

# Focus to Flourish

Five Actions to Accelerate Progress in Learning

There has been tremendous progress toward ensuring that every child has access to school —and now that most children are in school, the focus must shift to ensuring universal learning, which requires fundamental changes.

# Align

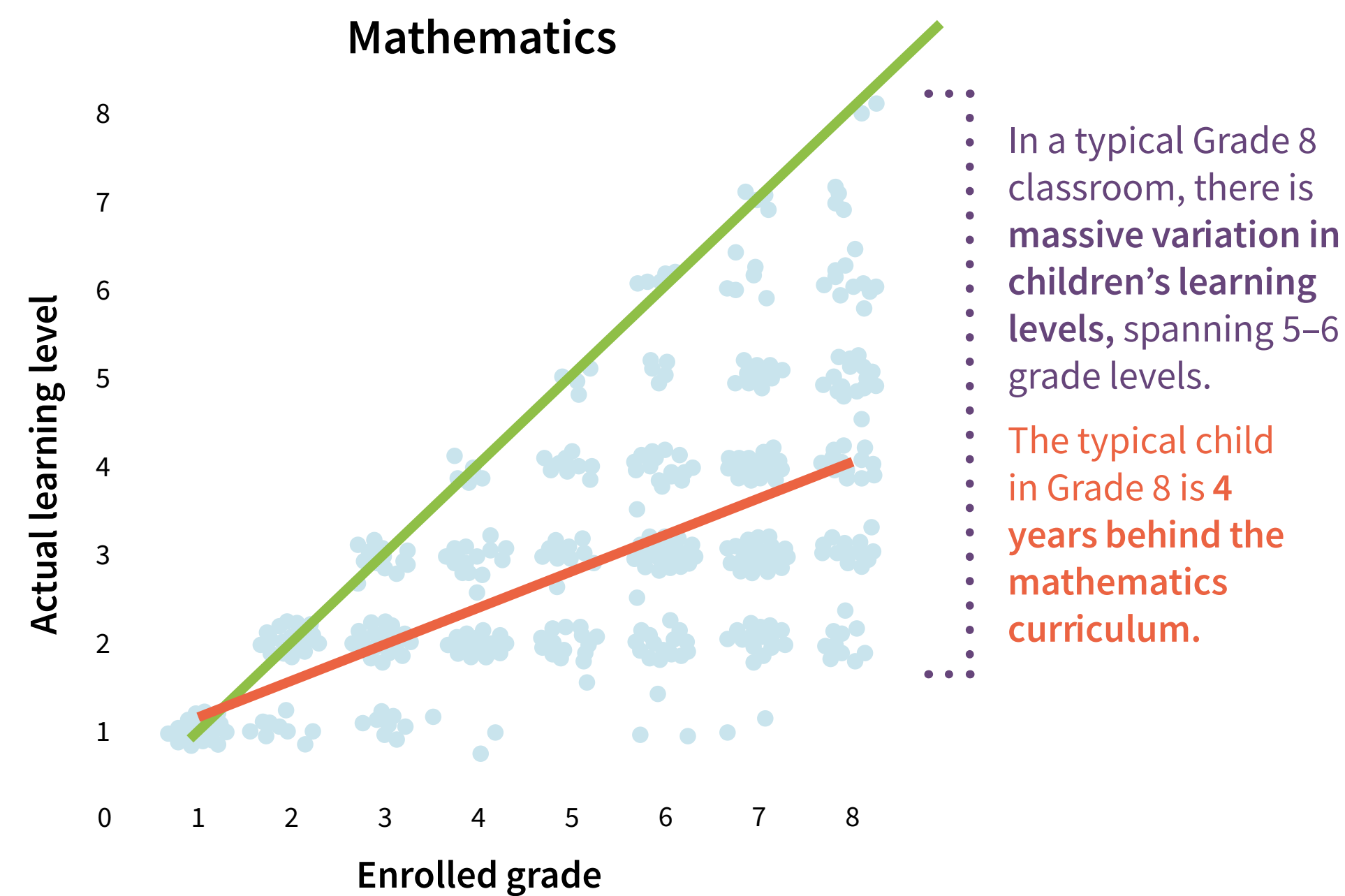
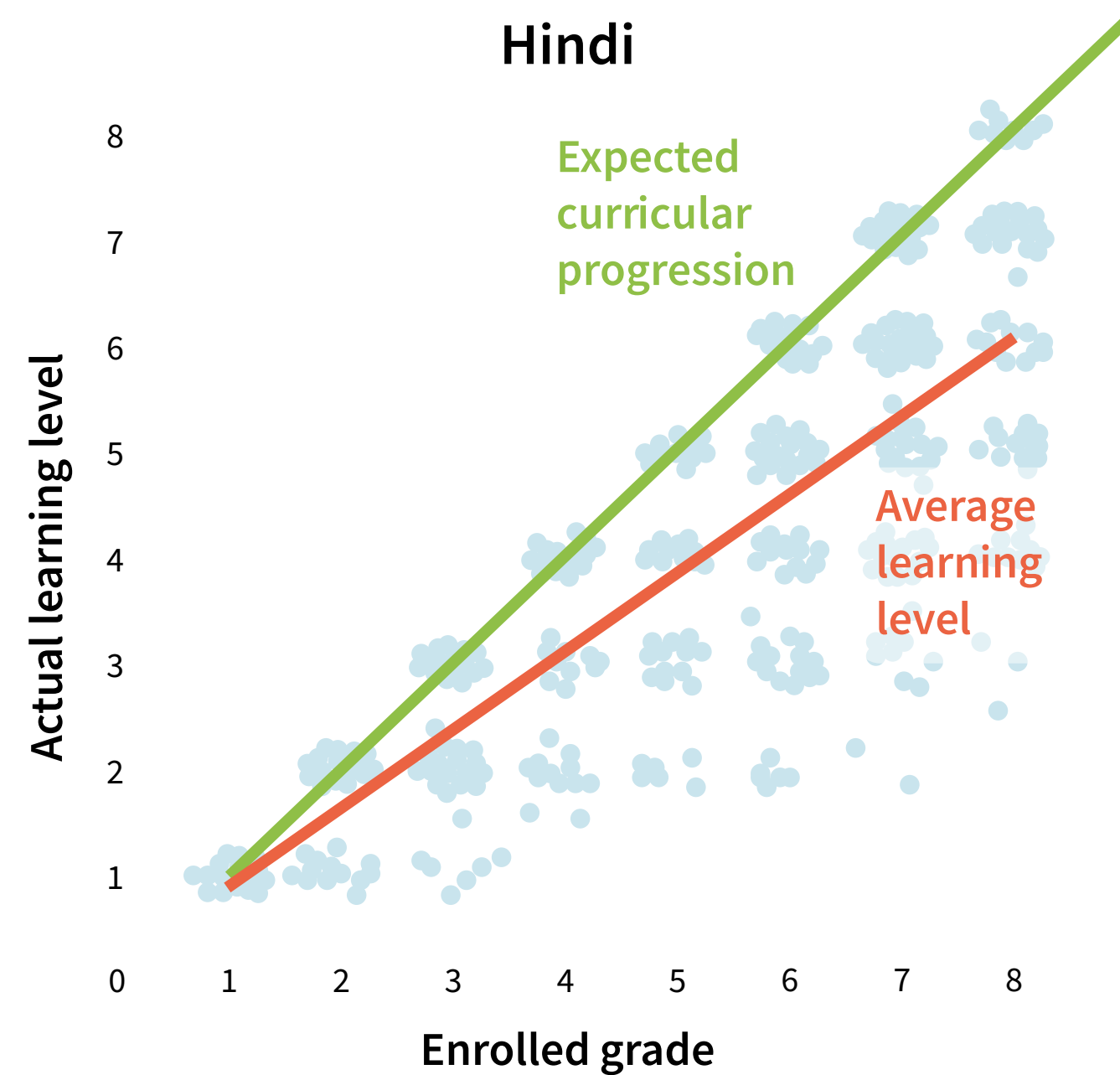
systems around learning commitments



