

St. Mary's School

A Catholic Voluntary Academy



READING POLICY

REVISED September 2017

**With Jesus as our guide
We promise to care for one another
To work hard
To build a community in Christ's Love**

Aims:

Children learn best when they enjoy what they are reading.

- Our aim is to provide our children with enjoyable and productive reading experiences and to enable them to be independent and fluent readers.
- To value and use books as a basis for learning, pleasure, talk and play.
- To develop in pupils an interest in and a love of books and literature that will not only support their learning across the curriculum but also enrich their lives.

Guided Reading

Guided reading sessions are timetabled daily in KS1 and KS2. As part of these sessions, children use a wide variety of guided reading books of all genres. From Years 2 – 6, Reciprocal Reading is used to reinforce children's reading skills. As part of this approach, we use the Scholastic book scheme which is specifically designed for this purpose for each year group plus other Reciprocal Reading resources specifically designed to be used with all types of texts.

Whole School Home Reading

In FS and KS1, books are organised in colour bands to match the appropriate ability of each child. Children have a reading record book and this goes home on a weekly basis at least. Parents are encouraged to write a comment, sign and date when they have listened to the child and the class teacher keeps a running record of all books that have been read. Children also have access to the school library and our new online reading community, where the children can chat about books they are reading and give recommendations to other children.

When children complete the colour banded scheme they become a free reader. This allows children to choose their own books which can be from the classroom library, school library or books they have at home.

Individual Reading

Individual Book-Banded books for 1 to 1 reading are kept outside the classrooms in KS1 and KS2. These are available for use with any of our pupils if the class teacher or the teaching assistant considers them to be suitable for the pupil in reading age and interest level.

These books are sent home on a weekly basis by all KS1 classes for children to read with their parents and carers. As they are to practise reading skills, the children should be given the book band level below the one they are on in guided reading. In guided reading the children are learning new skills with their teacher, whereas they are practising those skills at home with their parents and so should have a familiar book.

Drop Everything And Read (DEAR)

DEAR is carried out each day throughout the school. All children and staff read for fifteen minutes. Children can read any book they choose and are encouraged to

bring in a book from home. This activity is used to encourage children to enjoy reading for pleasure.

Other Helpers

We, as a school, encourage parents and volunteers to come into school and read with the children. This can be any kind of reading eg. informal sharing of favourite books or a firm commitment to help with 1 to 1 reading on a regular basis.

Interventions

In each class, children are listened to reading in guided reading sessions. Should there be concerns over the progression of particular children's reading skills, interventions are put in place to address where the gaps lie. These interventions can be either working more closely on a 1:1 or small group level with a teacher or teaching assistant. We also use Small Steps assessment to see if children have other underlying gaps in their phonic and word recognition knowledge.

In KS2, we also identify children who are on the cusp of age related expectations and use Moving Reading and Writing On (MRWO) to help these children achieve their potential. This intervention is carried out three times each week.

In KS1, children receive small group intervention to help with their progression in phonics.

Monitoring

Guided Reading is monitored frequently by the English Subject Leader who will conduct learning walks at regular intervals. There are several reading interventions which take place each year and include close monitoring of progress. Children will be selected for MRWO, extra phonics with CTs and TAs, Right to Read project, and 1:1 reading time with volunteers from Loughborough Grammar School .

Assessment

Reading tests— New Group Reading Tests for Year 2 to Year 6 with some Year 1 children who are able to access them give a reading age for pupils are administered in the Autumn term and the Summer Term. All pupils will be assessed at the beginning of the Autumn Term (September/ October). Analysis will be used to finalise interventions as well as to measure progress.

Role of the parent

We encourage parents to be an active participant in their child's reading.

The school supports the parents by-

- A home school record (FS and KS1)
- Reading parent volunteers.
- Guidance from teachers/teaching assistants.
- Lending library for all children to take books home.

Celebrations

Each year we celebrate World Book Day in the first week of March. The build up to this runs over many weeks and promotes reading and talking about books throughout the school. We also celebrate Roald Dahl day in September. The Book Fair is held at St. Mary's each year, which promotes the importance of reading alongside raising funds for the purchase of books for individual classes and the school library.