium and non-pupil premium pupils. This shows that the impact of the growth mindset programme benefited pupil premium students slightly more.