

## Project Summary

### *Let Teachers Shine: an implementation readiness evaluation for SHINE (Support and Help IN Education)*

#### **Policy, practice/research content**

There is a growing evidence base from implementation science about critical ingredients of success for delivering, sustaining and scaling up innovation. SHINE is a grant making trust that funds and develops innovative approaches to give disadvantaged young people additional attention and study support to raise their achievement. Since 2007 it has invested £17m in schools and voluntary sector organisations with the aim of helping all young people to reach their full potential.

#### **Background to the project**

In 2012 SHINE launched a new programme, Let Teachers Shine, which funds teachers to pilot creative approaches to improve maths and literacy skills. The programme is supported by Bloomberg and the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation. It uses a 'staircase' model where an initial set of projects funded for one year is successively whittled down in years two and three, based on evidence of take-up, impact and the potential for scaling up. SHINE's aim is that the programme will build capacity for implementing innovation in schools, identify the most promising projects and feed the 'pipeline' for investment programmes that support large scale projects over several years. Our implementation readiness evaluation brings rigorous, evidence-informed scrutiny to the practical delivery of innovation, applying frameworks and approaches from implementation science and investment impact analysis to assess each project, inform funding decisions, build capacity for and synthesise learning about nurturing innovation, and evaluate the success of the programme overall.

#### **Project design**

The project began in Summer 2013 and will continue for three years. It will include new cohorts of projects entering the first 'step' of the funding 'staircase' and will follow successful projects through subsequent years of funding. It involves a number of components:

- support to the funded projects to elucidate and develop their theory of change (key to understanding the 'active ingredients' of innovations and critical success factors in their implementation)
- online collection of implementation data about practical delivery, wider systems change and the scope for and experiences of scaling up
- case study work with projects which go through for a second or third year of funding, to explore implementation and scaling up in more detail
- an 'evidence check' where projects are assessed against the theory and evidence of what works.

Evidence of impact on attainment is being collected separately by SHINE and will be incorporated in our analysis and advice.

**Publications and outputs**

There will be annual reports in 2014, 2015 and 2016.

**Contact**

Jane Lewis, Director of Implementation Support, [jlewis@cevi.org.uk](mailto:jlewis@cevi.org.uk)

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