

Reading Curriculum at Stamshaw Infant School

Intent

At Stamshaw Infant School, we passionately believe that learning to read is one of the most important skills our children will learn during their time here. We are committed to ensuring that our children leave us as confident readers; having fostered a life-long love of reading. We recognise that reading is a skill that enables children to develop their learning across the wider curriculum and lays the foundations for success in future study and employment. Through our reading instruction, we aim to provide children with strategies to recognise known words, quickly decode unfamiliar words, self correct errors and grow in fluency and confidence. By sharing exciting and engaging texts, we aim to develop pupils' comprehension skills and encourage them to read for information and for pleasure throughout their school years and beyond.

Implementation

Daily phonics teaching in Early Years and Year 1 enables children to learn how to 'crack the code' of reading. We follow 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds' which is a DfE validated systematic, synthetic phonics programme. Thorough assessment of children will identify those who are at risk of underachieving and interventions will be put in place to support them. We show fidelity to the scheme by using the same resources and teaching method to provide consistency across classes and year groups. Aligned with the programme, children read books from Harper Collins Big Cat Phonics range. These phonetically decodable books fully match the programme of study set out by Little Wandle. In these sessions, children only read books with sounds they have been taught so far. These books are available to read at home through the digital library

We read 1:1 with children once a week or more to ensure that next steps are personalised for each child. Identified children are given further opportunity to read with additional reading volunteers or through TA and teacher led intervention. Books are carefully matched to children's ability to provide the correct level of challenge balanced with the opportunity to develop fluency and prosody.

The children in Year 2 enjoy a daily shared reading session on a high quality text. This book is revisited over several days. Through the text, children complete decoding and comprehension activities that link to the national curriculum reading objectives and assessment statements.

Strong links are forged with parents and home reading is a priority in our school. Children are encouraged to change their books daily and a glossy reading diary is completed to track their progress, which is closely monitored and responded to by teachers. Children are rewarded for the number of times they read at home.

All year groups value and prioritise story time where teachers share their love of reading by selecting some traditional or newly released titles to enjoy together.

We have a well stocked, colourful library that is central to our school. Book corners in classes are inviting spaces with a selection of curated texts. Displays of 'books we have read' remind children of their reading journey and encourage them to make links between themes.

High quality texts drive our curriculum and topics as reading is embedded in the ethos of our creative curriculum. We have forged strong links with the school library service and regularly swap our books to match the topics being taught.

Impact

We aim for all children to leave our school with a love of reading and the ability to fluently read age appropriate texts. As a consequence of this, the majority of our children will reach the age expected outcomes in reading and phonics inline with, or exceeding national averages. From thorough monitoring of this subject, children will have received excellent tuition and will begin their junior school journey from a strong starting point, that is relevant to their own abilities and achievements. Children will be able to confidently talk about texts they have read and how they have been inspired to select books for enjoyment as well as books to inform. Children will have developed a love of reading to take with them as they complete their education and beyond.