

Geneva Global's Speed School Program



CIES 2019

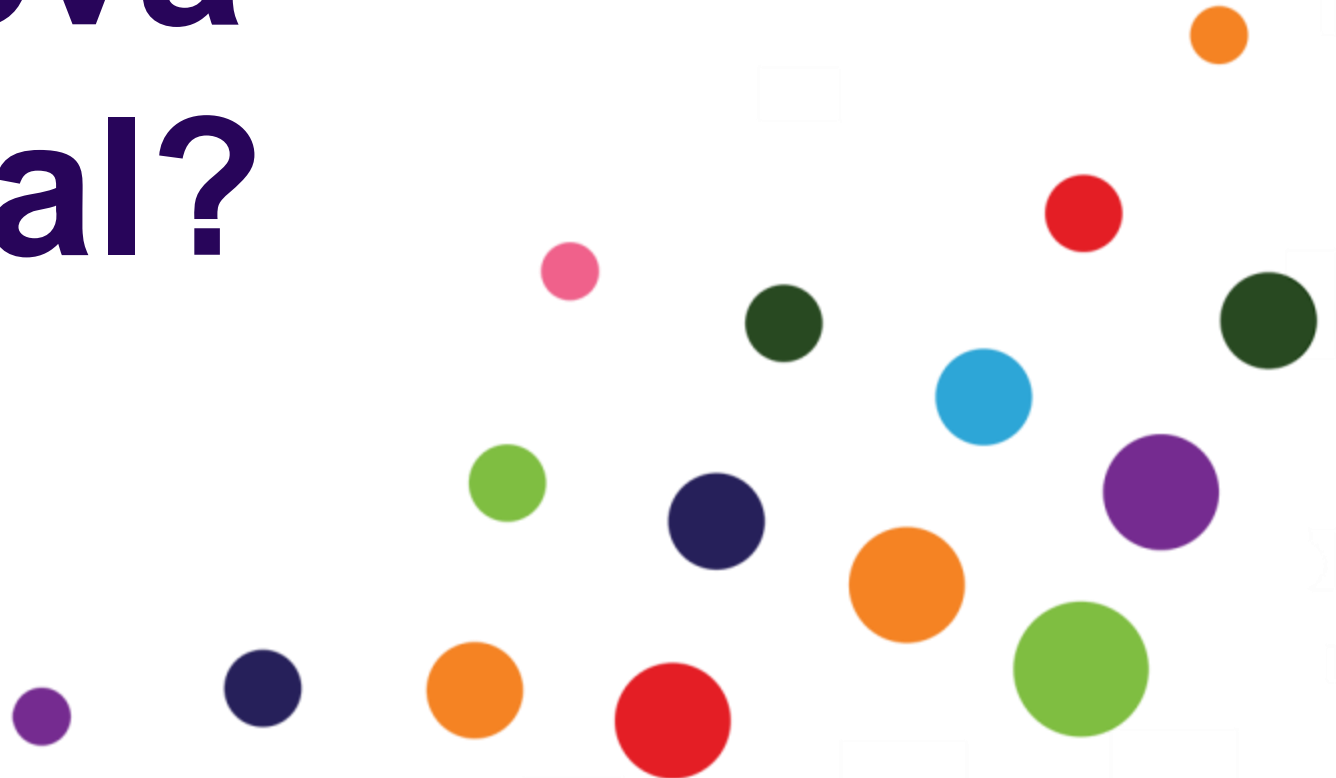
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What is Geneva Global?



Who Are We?

