

Reading in Early Years and Key Stage 1

When children start at our school, they are given a reading book to take home. Initially this book may contain only pictures to develop the children's confidence in retelling stories and in answering questions. As they become more confident at reading words the books will begin to contain short sentences.

We use a reading scheme called 'Pearson Bug Club.' These books are designed to support the children's phonic development and the books will match the phonics teaching that they are receiving in school. As the children develop their reading and phonic skills, the texts they are asked to bring home become more complex. Teachers closely monitor these books and parents are asked to encourage the children to read these books more than once, to develop fluency.

We also allow the children to choose a school library book, which is often a little above their reading ability. This is for you to share with your child and allows the children to enjoy a wider variety of books.

We encourage a wide range of reading activities both at home and school. To allow information to be shared, the children are given a reading diary to record any reading that takes place. We are keen to stress that any type of reading is useful, not just school books, and strongly encourage children to read electronic material, join libraries and read books of their own. Children are expected to be reading on a regular basis – most days if possible.

Within school children are heard read on a weekly basis both individually and in a guided group session. The group session allows the teacher to teach specific reading skills to the children and to check that children understand what they are reading. Within these group sessions we will also focus on word meaning, making predictions and making inferences about the characters.

We assess the children on a regular basis and provide booster sessions to those children who may need extra help.

We also hold regular parent information sessions to help you to support your child with their reading development at home.