



Reading Policy

The more that you read, the more things you will know.

The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.

-Dr Seuss

Eversley Primary School's Reading Vision

At Eversley Primary School we recognise the importance of reading **as a life skill** that will **open many doors** for our pupils. We understand the **significant role played by parents, teachers and support staff** in supporting children to read with **enjoyment, fluency and deep understanding.**

The aims of this reading policy:

- To share strategies used to teach reading, including phonics, across the school
- To outline how reading sessions are planned from Reception to Year 6
- To explain how teachers assess reading
- To lay out the provision in place for SEND pupils, disadvantaged pupils and those needing additional support

Phonics and Early Reading

Pupils in Reception and Year 1 learn phonics through the synthetic phonics Read, Write, Inc. programme. The programme is highly inclusive and has a focus on teacher modelling and pupil participation.

Delivery of Phonics

- Initial sounds are taught in a specific order
- Sounds taught should be 'pure' i.e. 'b' not 'buh'
- Sounds taught are *bouncy*, e.g. 'p' or *stretchy*, e.g. 'f'
- Pupils are taught that the number of graphemes in a word always corresponds to the number of phonemes (which greatly aids with spelling)
- At first, pupils learn one way to read the 40+ sounds and blend these sounds into words
- Pupils then learn to read the same sounds with alternative graphemes

Organisation in Reception

- Daily 20 minute phonics session in class – learning a new sound, focusing on letter formation, blending for reading and segmenting for writing ('word time' also known as 'Fred Talk')
- Initial 1:1 weekly reading session developing to group reading in ability groups with teachers and support staff
- Pupils using RWI books and other colour banded (ability) books to support reading
- Children using the Ditties to begin blending to read short captions and then sentences

Organisation in Year 1

- Daily 20 – 30 minute phonics session in class - learning a new sound, focusing on letter formation, blending for reading and segmenting for writing ('word time')
- 3-4 x weekly reading sessions in ability groups led by trained members of staff
- 1 x weekly phonics class session with writing focus
- Pupils use RW Inc. books

Whole Class Reading

Pupils in years 2 to 6 have daily whole class reading sessions. Whole class reading ensures all pupils are exposed to a large range of texts and genres and benefit from the teacher's expert explanations, modelling, questioning and feedback.

Teachers use texts over a 1 – 3-week period, depending on the content of the text and the age of the pupils. The texts used do not need to be linked to other areas of the curriculum but must be age-appropriate and challenging for pupils. A range of genres are covered each term.

Pupils focus on the following reading skills:

- Predicting
- Visualising
- Clarifying
- Inferring
- Making connections
- Asking questions
- Summarising
- Evaluating

Lessons include:

- Re-capping prior learning
- Vocabulary focus
- Teacher 'talk alouds'
- Pupil 'talk alouds'
- Analysis of the text, often in pairs
- Answering questions, usually independently

Pupils are encouraged to note down their 'favourite words and phrases' in the back of their reading exercise books to use in their own writing as appropriate.

Reading Intervention

At Eversley, pupils who need extra support with their reading are part of the intervention 'Target Reading'. The programme runs as follows:

- Each targeted child is heard for 10 minutes by their class teaching assistant several times a week
- As well as reading, the teaching assistant discusses the book with the child to develop their comprehension skills
- They will focus on developing children's sounding out skills which will improve their accuracy when reading

The following schemes are used:

Oxford Reading Tree

- Familiar characters: Biff and Chip
- All fiction stories

Dandelion

- Familiar characters: Zig, Zag, Pip, Sam and Tam
- Uses CVC words (consonant-vowel-consonant)
- Builds up knowledge of high frequency words

Jelly and Bean

- Familiar characters: Jelly and Bean
- Builds up knowledge of high frequency words

Parent workshops are held to share information with parents/carers and to support them in working at home with their child.

Story Time

In all classes, story time takes place at least 3 times a week for a minimum of 10 minutes. This is a really special time and helps pupils to develop reading for pleasure. Pupils will sometimes be involved in the selection of texts and a variety of different genres will be read across the year. As well as the regular teacher modelling in whole class reading sessions, story time provides additional opportunities for teachers to model reading skills such as the appropriate use of expressions and intonation.

Reading at Home

Parents and carers have a vital role in supporting reading and developing children's love of books. As outlined in our homework policy, we ask that the sharing and reading of books happens every day for a minimum of 10 minutes a day for children in Reception, Years 1 and 2, 15 minutes a day for children in Years 3 and 4 and 20 minutes a day for children in Years 5 and 6.

Children in Reception and Year 1 will bring home two Read, Write Inc books or banded books (depending on their reading stage) to read on a weekly basis.

Once children have completed RWI Yellow Level, they will begin to take home banded books (we use a variety of different schemes). Banded books are used for the transition from Year 2 to Year 3 and the children's progress through the bands in Lower Key Stage 2 is closely monitored by the class teacher.

Once children are able to read the higher level banded books fluently and with a good level of comprehension, they become 'free readers'. They will choose books of interest from the class reading area and/or read books from home.

All children are encouraged to take home books from their class reading area to share with parents/carers/siblings at home. These books can be changed as often as required.

Assessment of Reading

Formative Assessment

Teachers assess the children in their daily reading sessions and in reading across the curriculum. Every child is also heard read on a 1:1 basis with their class teacher during the first week of every half term. Reading 'I Can' statements are used to ensure pupils are being assessed in line with the National Curriculum and teachers keep individual reading records for the children in their class and/or reading group. Every child has their own reading record card which is used when other adults hear them read, e.g. the class teaching assistant or parent helpers.

Summative Assessment

Children in Years 1 to 6 complete half-termly 'Rising Stars' summative assessments in reading. Teachers then analyse the responses from these assessments to identify strengths and areas for development which then informs future planning of reading sessions for the class.

Children in Years 2 and 6 will also complete assessments using past SATs tests from the Spring Term and the statutory SATs tests in May.

The School Library

Each class has a timetabled weekly half hour visit to the school library. The children learn how a library runs and spend time enjoying the large variety of texts while there. They also borrow a book which they keep for up to a fortnight before returning it and borrowing another.

Class Reading Areas

Each 'Reading Area' *must* include the following:

- A clearly defined space
- A large sign demarcating the area
- A good balance of books (in good condition and organised into categories, genres, authors etc. with labels)
- Crates/boxes that are suitable for the books and consistent in style
- Seating (cushions, small chairs etc.)
- Bookcases appropriate to the books

Each 'Reading Area' could also include:

- Displays of posters, children's work related to literacy e.g. book reviews, character descriptions etc.
- Hanging canopies
- Book of the week/author of the month display
- Recommended books (by adults or children)
- Opportunities for pupils to take ownership, e.g. making posters, recommending books, categorising books into genres

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