



St Oswald's Reading Policy



Reading provides the core of our curriculum at St Oswald's and the teaching of reading is a fundamental priority within our school.

Our reading curriculum aims to ensure that;

- children are fluent in their grapheme/phoneme correspondence as quickly as possible.
- children are taught to segment and blend appropriately in order to decode words accurately.
- children are exposed to a range of texts to promote a varied reading diet.
- children are progressive comprehension and language skills.
- children are given the opportunity to read across the entire curriculum.
- we nurture a love of reading for the children in our care.

Phonics

Phonics is the cornerstone to which a strong reading foundation is built. As a school, we base our phonics curriculum on the Essential Letters and Sounds programme of teaching which offers children in the Early Years and Key Stage 1 are taught discrete phonics lessons on a daily basis. Targeted in lesson intervention is in place for children who may not have reached the expected standard in Reception (Good Level of Development) or Year 1 (Phonics Screening Check Pass). Further support and intervention is used in Key Stage 2 to consolidate phonetic and fluency skills.

Home Reading

Reading with your child greatly benefits their development, as well as allowing opportunity to consolidate and apply the reading skills they have been taught and promote language and comprehension skills, it offers invaluable bonding time and the chance to nurture a love of reading.

Our school reading scheme is provided by the Oxford Reading Tree and covers a range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Books are offered from Stage 1 to Stage 20 of the scheme to provide continuity and support for home reading.

Children will bring home 3 books a week as part of their reading diet.

CONSOLIDATE-Children who are still working within the Phonic Phases will bring home 1 book which is completely phonetically decodable which includes sounds they have already been exposed and are successfully recognising and applying within their reading. These books should be read with ease and fluency.

APPLY-These books will be matched to the sounds that the child is focusing on in their phonic lessons at that time. These books are aimed at developing fluency and providing challenge for children.

PLEASURE-Children are asked to choose a book from their class or school library which they would like to read at home. We hope these books will generate 'book talk' with adults and give children ownership over their own reading journey.

Once teachers are confident that fluency has been established, scribed books are no longer necessary and children will be offered access to the school library to continue reading at home.

Children also have access to Oxford Reading Buddy, an online programme which supports the Oxford Reading Tree scheme. The Reading Buddy offers access to an online library of books which are in line



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with children's reading ability. Each book is supplemented with a quiz to further promote comprehension skills.

Reading in School

To encourage regular practise and familiarity with a text, children in Reception and Year 1 will be heard reading their core book at least once a week. Children will read with a familiar adult and a comment will be recorded in their reading record book. Some children may be heard read more than once a week if it is felt it would benefit their progress in reading.

Children in Year 2 upwards will read in guided reading groups. Children will be heard read at least once a week in Year 2 and at least once a fortnight in Key Stage 2.