



# New Hampshire Charter School Office

## Best Practice Submission Form

<b>School Name:</b>	Strong Foundations Charter School
<b>Best Practice Title:</b>	Orton-Gillingham & Structured Literacy
<b>Applicable Categories:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accountability and Performance Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Business Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Community/Student Engagement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Curriculum Design <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership & Governance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Professional Development <input type="checkbox"/> Recruitment and Retention (Staff or Student) <input type="checkbox"/> School Culture <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
<b>School Mission:</b>	<p>Strong Foundations' mission is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Build early literacy by using an Orton-Gillingham approach and building phonemic awareness so that children are reading at grade level by fourth grade.</li><li>• To create a learning environment wherein 90% of the student population beginning Strong Foundations in Readiness or grade 1 will be proficient or advanced in reading by the end of grade four.</li><li>• To create a Readiness-Grade 8 school where the entire faculty is trained in and uses the Orton-Gillingham approach so that other schools and districts can make use of the school for training of faculty, i.e., elementary teachers, reading specialists, learning disabilities specialists, tutors, and paraprofessionals.</li><li>• To incorporate the Core Knowledge Curriculum in grades R-8 in Science, Social Studies, Language Arts, Music, and art, in order to build students' background knowledge and reading comprehension.</li></ul>
<b>Purpose:</b>	Teachers and all staff are trained in Orton-Gillingham, including in phonemic awareness, so children develop strong reading skills beginning in the early elementary grades.
<b>Summary:</b>	<p>Teachers are required to take a 30-hour Orton-Gillingham course prior to working as a teacher at Strong Foundations. A sequence of skills and concepts were developed for students in grades Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> with particular detail at the Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade levels.</p> <p>Student instruction is multimodal (visual, auditory, kinesthetic/tactile) and develops reading and writing skills simultaneously. Instruction also develops metacognitive skills so students can monitor and correct errors while working independently.</p>



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	Based on spring 2022-2023 NWEA scores, 89% of the Kindergarten students were reading at or above grade level (41 <sup>st</sup> percentile or above). In 1 <sup>st</sup> grade, 83% were reading at or above grade level. This positions students to continue reading progress at or above grade level. Students reading at the low average or low range received RTI services.
<b>Partner(s) in Development:</b>	Orton-Gillingham Academy (OGA) and OGA Fellow, Beth McClure
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Beth McClure, Principal <a href="mailto:bmclure@sfnh.org">bmclure@sfnh.org</a>
<b>Resources or Documentation:</b>	Sequence for Kindergarten and Grade 1