



# Reading Together



Regular reading with your child is probably the best help you can give to ensure they go on to be successful throughout school and beyond.

A child who struggles with reading will struggle with the rest of the curriculum. This can become worse as they get older and may lead to them falling further behind their friends. At worst they will feel frustrated, a failure and start to dislike school and learning.

A child who learns to love reading will have a head start in life and be best placed to make the most of all that education has to offer.

## Tips for Parents

**Regular short reading sessions are much better than fewer longer sessions.**

Make a regular routine and stick to it e.g. 10-15 minutes before bed or a regular TV programme.

Make the reading session a positive, fun time when your child can have your full attention and they will soon look forward to them.

## Changing books in school

Following on from reception, children will be able to change their reading books **twice a week**. Children will be able to do this **independently** from the book boxes at the front of class. Children may change their book once their reading journals are signed.

Children across Key Stage One take part in guided reading sessions every day. This may be reading with a teacher, pre-reading their guided reading book, reading for pleasure or completing a comprehension task relating to the book they have read.

**We have something very exciting to share...** to support our colour banded Guided Reading scheme, we have resourced a set of **take home books** for the children to continue to practice their reading. We are very excited and know the children will enjoy sharing them with you. Please take care with the brand new books, there is a mixture of fiction, non-fiction and real stories to bring home with very high quality vocabulary.

If your child reads a book from your own home story collection you can also note that in their reading journals as their reading book.

We feel it is vital that children are understanding their books and addressing any tricky words they may come across. Reading together will help children to have a greater

understanding of what they have read which allows them to have in-depth conversations about their reading.

**To help ensure that your child become a confident and fluent reader, here are some tips of how to best approach reading at home:**

**Before you read the book:**

- Look at the cover and try to guess what the book or story is about
- Read the 'blurb' on the back which often tells you about the content or story
- Flick through any pictures to get an idea of what happens

**If your child cannot read the book they have chosen:**

- They may well enjoy using the pictures to help them tell the story in their own words
- You can read the book to them, encouraging the child to join in with the bits they know, finish a line or re-read after you

**If your child gets stuck on a word you can help them make a good guess by:**

- Looking for clues in the pictures
- Looking at the first letter of the word
- Re-reading the sentence up to the tricky word
- Trying to build the word

**When reading together:**

- It can be useful to run your finger along the line as you read
- Talk about the characters, 'Why did he do that?', 'How do you think she feels?' etc
- Relate events to your own experience, 'Can you remember when we went to the seaside?'
- Try to guess what will happen next

**After reading:**

- Ask if the child liked or disliked the book and why
- What were the best bits?
- Who was your favourite character and why?
- Re-read the story if the child wants

If you choose to complete any extra learning at home relating to your child's book, please bring this in and it will be celebrated and it is wonderful to see how proud the children are of their work.

**Always use lots of praise and encouragement. Happy Reading!**