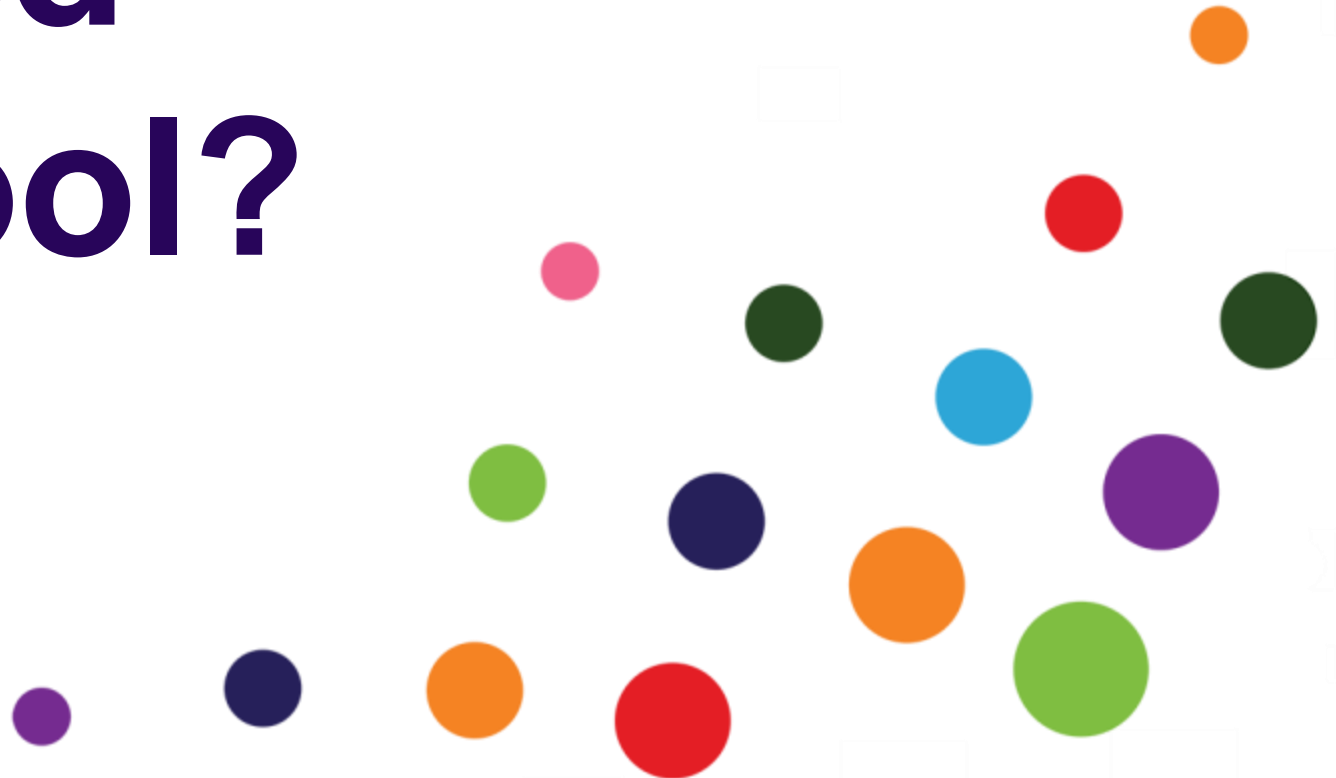
Geneva Global is a **philanthropic consulting** company that works with philanthropists, charitable organizations, and corporations to help them **achieve the extraordinary.**



**Geneva
Global.**



What is Speed School?



What is Speed School?

- Speed School is an accelerated education program implemented by Geneva Global and funded by private donors
- Goal is to help out-of-school children reenter the formal school system
- 3 years of primary school content condensed into 10 months
- Currently operational in Ethiopia and Uganda
- Contextualized for each country



How is Speed School Implemented?



Implementing Partners

- Geneva Global identifies and vets local implementing partners (IPs) to execute the Speed School model
- IPs engage the local community to conduct outreach, recruit facilitators and identify classroom spaces
- IPs serve as a critical link with local government authorities



DANFE, a local partner in Ethiopia

Who Attends Speed School?

- IPs identify out-of-school children to enroll in the Speed School classes
- Speed School targets children between 8 and 14 years old
- Aim is for students to enter formal primary school in 4th grade



Who is the facilitator?

- Local community member
- Speaks the same mother tongue as the students
- Has at least a Grade 10 education
- Receives 21 days of intense training in Speed School model
- Creates learning tasks and opportunities



“When the children came, they were empty. Now they are learning fast with the activities... Every day I can see they learn new things and I learn new things. Every day we are both learning.”

- Mebrahtu Birhanu, facilitator

What is a Speed School Classroom?

