



Growing Together in Reading!

Intent

At Speen School, we aim for our children to develop into lifelong, enthusiastic learners who love to discuss, read and write with confidence, purpose and pleasure. These skills are key for children to access all the subjects across the primary curriculum and for later in life. We encourage our children to appreciate and respect a wide and diverse range of text.

Reading and discussion of books inspires the children to be confident in the art of speaking and listening to discuss and formulate opinions and further their learning.

Implementation

- The systematic teaching of phonics has a high priority throughout the Foundation Stage and Year 1. We use a synthetic phonics programme called Little Wandle Letters and Sounds. Our staff teach children the relationship between sounds and the written spelling patterns, or graphemes, which represent them. All children in Reception, Year 1 and, where necessary, Year 2 have dedicated phonics sessions where they participate in speaking, listening, spelling and reading activities that are matched to their current needs.
- We base our reading learning on a rich tapestry of literature. Children have the opportunity to read a wide range of narrative, non-narrative, biographies and poetry texts in the library and in the classroom. Each year group has a 'Reading Journey' which maps key texts that are appropriately matched to age, interests and the cultural capital that has been identified for our pupils.
- There is a clear focus on extending children's vocabulary and discussion of word meanings.
- There is an expectation that children will use and apply their word reading, comprehension and prosody in other areas of the curriculum wherever possible.
- As talk and stories is critical for language comprehension, all children are read to daily and children access the school library and playground books. To further develop talk, all teachers understand the importance of back and forth talking which underpins the conversations in each classroom.
- 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 Little Wandle phonics programme, reading is developed during guided reading, using high quality texts and focused skill teaching.
- The children in KS1 have dedicated comprehension sessions using high quality resources.
- Children in all our classes have a wide range of abilities, and we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the need and ability of the child.
- 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 also use teaching assistants to support children, and to enable work to be matched to the needs of individuals.

- In order to provide high quality teaching to our children, we provide many opportunities for staff CPD including Little Wandle phonics and reading courses, CLPE courses on the power for reading and regular opportunities to share good practise and moderate children's work.

Impact

At Speen School, the impact of our teaching will be seen clearly: in progress, sustained learning and transferrable skills.

Children will:

- By providing a quality English curriculum, we ensure children develop a love of reading, writing and discussion.
- Show an appreciation of our rich and varied literary heritage.
- Speak clearly and audibly, using an extensive vocabulary, taking account of their listeners.
- Adapt their speech to a wide range of situations, including drama.
- Use discussion and listen carefully in order to learn and understand the main points of what they have heard.
- Become confident, enthusiastic, independent and reflective readers through exploration of a wide range texts.
- Read widely and often for both pleasure and information.
- Be encouraged to write imaginatively and thoughtfully with an awareness of the reader.
- Show resilience, pride and enthusiasm for their work and achievements.
- Gain age-appropriate competency in their use of spoken grammar and punctuation.
- Read, write and spell confidently through a variety of strategies, supported by the Little Wandle phonics programme.