

Reading at Exeter Road Community Primary School

We believe that reading is a valuable and rewarding experience and that the importance of laying a firm foundation in this crucial area will allow children to access all areas of the curriculum successfully. We believe that success in reading opens doors to a world of knowledge. As reading is a complex skill with many components, Exeter Road Community Primary School has adopted a comprehensive and consistent approach to the teaching of these skills throughout the school.

Our aims:

- To develop a love of books and reading.
- To develop reading strategies and skills: fluency, accuracy, understanding and response to different texts.
- To read and enjoy a variety of texts from a variety of sources: library, class book corners, ICT.
- To create a strong, embedded reading culture through a rich language environment within classrooms and the wider school environment.
- To deliver a structured and consistent whole school approach to reading.
- To recognise the value of parents / carers as essential components in supporting and developing children's reading skills and love of reading.
- To monitor and assess children's progress in reading and identify those who require extra support and intervene at an early stage.

Teaching and Learning of Reading

As reading is at the core of accessing all areas of the curriculum it is essential that at Exeter Road Community Primary School there is focused and dedicated time given to the teaching of the mechanics of reading.

The teaching of reading will include:

- The teaching of phonic awareness.
- Questioning about character/ story/ events/ structure/ plot.
- Awareness of layout / features.
- Awareness of punctuation.
- Prediction of the story.
- Developing decoding skills of unfamiliar words.
- Awareness of the reading and spelling of common exception words/ tricky words.
- Deducing meaning from context, syntax and previous experience.
- Scanning text for information and to support comprehension.
- Discussing the effectiveness of chosen language.
- Encouraging talk and discussion in groups.
- Encouraging clear speaking and expression when reading texts aloud.

Reception and Key Stage 1

The Teaching of Phonics - Reception and Year 1 and 2 children will follow the progression set out in DFE Letters and Sounds document to develop their phonic skills and knowledge. Texts used to support this are;

- Phonics Bug
- Songbirds

Children are continually assessed during and at the end of each phase and move onto next phase as appropriate.

Phonic interventions run where needed for children in higher year groups ie Project X CODE, Early Reading Programme.

In the Summer Term the Phonics Screening Check is undertaken with all Year 1 children as well as children in Year 2 where appropriate.

Individual/Independent Reading

All children will have a reading book to take home. In KS1 they will take home a book which they have read a number of times during Guided Reading sessions. These books will be familiar and the children should be able to successfully read these books independently. As appropriate children will also choose book banded books at the correct level for their reading ability. These include texts from the following schemes;

- Bug Club
- Oxford Reading Tree
- PM books
- Rigby Star

Key Stage 2

In Key Stage 2, the children have a home reading book which they can choose themselves from a selection within their own reading level. These are brought into school daily and a reading record is sent home. The children are encouraged to comment on their own reading in their reading record book. When children reach a certain stage in their reading, and finish the reading book bands scheme, usually in year 5 or 6, that they then become free readers and are able to choose from a wide range of books in the school library. Children in Key Stage 2 are encouraged to read a wide range of books and genres, to be members of the school and local library.

Reading Activities

Throughout the week every child will experience a range of the following activities:

- Guided reading session with the class teacher/TA
- A focused phonic / spelling session/ grammar session
- An independent reading activity
- Reading comprehension activity linked to their reading and other curriculum areas.
- Whole class stories

Assessment of Reading

Children are continually assessed during their Guided Reading sessions. The PM Benchmark Kit is also used to assess children's level of reading ability and comprehension. Teachers use these to support their professional judgement to ensure that children are reading at an appropriate level. Reception children will have Baseline assessments carried out on entry from September 2015.