Align Measure  
Commit Support  
Adapt

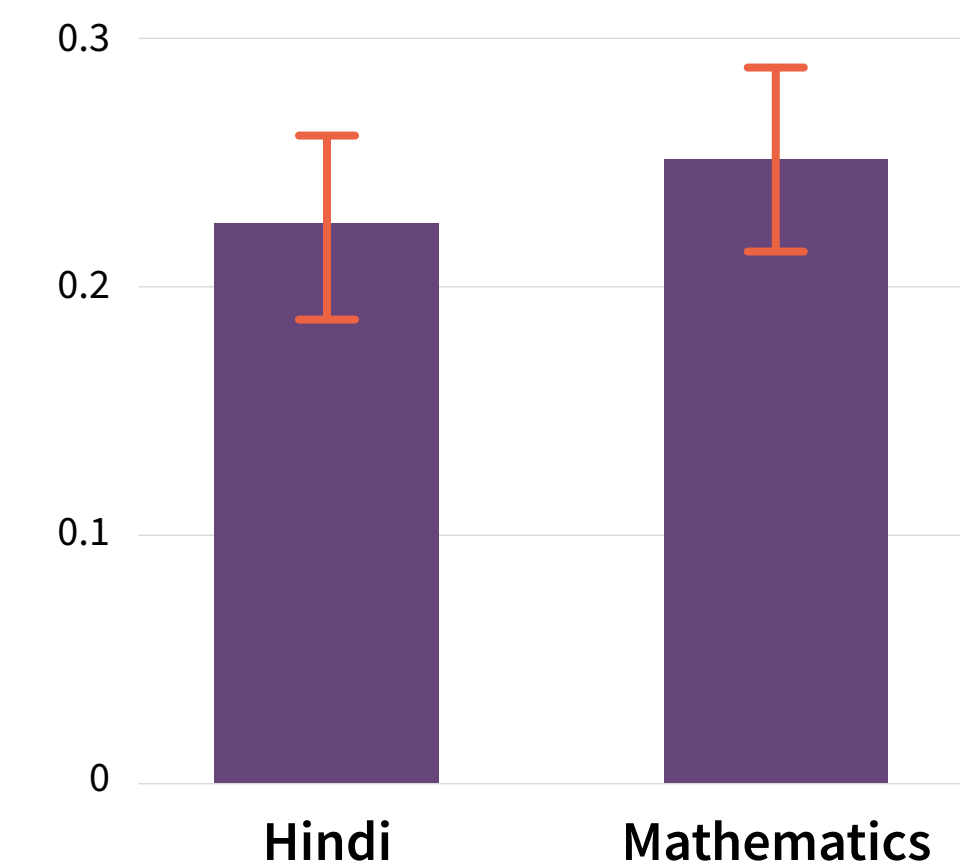
In many contexts, the curriculum does not match children's learning levels—and better aligning instruction with children's needs can substantially improve outcomes

In Rajasthan, India, an evaluation of a computer-aided personalised instruction programme found that the curriculum was misaligned with the learning levels of all except the most advantaged children ...



... but, by aligning instruction with children's needs, the programme improved learning outcomes.

