

How we teach reading in KS1

Phonics & 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 use RWI books to support reading
- Children using the 'ditties' to begin blending to read short captions and then sentences

Organisation in Year One

- 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 x weekly reading sessions in ability groups led by trained members of staff
- 2 x weekly phonics class session with writing focus
- Pupils use RWI books – story books and additional book bag books

Organisation in Year Two

- Some children will continue to read levelled books following the RWI programme
- On completion of the RWI grey level, children will be part of a Whole Class Reading group
- Children who did not pass the Phonics Screening Check in Year 1 will be part of phonics intervention groups

Whole Class Reading

- Pupils in years 2 to 6 have whole class reading sessions 3-4 times a week. Whole class reading ensures that 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 are sometimes linked to other areas of the curriculum (but not always) and are carefully chosen by the teachers to ensure that they are age-appropriate and challenging for pupils.
- Pupils focus on the following reading skills:
 - Predicting
 - Visualising
 - Clarifying
 - Inferring
 - Making connections
 - Asking questions
 - Summarising
 - Evaluating

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. Once children have completed RWI Grey Level, they will begin to take home banded books. Once children are able to read the higher level banded books fluently and with a good level of comprehension, they become ‘free readers’.

Recommended Home Reading:

<i>Reception</i>	2x RWI or banded books/weekly (10 minutes)		
<i>Year 1</i>	2x RWI or banded books/weekly (10 minutes)	or	2x banded books/weekly
<i>Year 2</i>	2x RWI or banded books/weekly (10 minutes)	or	2x banded books/weekly

“Free readers”

Free readers 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. Children are free to choose any book to read for pleasure from their reading area or the library- they are “Free readers”.