

## How to support your child when reading at home

- Read to them as often as you can, or take turns to read their book – even if they are older. If you model good reading, your child will learn from this. Let them see you enjoying reading your own books too!
- Find a quiet time in the day for reading, it doesn't have to be a rush – it should be enjoyable.
- Reading any book at home is great! You don't just have to read your child's school reading book; magazines, newspapers, non-fiction books and comics are all great for getting children enthusiastic about reading.
- Please write in the **reading record** whenever your child reads (and whatever they read) – not just when they read their school book. If you can also write a comment about a question they answered or how they used their Reading PPT that's really useful for us!
- Reading is such an important skill for your child – don't view it as homework, more as part of a relaxed routine.
- It should be fun – children who enjoy reading will do better in writing, phonics and spelling too!

Here are some tips to help encourage your child to become a more confident reader:

- Put the book in front of your child, not in between you both. This helps them to have ownership of their reading.
- Try to discourage pointing – it slows them down (only for tricky words that they are trying to work out).
- When they don't know the word – give them time, don't rush them. If that doesn't work, offer strategies (sound it out, use pictures or context). Tell them the word before it becomes stressful but do encourage them to keep trying and not to give up quickly.
- Scan through the book first and discuss tricky words first – tell them the word and discuss meaning before you start the book.
- After asking a question about the text, ask them **why** or **how** they know. They will need to say what told them the answer (pictures for younger children or the exact part of the text higher up the school).