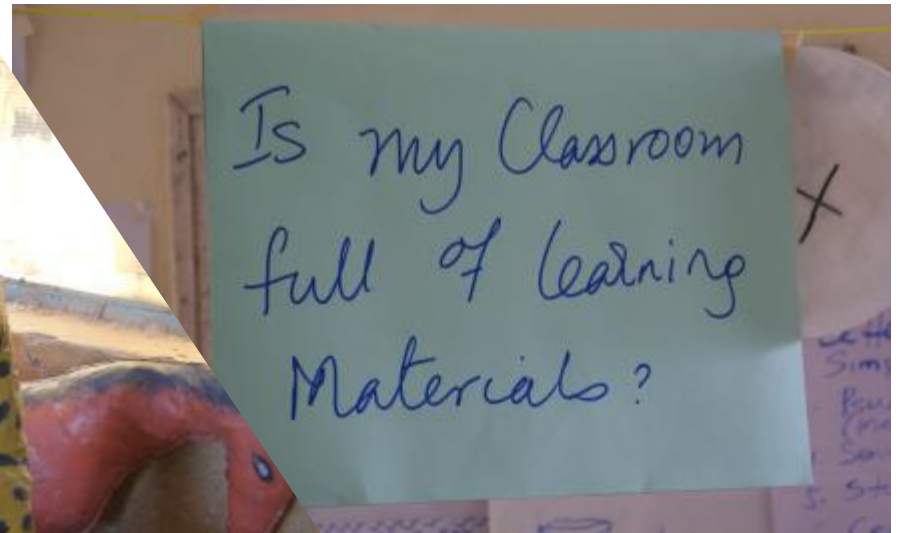
- Led by a local facilitator
- 25-30 students per class
- Seated in 5 groups of 5-6 students each
- Taught in the local language
- Condensed curriculum is based on the formal school curriculum
- Focus on literacy and numeracy with an interdisciplinary approach



What is a Speed School Classroom?

- A vibrant dynamic classroom where students are surrounded by learning materials
- A noisy classroom where students are active and engaged
- A collaborative space where students work in groups
- A classroom where facilitators are also active and empowered to establish a safe, creative classroom



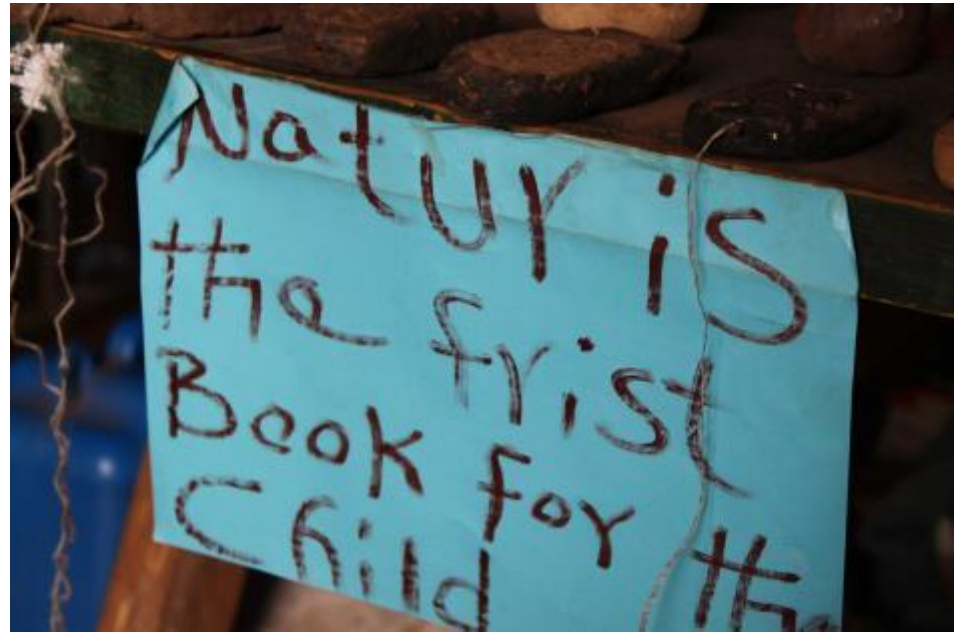


What is the Pedagogical Model?



