

How we teach reading

Learning to read is one of the most important things your child will learn at our school. We want your child to love reading – and to want to read for themselves. This is why we work hard to make sure children develop a love of books as well as simply learning to read.



Ofsted said

Pupils read voraciously. They have favourite authors and readily describe themselves as 'bookworms'. They explained, 'We are taught to read and find language for writing or use it as a resource for science or our topic. You see how other people write and use it in your writing.' (September 2014)

Reception

We start by teaching phonics in Reception using the Letters and Sounds programme. Children learn how to 'read' the sounds in words and how those sounds can be written down. This is essential for reading but it also helps children learn to spell well. Once children can blend sounds together to read words, they practise reading books that match the phonics and they know. Alongside the phonetically decodable words, pupils learn to read some words on sight, known as 'tricky words', such as 'said'. They learn that all print carries meaning and begin to develop an understanding of story structure and characters through adults sharing and discussing books.

Children are given opportunities to read with an adult in guided reading sessions. They are given further opportunities to develop an enjoyment of reading through listening to rhymes and stories using headphones and adult led daily story sessions.

Key Stage 1

In Key Stage One we ensure systematic, daily teaching of reading with opportunities to practise and apply skills through guided reading sessions. Pupils continue to have daily Phonics sessions and learn further graphemes for reading and alternative pronunciations to support reading development.



Throughout school reading skills are also taught using a wide range of materials. Children develop reading skills through daily guided reading and shared reading.. We also use a reading scheme called Bug Club. This is accompanied by Bug Club online which provides children with online resources and books to support their learning and reading enjoyment. Please access these books on the links section of the website.

Key Stage 2

At Corpus Christi Primary school, we believe that when home and school work in partnership together pupils can benefit from this support to make progress in reading fluently, develop confidence and understanding.

We know that phonic knowledge and understanding is only part of the process of developing reading and that once children can recognise and pronounce words with growing confidence, that there are additional skills that need to be learnt and practised. These include: summarising stories, clarifying understanding, predicting, skimming and scanning, inferring and deducing.



Whole School

Guided Reading

These skills are developed through daily 'Guided Reading' sessions. Every class completes a 20 minute guided reading session each day. The children are organised in groups and complete a guided reading group led by the teacher or learning support assistant or engage in quality independent reading tasks linked to the text they are reading with the teacher.

These may be:

- Comprehension: reading a section of the text independently and answering questions
- Reading newspapers or topic linked books
- Follow-up tasks linked to guided reading sessions
- Vocabulary tasks, linked to the text that is being read with the teacher

We source books from a range of reading schemes so the class teacher can select the most appropriate text for the children, for example: Collins Big Cat, Rigby Star, Pocket Reads, Oxford Reading Tree. Also every child has their own individual username and password to access a range of online books and linked activities that have been selected for their reading level by the class teacher through the Active Learn website.

Class Libraries

Children also have the opportunity to select their own library book to take home. We encourage children to make independent book choices, which we hope will inspire and excite them to engage in reading independently, and read for pleasure in their own leisure time.

There are reading areas in classrooms which children can access which further promotes and encourages reading for pleasure.

