

How to help your child

- Practise phonics at home regularly using the phonics level stickers in the reading diaries or phonic sound sheets found on our website.



- It is not a race to finish the phonics course or the book bands - a solid understanding is paramount in not only decoding but understanding, retrieval, inference and structure.
- Each child has a bookmark to explain a range of questions to ask based on VIPERS
- Please also record that you have read with your child.
- Please model reading at home - if your child sees you read they will more likely want to read themselves.
- Explore a range of texts - newspapers, comics, magazines, e-books, fiction & nonfiction, poetry, menus and all other genres using the written word.

Level / Band	Expected
Free Reader	During KS2
Dark Red	
Dark Blue	End of Y4
Grey	
Brown	End of Y3
Lime	
Level 6c	End of Y2
Level 6b	
Level 6a	
Level 5c	End of Y1
Level 5b	
Level 5a	
Level 4c	End of YR
Level 4b	
Level 4a	
Level 3c	
Level 3b	
Level 3a	
Level 2c	
Level 2b	
Level 2a	
Level 1	Pre-School (EYFS)



Reading for Parents

This guide aims to explain the reading process from reception to Year 6 and to provide a guide for how you can best help your child.

Phonics - beginning to read

Leonard Stanley uses the Twinkl phonics scheme to teach children a structured and systematic approach to reading. It is used by many of the UK's primary schools and is designed to create fluent and confident readers who have a love and enjoyment for reading.

Phonics is taught throughout the school. In EYFS & KS1 it is taught in whole class sessions (and sometimes small groups) every day. Spelling Bookmarks and Phonic Parent Sheets are sent home weekly so parents can support their children at home.

Children sit a national phonics test at the end of Year One. If children do not meet the expected standard, they need to re-sit the test at the end of Year Two. It is vital that all children complete the phonics programme as it provides the backbone of de-coding and spelling. Some children in KS2 are still engaged in the phonics programme to support their own learning.

Reading - the next stage

In conjunction with phonics teaching, children read books which are levelled according to the Phonics scheme or colour coded beyond this. The levels and book bands can be seen on the reverse of this pamphlet.

Children have to know all the sounds and tricky words before moving to the next band or level. They are assessed at each level before changing. The children choose two books every week that they practise many times to improve fluency.

Children are encouraged to read to an adult at least three times a week at home and we would like to recommend that parents frequently read to their children.

It is important to understand that reading is not merely sounding out words (this is phonics) but the combination of the following skills, using the acrostic VIPERS (please see below).

Vocabulary	<i>We have included examples of the types of questions you could ask your child in their reading records.</i>
Inference	
Predict	
Explain	
Recall	
Sequence or Summary	

Guided Reading

Every class from Reception to Year Six take part in weekly Guided Reading Sessions. These sessions start with small group reading with the younger children, building to whole class lessons from Year Two upwards. Guided Reading offers opportunities to model, demonstrate and practise reading aloud with fluency and expression.

Children can listen to a teacher and then have a go for themselves. Opportunities then arise for children to discuss or scribe questions based on VIPERS.

We are developing a range of texts to allow for a broad range of authors and genres, but also allowing the school to focus on topics, such as Black History Month and revisit taught topics from previous years, such as historical events.

Assessment & Moving on

Children are regularly assessed using assessment guidelines and moved on appropriately with clear tracking in place.

If children do not meet expected progress the following interventions are in place to help:

- Phonics - small group extra interventions
- Guided Reading - small groups focusing on comprehension and text.
- Focus readers – regular 1-2-1 reading with an adult or buddy
- 1-2-1 ad hoc sessions, as required.

During Reception and KS1 we assess children every ten weeks and adjust reading levels accordingly. In KS2 book bands are used to assess reading when necessary.

In Year One to Year Six children complete a termly NTS reading assessment and National SATs for Y6 in the summer. We administer CLOZE reading age tests for Y4-6 every Spring. All these assessments allow us to ensure that all children are progressing and help is provided at the right level.

Attainment grades for reading are recorded on the children's end of term reports. This reflects not only reading bands and phonics but also their written comprehension using a variety of skills.

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