

Reading at George Street Primary School

Intent:

At George Street Primary School we want to develop the love of reading and for children to become lifelong readers. We want them to have aspirations and goals for the future and we feel aiding children with good reading skills sets them up for this. We will create reading opportunities and experiences to show why reading has a purpose in life not just in school.

We want our children to experience and be immersed in good quality texts across the curriculum and be able to understand more about the world. They will be exposed to a range of texts across a range of subjects which broadens their understanding and increases their cultural capital. Creating a reading environment where there is access for all across the curriculum, no matter what their starting point is or social and economic background.

We will have a sharp focus on making sure that children, from the early stages of reading, understand that the purpose of reading is to get meaning from the words we read. We also have a focus on children being able to read fluently with expression as research shows this enables children to comprehend what they are reading. Therefore, we want children leaving KS1 to be fluent readers.

Our aim is for our children to know the wider benefits for reading and understand how being a successful, competent reader can have a positive impact on their lives in the future. As a school we are focusing on the well-being of our children, so we want to embed that they can use reading as a strategy to take themselves off into another world.

Through reading a diet of carefully selected high quality texts, children will be able to explore, investigate and learn new rich vocabulary that they can use and apply to conversations and ultimately for our children to leave primary school being able to articulate their contributions, views and feelings.

Implementation:

At George Street, we feel reading is central to all learning. We want to create a reading culture so teachers talk about books, expose children to a variety of high quality texts across the curriculum that help children to understand the world. Our teachers are readers and share their love of reading with their children in a range of ways, including daily class reads and a class book being read to the children from the reading spines we have created. Each classroom has an inviting reading area. The children are also given the opportunity to visit our well-stocked library once a week, where they can borrow books to take home.

Through the delivery of our reading curriculum we ensure consistent and robust teaching and learning of early reading and phonics in FS and KS1, so that pupils are able to read with increased speed and fluency and access the wider curriculum.

Early Reading

Reading development is closely related to that of phonics, communication and writing. We ensure that the children are reading books that are closely matched to their phonic level, as well as a reading book that supports their vocabulary development and language comprehension.

At George Street, we follow a synthetic phonics programme 'Read Write Inc' across EYFS and KS1. Children learn the letters and sounds of each letter and, as they become confident in recognising each of the letters and their corresponding sounds, they transfer this into their reading.

KS1 Guided Reading:

KS1 guided reading is based on a book that matches the level at which children are reading and will focus on specific reading skills such: decoding, fluency, prediction, retrieving and inferring of information, and development of vocabulary. Development of these areas will be built in across the sequence of the lessons. The programme follows a consistent approach across KS1, which then closely relates to Guided Reading in KS2 – ensuring a consistent approach to reading throughout the school.

KS2 Reading:

Our children are given daily opportunities to practise their reading fluency, whether it be 1:1 reading with a teacher, teaching assistant or through reading aloud during guided and whole class shared reading. We deem it an important part of learning to read that our children read allowed so fluency and expression can be practiced. We want our children to have the love of books and be able to access books no matter their ability or background and we always aim to promote reading for pleasure as this plays a major role in reading development.

We use the 'Accelerated Reader' Programme,' to help children select books that match fluency and comprehension level. The quizzes that children take at the end of the reading a book serves to motivate children as they enjoy the affirmation that they are improving their reading and this data also provides essential feedback to teachers to drive further progress.

Guided Reading KS2:

Guided Reading is taught as a lesson four times a week. Through these sessions, the children can develop their reading fluency, comprehension skills around our reading VIPERS: vocabulary, retrieval and inference, prediction, explanation and summarising linked to their focus text.

To extend the children's exposure to new words, language, culture and ideas in books, guided reading texts and class books are pitched just above the average age related level across a variety of contexts.

Impact:

We want our children to become lifelong readers and to close the attainment gap for our SEND and disadvantage pupils compared to their peers. We measure impact through learning walks, book scrutiny, formative and summative assessment and pupil's voice. We aim to have 80+% of pupils leaving George Street working at age-related expectations.