Pedagogy

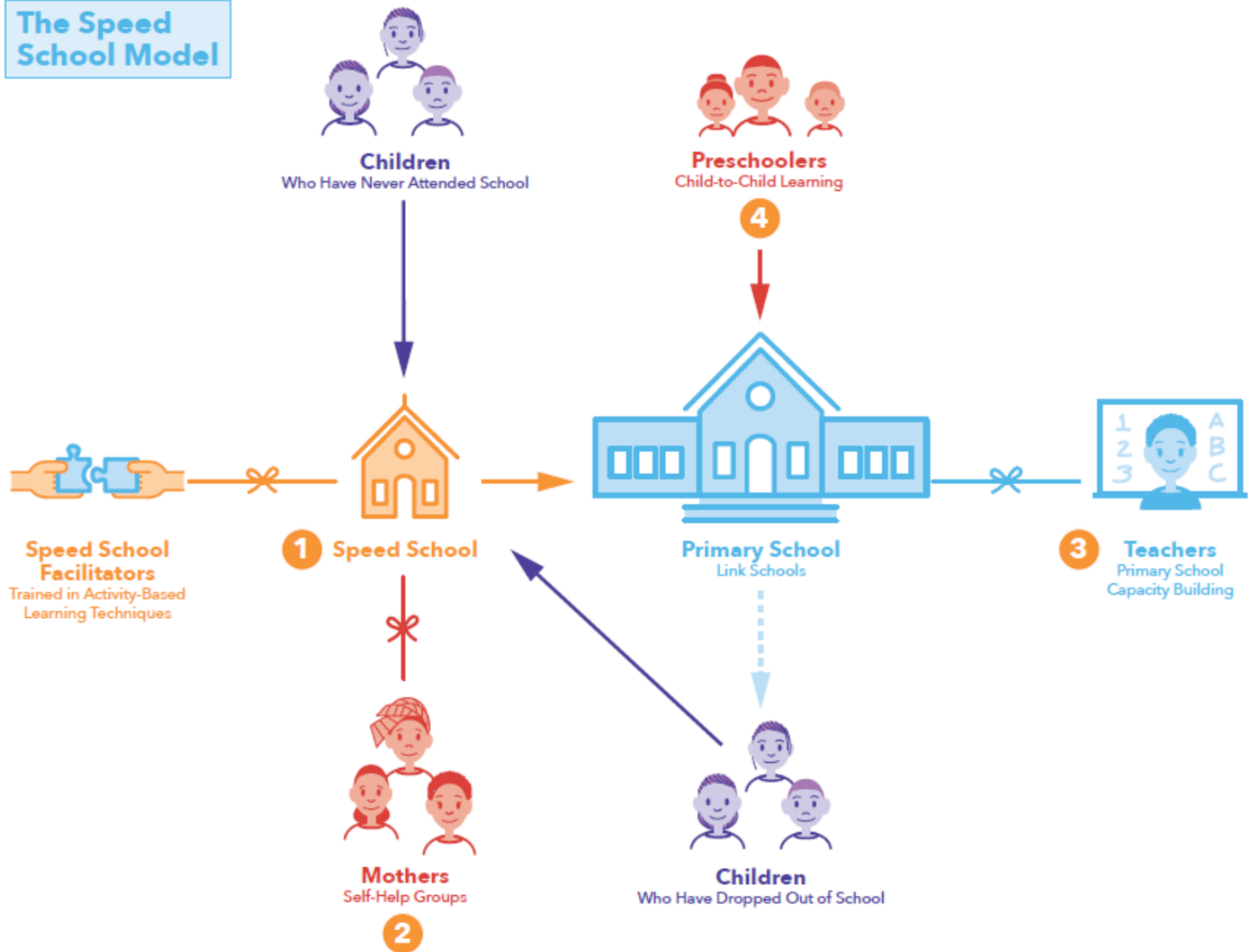
- Student-centered, activity-based learning through:
 - Games
 - Music
 - Nature
 - Family interaction
- Independent & group work
- Peer instruction
- Projects and activities
- Low-cost and no-cost materials



What are the Complementary Components?