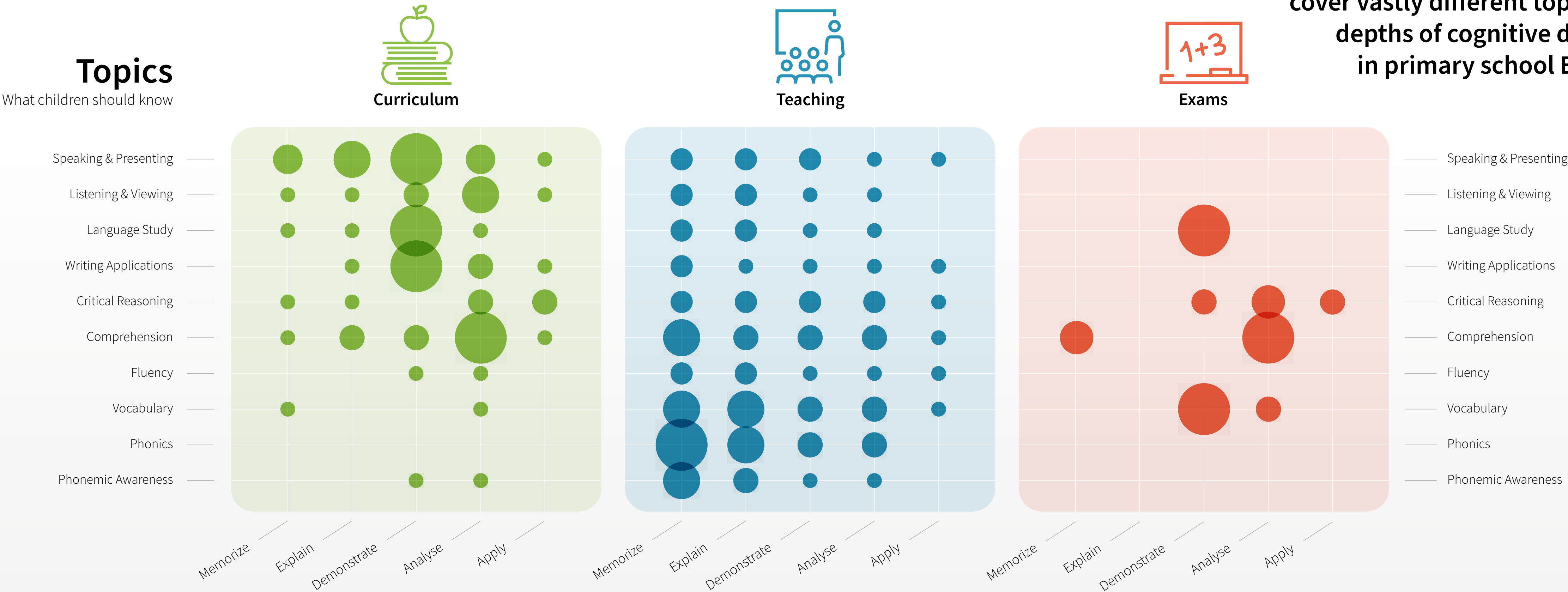
Impact on student learning (SD) after 2.5 years of exposure to the personalised instruction programme



Source: Muralidharan & Singh, 2019, using Mindspark mathematics data from Rajasthan.  
In the scatterplots, each dot represents 10 students.  
See also Rodriguez-Segura & Mbiti, 2022.

# Curricula, classroom teaching, and exams are often poorly aligned

In Uganda, the **national curriculum**, **classroom teaching**, and **exams** cover vastly different topics and depths of cognitive demand in primary school English.



# There are four principles underlying efforts for better Aligning Levels of Instruction with Goals and the Needs of Students (ALIGNS)

1



**Set clear goals  
for children's  
learning progress  
in line with  
current learning  
levels.**

2



**Align instruction  
to be coherent  
with both current  
learning levels and  
targeted learning  
progress.**

3



**Provide effective  
and coherent  
support to  
teachers and  
instructors.**

4



**Tailor  
implementation to  
the opportunities  
and constraints of  
the context.**



# Align Measure Commit Support Adapt





**Commit** to universal, early foundational learning  
**Measure** learning regularly, reliably, and relevantly  
**Align** systems around learning commitments  
**Support** teaching  
**Adapt** what you adopt as you implement