

How we teach reading at Hughenden Primary School

Reading and Phonics

At Hughenden School we promote an enjoyment of a wide range of reading genres to encourage children's interests and place great importance on 'reading for meaning'. Learning to read is a complex skill and we do not limit the children to one approach but use a diversity of methods matched to the children's needs. Children use their reading for learning across the curriculum and we develop their reading skills through a variety of learning experiences.

To teach our children to read we use the Read Write Inc. Phonics (RWI) scheme which is based on synthetic phonics. This is taught throughout Foundation Stage (Reception) and Key Stage 1. Further information about this scheme can be found at www.ruthmiskin.com.

The children progress through RWI at their own pace and are regularly assessed to ensure that they are in the right group for their phonic ability. This means that it is possible to have children from different year groups together. For those who find decoding difficult they follow an additional 1to1 programme (RWI /Five Minute Box). Some older KS2 children who still need phonic support follow the computer based Nessy Learning Programme as well as any additional interventions that have been deemed appropriate for their needs.

During a phonics lesson the children revise and learn new phonics sounds, and will blend and segment the sounds to read and spell words. The children will further apply and develop their phonic reading skills by reading a range books, both fiction and non-fiction, which are matched to their level of phonological knowledge. All pupils have guided reading sessions where their class teacher can monitor their progress and identify areas for further development. During these sessions the children are encouraged to develop their ability to read at speed, with fluency and expression.

Once the pupils are able to decode, their reading continues by looking at the structure of words and developing comprehension skills; following the national curriculum programmes of study. The children improve their ability to become 'critical thinkers' through studying and responding to a variety of texts. Comprehension activities are designed to help children to infer, summarise, question, clarify, predict, argue a point of view and make connections between texts and their own experiences.

Reading Schemes

When a child is ready they are given a reading book to take home. These books are banded according to their level of difficulty and there is a variety of books from different reading schemes. This is to ensure that the children experience a range of vocabulary, texts and genres and do not become overly dependent on one scheme. This scheme continues into KS2. When the children are assessed as being 'free readers' they can choose books from our library or bring in books from home to use. The published schemes we use are as follows:

- Storyworlds
- Ginn Lighthouse
- Rigby Star
- All Aboard
- Project X
- Read at Home
- Fact Finders
- Songbirds
- Fireflies
- National Geographic
- Discovery World
- Soundstart
- Oxford Literacy web
- Phonics Bug
- Floppy's Phonics
- Rigby Rocket
- Story Street
- Oxford Reading Tree
- Collins Big Cat
- Snapdragons
- Jumpstart

Class teachers regularly assess the children's ability to decode and comprehend to ensure they are reading at the correct level.

To support your children with reading please use the following links:

RWI	www.ruthmiskin.com	Useful parent section including video clips on how to pronounce the letter sounds.
ICT Games	www.ictgames.com/literacy	Interactive games to practise reading and spelling.
Phonics Play	www.phonicsplay.co.uk	Selection of fun games to reinforce phonics.
Oxford Owl	www.oxfordowl.co.uk	Advice for helping your child with phonics and reading includes useful videos, Q&As and a selection of e-books.
Teach Your Monster to Read	www.teachyourmonstertoread.com	Award winning fun interactive game that takes your child through different stages of reading.
The Book Trust	www.booktrust.org.uk/books/children/how-to-share-books/reading-with-your-child-booklets	Information about how to read with your child – available in different languages.