The Speed School Model



Moving Towards Sustainability



Government Engagement

- Relationship building with all levels of government
- Involvement of Ministry of Education as well as local government structures
- Development and review of curriculum materials
- Most Speed School classes are co-located on government school campuses



Primary School Capacity Building

- Geneva Global and IPs identify schools that will enroll Speed School students when they transition to formal school, referred to as “Link schools”
- Provide ongoing support
- Includes training for Link School teachers in student-centered methodology
- 15 guiding conversations where the principal and teachers discuss how to use student-centered methodology in the classroom – these form the basis for professional development trainings
- 3 formal trainings per school year from IPs



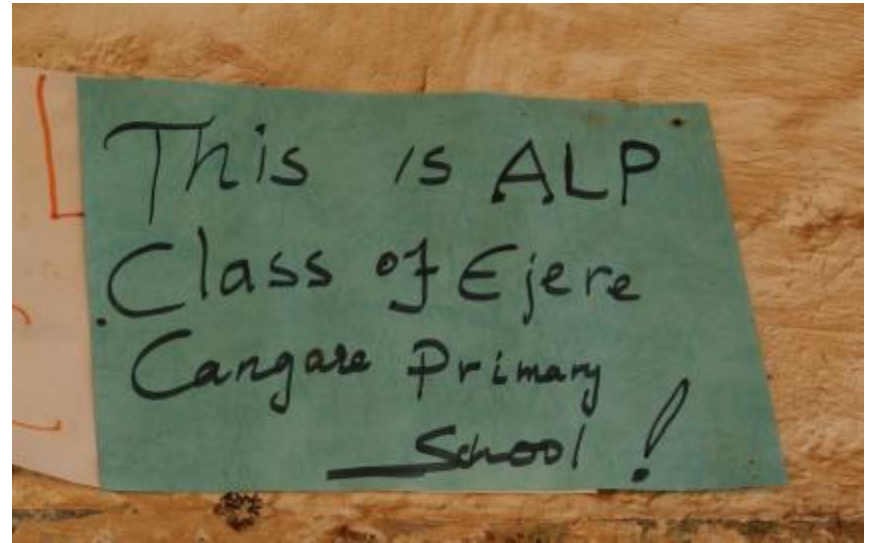
Teacher Training

- In Uganda, Primary Teacher College (PTC) officials have been training facilitators since 2017
- Working to create formal pathways for facilitators to become trained teachers



Government Adoption

- Geneva Global has a long-term strategic plan for government adoption working over the next five years to gradually transition the program to full government ownership



- In Ethiopia in 2017/18 there were 32 government run Accelerated Learning classes in one region of Ethiopia (Tigray)
- In Ethiopia in 2018/19 there are 110 ALP classes in three regions (Tigray, SNNPR and Oromia)

Partner Support

- Engagement in medium and long-term planning
 - Local education offices need to plan for school budgets which are often submitted a year or more in advance
- Provision of training and curricula materials
 - Development of an accelerated education “Toolkit” is ongoing
 - Revision of accelerated curriculum
- Site visits to introduce new officials to the program
- Dissemination of research findings



What are the Results to Date?



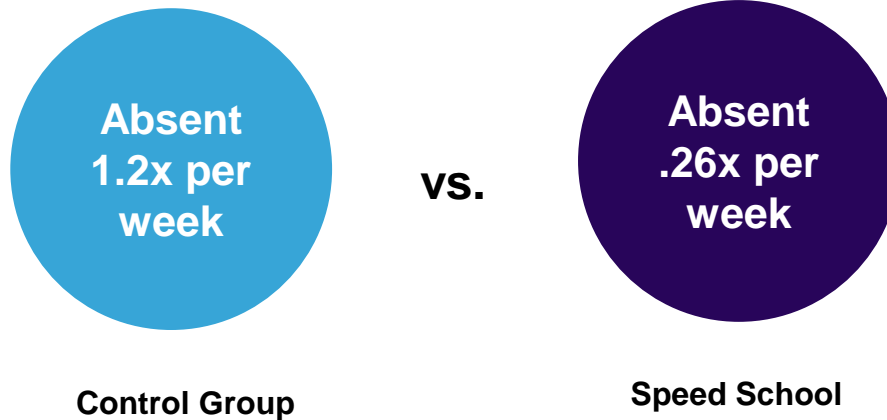
Evidence Base

- Six-year longitudinal study complete by University of Sussex
- Tracked students from the first Ethiopia Speed School student cohort in 2011
- Sample of 625 students from 25 Speed School classrooms
- Control group of 1,250 students from government schools

