

Bishop King C.E. Primary School

Our Intent, Implementation and Impact statement for Reading and Phonics

Reading intent statement

Reading is a top priority and a key driver for our curriculum. Our intention is to ensure every child is able to read fluently and with confidence by the end of their primary education, developing a love for reading during their time at Bishop King and beyond.

Reading implementation

The systematic teaching of phonics has a high priority throughout the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1. At Bishop King CE Primary School, we use a synthetic phonics programme called 'Read Write Inc' produced by Ruth Miskin. Our staff teach learners the relationship between sounds and the written spelling patterns, or graphemes, which represent them.

All children in Reception, KS1 and, where necessary, KS2 have daily phonics sessions in small ability groups where they participate in speaking, listening, spelling, reading and writing activities that are matched to their current needs.

The teachers draw upon observations and continuous assessment to ensure children are stretched and challenged and to identify children who may need additional support. Timely intervention is planned for those children who are working below expected levels as soon as their needs are identified.

We recognise that systematic, high quality phonics teaching is essential, but additional skills and opportunities are needed for children to achieve the goal of being a well-rounded reader, namely comprehension.

When children have completed the Read, Write, Inc phonics programme, reading is developed during reading lessons, using high quality texts and focused skill teaching. Strong links are made between reading and writing. Children read and enjoy high quality poetry, fiction and non-fiction texts, which (where possible) are linked to their topics across the curriculum.

All children read aloud daily during phonics or guided reading; in addition to this they read at least once more a week with teachers, teaching assistants and reading volunteers; the focus being on the lowest 20%. Furthermore, Pupil Premium children have Reading Champions who listen to them read as often as possible; these are staff and governors.

In whole class reading sessions, children develop their key reading skills of decoding, Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval and Sequencing (KS1) or Summarising (KS2-VIPERS). Children also continue to develop their reading fluency skills, building upon their phonics knowledge and skills.

We recognise the importance of developing a rich and extensive bank of vocabulary; therefore, we discretely teach vocabulary directly linked to the text during phonics and reading sessions. This is reinforced daily during sessions, ensuring new vocabulary is embedded.

All classes are exposed to a daily class reader, for pleasure, to excite and engage the children, and to expose them to new and varied vocabulary. All books shared with children are age appropriate and matched to the level of the class/individual. We encourage a variety of genres and mix of fiction, non-fiction and poetry during this time.

Reading at home is encouraged and promoted through class incentives and parental engagement sessions. Children working on the Read Write Inc. programme take home a 'book bag book' matched directly to their current phonics level; they are also encouraged to share books at home with their family.

Following this, children work through our school reading scheme – these are levelled books which match the child's current reading ability. We expect family members at home to read these books with their child at least 3 times a week and make comments in their child's reading record.

Reading impact

Through the teaching of systematic phonics, our aim is for children to become fluent and confident readers by the end of KS1. As a Year 6 reader, transitioning into secondary school, we aspire that children are fluent, confident and able readers, who can access a range of texts for pleasure and enjoyment, as well as use their reading skills to unlock learning and all areas of the curriculum. We firmly believe that reading is the key to all learning and so the impact of our reading curriculum goes beyond the results of the statutory assessments.

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