

## **South Cave C.E Primary School - our approach to reading**

### Phonics

We follow the 'Letters and Sounds' synthetic phonics programme where children are taught the 44 phonemes that make up all the sounds required for reading and spelling before looking at alternative ways of representing the same sound. The teaching of Phonics and early reading is an integral part of the curriculum in both the Foundation and Key Stage 1 classes. We ensure that our teaching of phonics is rigorous, structured and enjoyable through discrete, daily phonics sessions, using the 'Phonics Bug' scheme and a range of multisensory resources, where children are introduced to new phonemes, practise and revise previous learning and apply their knowledge.

### Reading

Children begin to read using a variety of 'banded' books. Our core reading scheme is Rigby Star, supplemented by Oxford Reading Tree. As children progress in their reading, they will begin to deepen their understanding of the meaning of the text, rather than simply linking letters to sounds so to pronounce the word correctly. Therefore, as well as being able to read the text, children are encouraged and given opportunities to help understand what they are reading by discussing the content of the book and their opinions about characters, setting, and plot. A variety of different genres are chosen at an appropriate level of ability for each child to read individually, as part of a small group and as a whole class. When the children are ready, they begin to participate in Guided Reading sessions, which start as a continuation of how to decode unfamiliar words using phonic skills and progresses to discussing the understanding of the text in greater depth.

Through continued independent, shared and guided reading sessions, reading in Key Stage 2 develops and extends the skills acquired in Key Stage 1. Children explore a wider range of both fiction and non-fiction genres, which allow them to explore and discuss the tone and purpose of texts they read, as well as consider both the texts' themes and audience.

We want children to enjoy reading and we encourage them to take books home regularly so parents can be actively involved in their child's reading.