

Early Reading

Vicarage Primary School is determined that every pupil will learn to read, regardless of their background, needs or abilities.

We have developed a curriculum that will instil in all children a love of reading that we hope will stay with them for life. We understand that children who are confident adept readers will be empowered to succeed in all other areas. We understand that parents and carers play a vital role in the development of early reading and in nurturing positive habits and attitudes towards reading. We welcome this and their contribution.





Pre-reading skills

- Children begin by exploring a range of storybooks. These stories are shared in school and the children are encouraged to use their storytelling language to tell the story without being reliant on written words on the page. This gives them confidence and helps them to become more independent in having a try using other clues, such as picture clues.

We encourage children to:

- look at and talk about the front cover
- read the blurb on the back together so that they have an idea of what the story is about and an idea of some of the words in the text.
- discuss what words or sounds they can spot in the title
- predict what the story might be about
- what clues can you see in the pictures
- look for familiar words or sounds first on a page

How do we teach reading?

- ▶ We teach the structured and systematic phonic programme, RWI to teach literacy from Nursery - Year 2

What is Read, Write, Inc (RWI) ?

- ▶ RWI is a consistent, rigorous and dynamic literacy programme to teach every child to read by the end of KS1. Using synthetic phonics, children quickly learn to blend letter sounds together following a fun and effective programme.
- ▶ Synthetic phonics is simply the ability to convert a letter or letter group into sounds that are then blended together into a word.



How do we teach reading?

Through the RWI programme, we teach children to:

- read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information
- write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts



How do we teach reading?

- In Nursery, pupils begin exploring sounds that letters make. They put these sounds together to identify the word. In the Spring term pupils engage in phonic lessons for about 15 minutes per day, focusing on fred talk (oral blending) and moving towards independent blending by the end of the year.
- In Reception, pupils begin RWI lessons from Term 1 for 20 minutes per day, building up to 50 minutes by the end of the academic year. In KS1, RWI lessons are taught daily for an hour.



How do we teach reading?

- In addition, children are provided with ample opportunities to read through the day. The day begins with pupils reading independently, whilst teachers listen to reading.
- At 3pm, the whole school teachers stop and read to their class. This is an opportunity to model how to handle a book, turn the pages, read from left to right, talk about the title and the blurb, as well as modelling intonation and expression. Teachers have a selection of their favourite books that come out especially for 'stop and read' sessions.
- Through the continuous EYFS provision, pupils can read a variety of texts, poems and look at rhymes through words and songs. This further builds on their ability to segment and blend regular words. This also helps to identify patterns in words and introduces alliteration, developing the ability to hear initial sounds in words.



How do we teach reading?

- Children take home 2 books during the week. They will take home a book that is matched to the current phonic level they are working on and a free choice book. The aim of this book is to be read for pleasure with the aid of an adult.
- Children who are identified as falling behind with developing phonics and reading skills are supported and listened to read more frequently by teaching and support staff.
- Parents are supported and kept updated through curriculum meetings and RWI parent workshops.