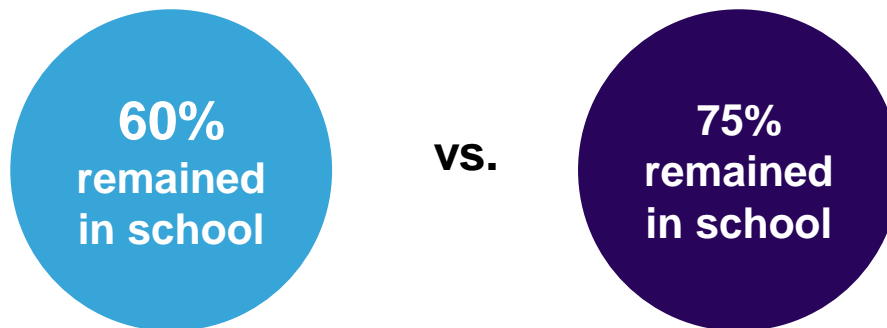


Research Results

- Speed School students attended school more regularly:



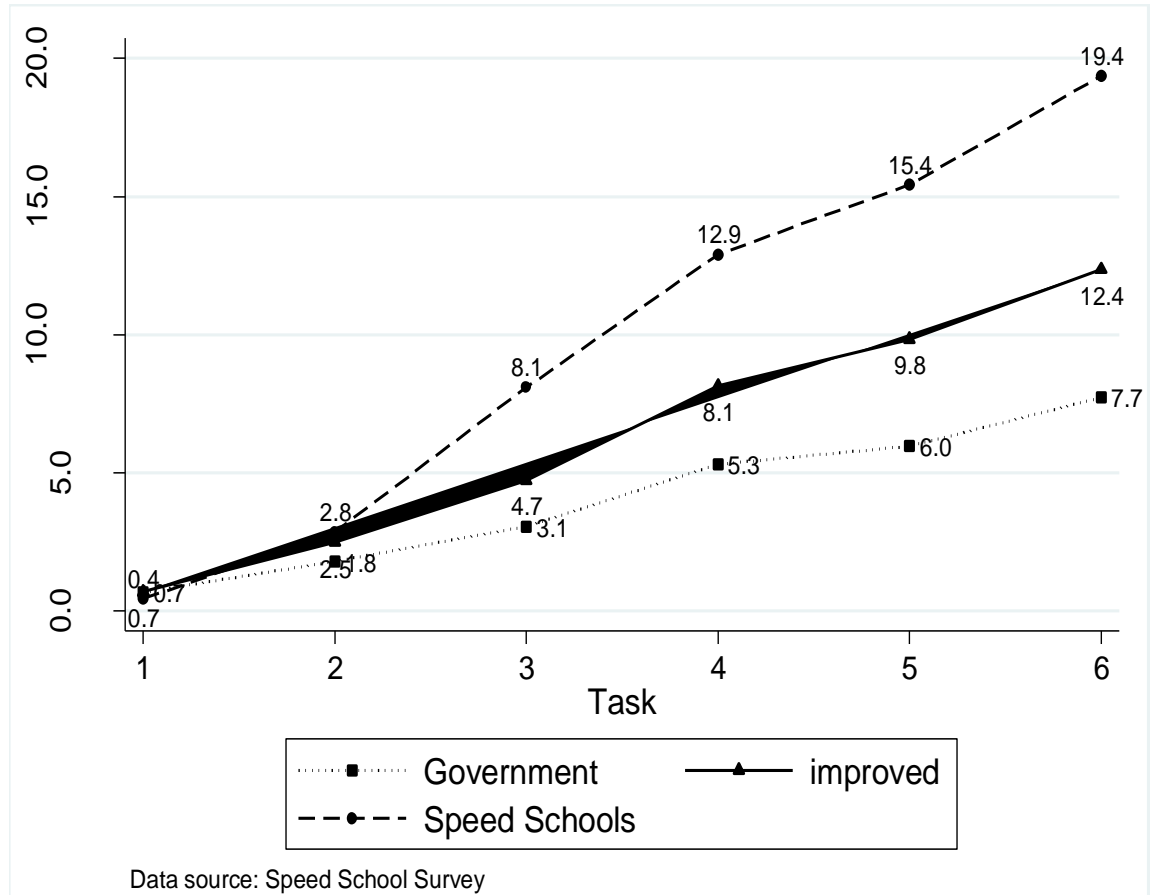
- Speed School students were more likely to stay enrolled:



