New Town Primary School

Nurturing Brilliance, Inspiring Ambition

Developing a love of reading at New Town Primary School

Reading is one of the most important skills your child will ever learn. Here is a guide to show you what we do in school and how you can help at home.

The key to progress is through talk and lots of reading.



Foundation Stage

In Foundation Stage One...

- Your child will have one book for you to read at home with them each week. This will be a sharing book from our library and one that you should read for your child, as they will be unable to access this level of reading independently. When reading, you should engage in conversation with your child by asking some questions about what you are reading. There are some questions at the end of this document to guide your discussion.
- In school, your child is learning to read with Read Write Inc. phonics. They follow the RWI phonics programme throughout their time in nursery, with more formal sessions beginning during the summer term.

In Foundation Stage Two...

- In school, your child is learning to read with Read Write Inc. phonics. Pupils take part in a daily speed sounds lesson, word time, reading and writing session from the start of the year.
- Your child will take home one phonics book which is at their level and one sharing book from our school library.
- Phonics books will be changed when groups have completed a book – usually every 3/5 days depending on the colour they are working.



Phonics books

- Do not read the book aloud before your child reads it.
- Ask your child to read the sounds and words before they read the story.
- When your child reads the story, ask them to sound out the words that they cannot read automatically. Don't allow your child to struggle too much. Praise them when they succeed.
- Read back each sentence or page to keep the plot moving (Your child's energy is going into reading the words, not the story).
- Do not ask your child to guess the word by using the pictures
- Do it all with love and patience!
- Do ensure your child has their phonics book in school every day.

Sharing books

- You should read sharing books for your child as they will be unable to access this level of reading independently. When reading, you should engage in conversation with your child by asking some questions about what you are reading. There are some questions at the end of this document to guide your discussion.
-These books will be changed once a week on a Wednesday.

Key Stage 1

In Key Stage One...

- In school, your child is learning to read with Read Write Inc. phonics. Pupils take part in a daily speed sounds lesson, word time, reading and writing session until they finish the program, usually in year 2 .
- Your child will take home one phonics book which is at their level and one sharing book from our school library. Some year two children will also take home an Accelerated Reader book.

Phonics books
- Do not read the book aloud before your child reads it.
- Ask your child to read the sounds and words before they read the story.
- When your child reads the story, ask them to sound out the words that they can read automatically. Don't allow your child to struggle too much. Praise them when they succeed.
- Read back each sentence or page to keep the plot moving (Your child's energy is going into reading the words, not the story).
- Do not ask your child to guess the word by using the pictures
- Do it all with love and patience!
- Phonics books will be changed when groups have completed a book – usually every 3/5 days depending on the colour they are working on.
- Do ensure your child has their phonics book in school every day.

Sharing books

- You should read sharing books for your child as they will be unable to access this level of reading independently. When reading, you should engage in conversation with your child by asking some questions about what you are reading. There are some questions at the end of this document to guide your discussion. These books will be changed weekly.

Levelled Reading Books
- Children should be able to fairly confidently read their levelled reading book – support them by encouraging them to apply their phonics when they come across unfamiliar words.
- They should read their reading book to you, and you should engage in discussion to support their understanding of what they are reading. There are some questions at the end of this document to guide your discussion.
-Class teachers will read with your child regularly, so if you feel the book is not age and stage appropriate, then please speak to your class teacher.
- Children should keep all reading books in their bags at all times so that if we need to access them, we can.

Key Stage 2

In Key Stage Two...

-Your child will have two books. One levelled reading book and another sharing book. Some children may prefer to just have one book to focus on, which is fine.

Levelled Reading Books

-Children should be able to fairly confidently read their levelled reading book – support them by encouraging them to apply their phonics when they come across unfamiliar words.
-They should read their levelled reading book to you, and you should engage in discussion to support their understanding of what they are reading.
-There are some questions at the end of this document to guide your discussion.
-These books should be in school daily. Once a child has finished their book, they must go to their class teacher to have this checked, and then they may choose a new book.

Phonics

-Some children will still be accessing RWInc phonics lessons. These children will bring home a phonics reading book rather than a levelled reading book from their class libraries. Please see above for phonics advice.

Sharing books

- You should read sharing books for your child as they will be unable to access this level of reading independently. When reading, you should engage in conversation with your child by asking some questions about what you are reading. There are some questions at the end of this document to guide your discussion. These books will be changed weekly.





Different types of reading

1. Hear your child read
Your child will always have a reading book from school which will be selected to meet their needs.
He/she will be able to read the majority of this book without any help with the words, but they will need you to help clarify their understanding.
Being able to understand what is written is just as important as being able to read each word. These books are extremely important as they help to build up confidence and give a clear purpose for reading.
- Listen to your child read the book and help them to make it sound more interesting by using expression or different voices for characters.
- Ask questions about the story such as:

'Why do you think he did that?'
'What do you think that means?'
'What do you think is going to happen now?'



Your child should be able to predict, clarify, summarise and make up their own questions about the book as if they were the teacher.

2. Read with your child
Some books that come home will have tricky words.
Talk to your child about what the words might be. If they become stuck on a word, wait, and then ask them to try using "Fred Talk, say the word", this will encourage them to sound it out using their phonics knowledge in line with their RWI sessions. See if the word might make sense by encouraging them to read to the end of the sentence.
Remember that if they really cannot read the word then it is fine to tell them the word, as we do not want them to lose confidence.

3. Read to your child
Reading children a book that they cannot yet read by themselves has been shown to help children develop their understanding of spoken language and the more formal language of books.

4. Re-reading favourite books
Hearing a good book again and again is one of the best ways to learn about story language and it is a great opportunity to talk about favourite texts together. By reading and re-reading a tricky book together with you, your child will gain the confidence to read the book alone.

5. Model how to be a reader
Show that you enjoy reading books too and that you also read for information such as reading the newspaper or reading a recipe book.
Your child will benefit greatly from you being a positive reading role model.

Questions to discuss when reading with your child.

Some questions to ask your child while reading together

- Look at the front cover. What could the book be about?

- Who is the author?

- What is an illustrator? What do they do?

- What does that word mean? Read the words around it to help you figure it out (context)

- How can you read an unfamiliar word? Can you use your Fred talk and then blend?

- Who are the main characters in the story?

- What do you think will happen next?

- How do you think that character feels? Why? How would you feel in that situation?

- Can you predict how the book will end?



- Who is your favourite character? Why?

- Is there a hidden message in the story? What is it?

- Can you retell the story in your own words?

- Do you like how the story ended? Can you think of another way the book could have ended?