Research Results

Impact of Speed School after 10 months - Cumulative change in score for literacy test

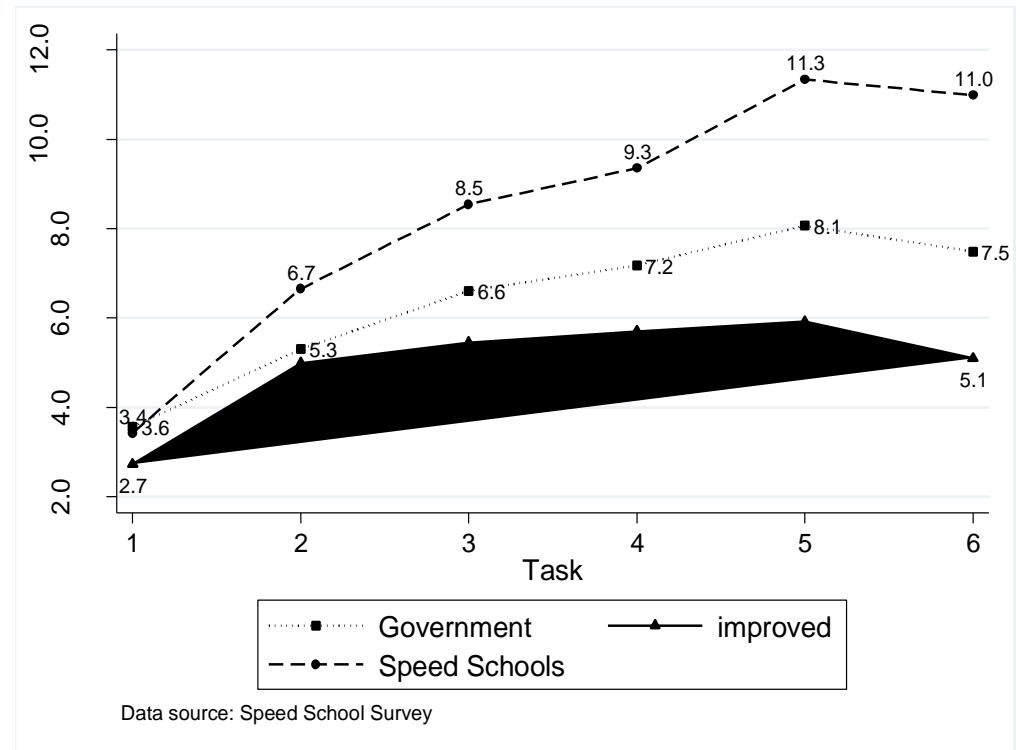
- Children enrolled in Speed Schools achieved 19 cumulative points (out of total of 45 points) between the baseline and the endline.
- Children enrolled in Link School achieved 12 cumulative points
- Children enrolled in government schools achieved 7.7 cumulative points between the baseline and the endline surveys.



Research Results

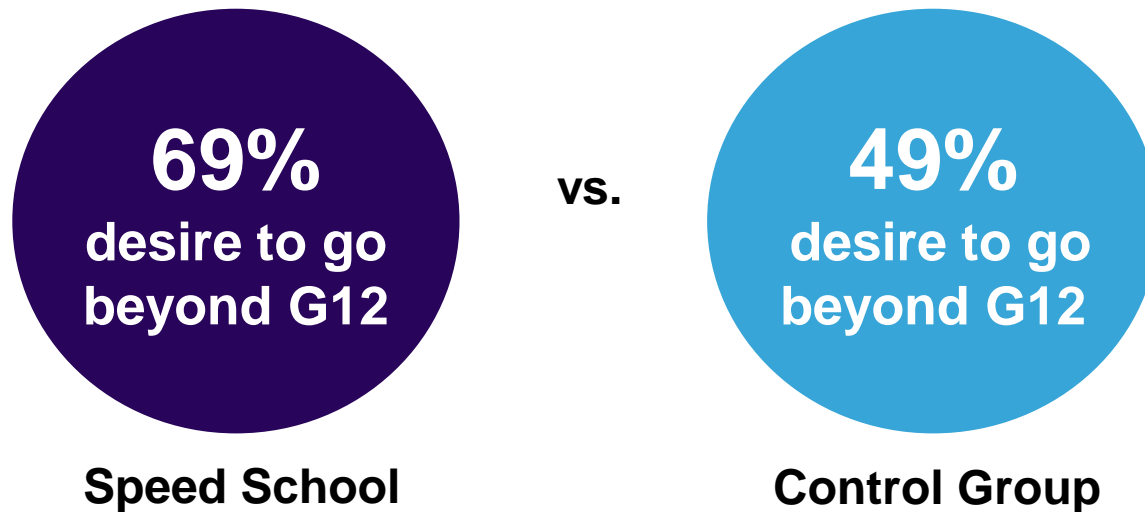
Impact of Speed School after 10 months - Cumulative change in score for numeracy test

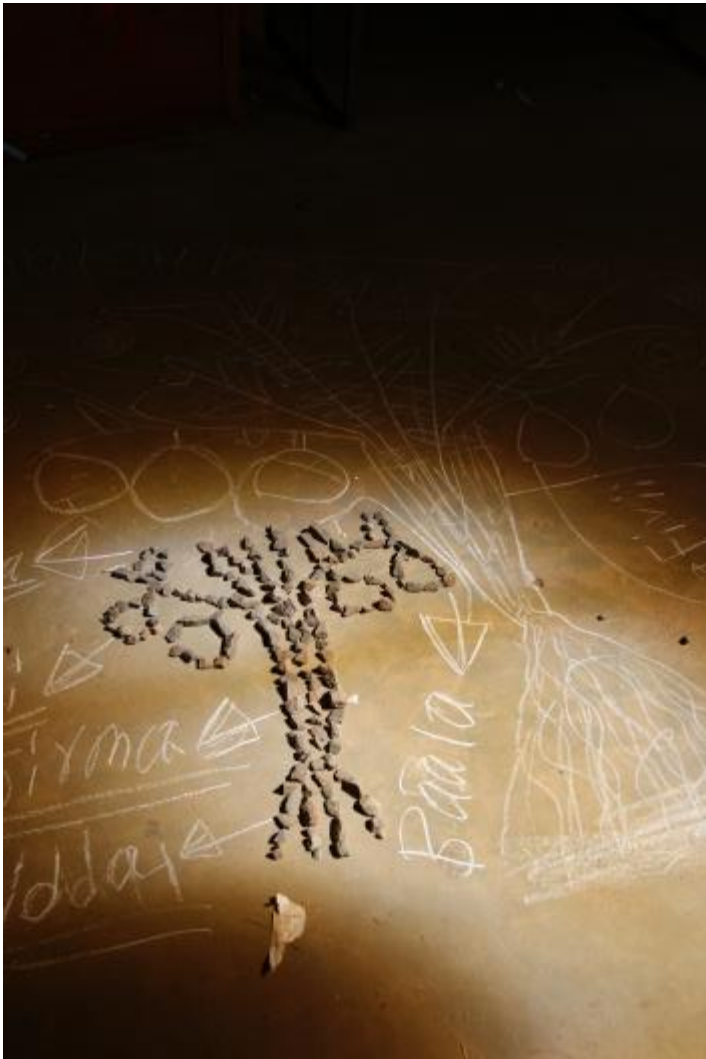
- Results show a cumulative improvement in the numeracy test with the greatest improvement achieved for children in the Speed Schools (11 points), followed by children in government schools (7.5 points) and finally children in improved schools (5.1 points).



Research Results

- Speed School students have higher aspirations to progress beyond primary education





Thank you

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